


Odd shapes gripped

 OML's VariClamp modular clamping system uses a floating mechanism of fixed and moveable jaws, and a wide variety of gripper forms to provide custom clamping of irregular-shaped workpieces, including round, curved, elliptical, rectangular, stepped and slanted parts. Manufactured in Italy and available in the UK from SMW Autoblok, VariClamp vices can be configured with any combination of fixed or swivelling jaws, and various styles and heights of grippers – including smooth, serrated, soft, high, and with or without stops. Grippers are added via holes placed throughout the vice to conform to the part shape, and holes are capped and covered when not in use. A swivel mechanism incorporated into the moveable jaw allows for easy clamping of slanted and rough-surfaced parts. The low profiles of the fixed and moveable jaws also allow clamping of thin workpieces for heavy duty cutting and precision processing. It is available in three sizes, 100, 130 and 160 mm.

For further information
www.smwautoblok.com

Carbide inserts for MC100

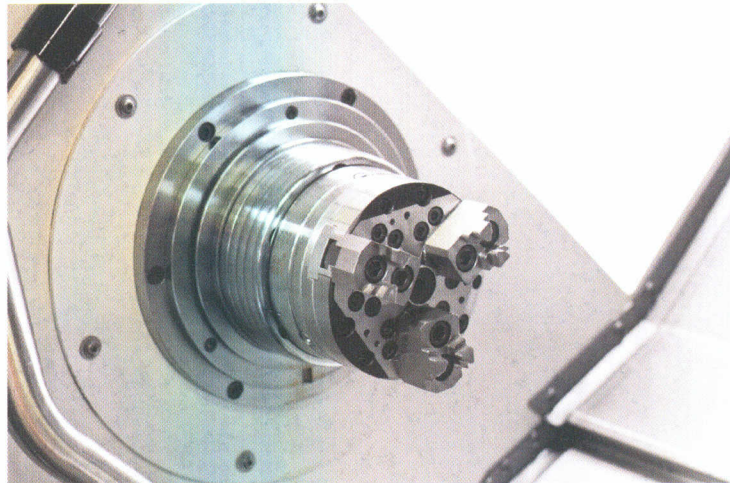
 Roemheld says that carbide inserts have been recently introduced to its MC100 vice range of vices and jaws to enable end users to hold concentric components on just 3 mm of workpiece material. The fixed jaw MC100 five-axis vice can also be fitted with round inserts (with carbide grip) to enable cylindrical components to be held. The vice offers clamping forces of up to 2.5 tonnes/60 N and a capacity (jaw opening) of 15 to 204 mm. The all-steel construction is intended to offer long service life and repeatable manual or hydraulic operation, while the compact design enables the machining of workpieces from all sides and ensures collision-free toolpaths, says Roemheld. To assist design engineers, all vices and jaws in Roemheld's five-axis range are available as CAD models.

For further information
www.roemheld.co.uk

Collet to three-jaw chuck in one minute

 A newly developed, easy-to-change Hainbuch jaw module consists of said to convert a standard Hainbuch collet style chuck to a three-jaw chuck in less than 1 minute. Mandrels and clamping heads can also be used in the base collet chuck. The jaw module completes the package and gives a new clamping dimension that opens massive potential for users, says Hainbuch.

Compared with normal chucks, Hainbuch says its latest jaw module offers lower weight and a smaller profile to deliver a 3 in 1 combination of ID clamping, OD clamping (collet) and jaw clamping. The solution, which comprises a collet style chuck and a jaw module, is compact and as such can use spindle acceleration and deceleration more efficiently to save time.



The basic unit is a Spanntop collet chuck or Toplus collet chuck. Add to this the jaw module, clamping heads and mandrels, and users achieve reliability, accuracy and safety that traditional jaw chucks lack,

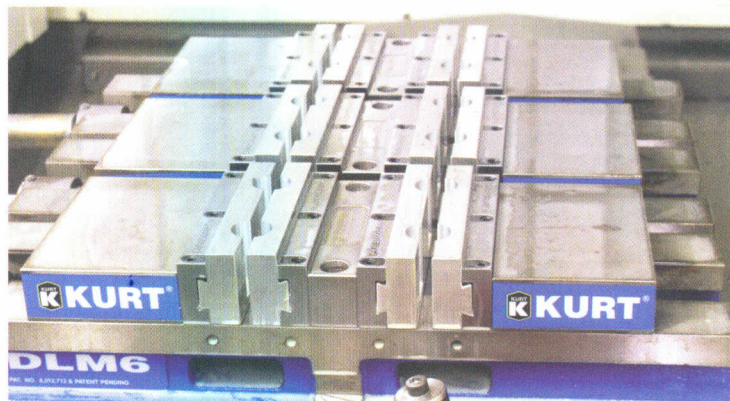
especially for ID clamping, says Hainbuch. Two units are available – 144 for clamping from 25-115 mm, and 215 for 25-200 mm.

For further information
www.hainbuch.com

Leader releases quick-change jaws

 The patented CARVEsmart quick-change vice jaw system, made in the US by Bellatex, is now available in the UK exclusively from Leader Chuck Systems. Providing a number of benefits, the jaw system has been developed to simplify set-ups for production and toolroom vices. It uses a dovetail interface, proven in numerous industrial applications that require mating components to join together accurately, to quickly locate and secure the jaws.

With conventional vices, jaws attach to the face of master jaws via cap screws. However, the CARVEsmart system uses master jaws with a female dovetail profile designed to accept vice jaws with a male dovetail profile. As a result, jaws can be front-loaded or slid



into the side of the master jaws, and are secured via clamping elements that provide downward pressure to keep the jaws in place. Jaw change takes less than 1 minute.

Extruded aluminium jaw blanks are available in widths of

19 x 50 mm, 25 x 57 mm and 50 x 75 mm, and lengths of 150, 790 and 2400 mm. Additionally, dovetailed 19 x 50 mm EN32B steel barstock is available in 150 or 790 mm lengths.

For further information
www.leaderchuck.com