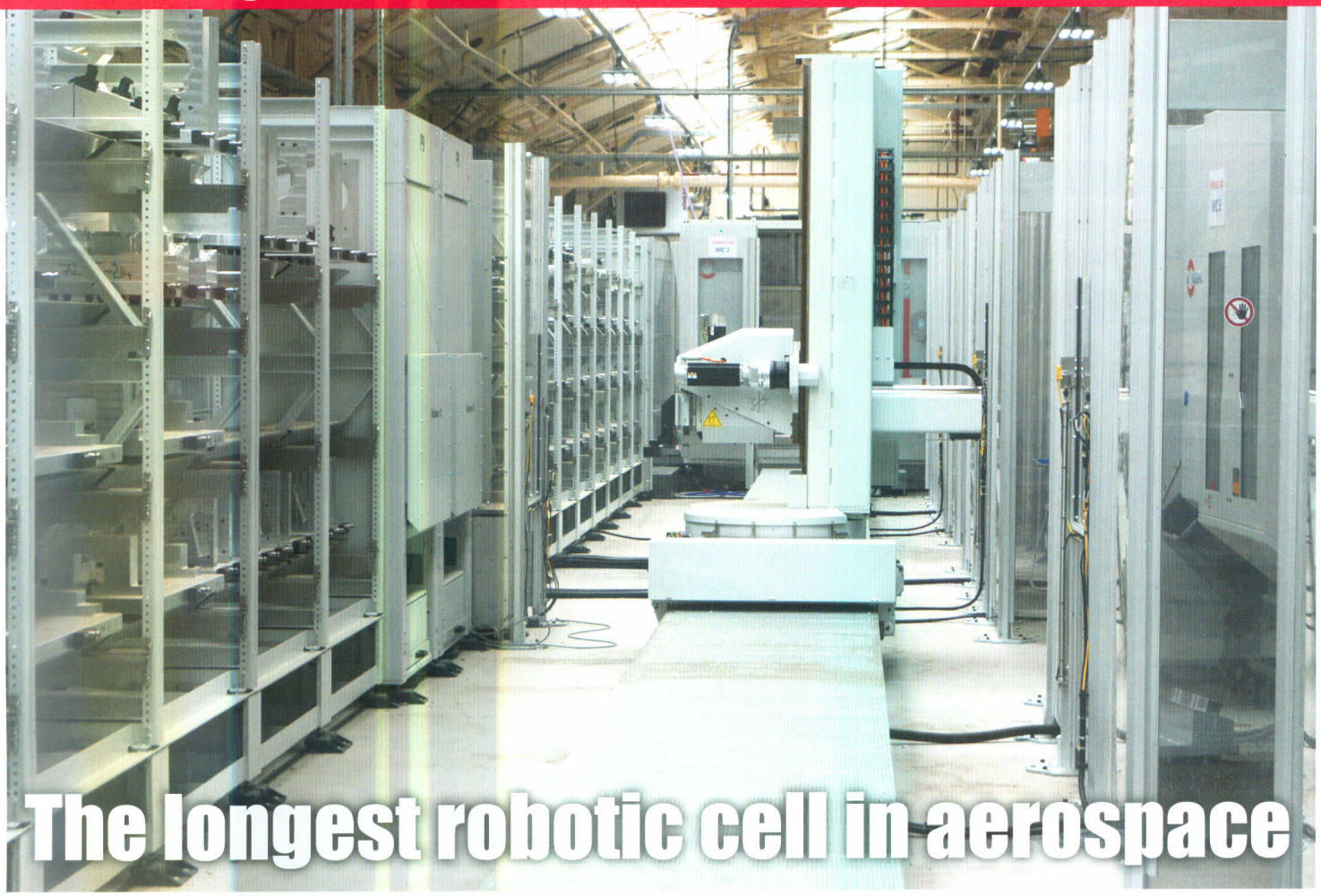

The longest robotic cell in aerospace

An Erowa robot pallet cell, supplied by REM Systems, is supporting Dynamatic Oldland Aerospace's drive to secure its position as a key supplier to the aerospace sector. Here, the flexibility and efficiency of the manufacturing cell is helping the company consistently produce complex five-axis machined components on time and to precise specifications.

With manufacturing facilities in Bristol and Swindon, Dynamatic Oldland Aerospace has become a tier one supplier for Airbus, Boeing and Bell Helicopter. The Swindon facility is where the company's most advanced automation system in located. Installed and commissioned in the first quarter of 2016, it comprises five Hermle five-axis CNC machining centres, with 200 pallets and measuring 30 m in length. The FMS line has three loading stations ranging in component size from 200 mm² to 1300 mm long.

"As the single source supplier for flat track beams on the Airbus A320 and now A330 series aircraft, we have a commitment to the customers to provide a first class service," says managing director James Tucker.

A significant amount of engineering time was invested in the Erowa cell before it was installed, such as cutting tool optimisation and rationalising, NC program verification and data transfer, fixturing systems and scheduling.

"The robot cell knows the location of the pallet-loaded raw material required, while the tooling software checks that all the cutting tools needed to finish the part are both present and have the tool life remaining to finish the machining cycle," says Tucker. "Any issues are immediately flagged up and can be quickly addressed by the operator or the engineering team."

For further information
www.remsystems.co.uk

Rapid-change power chuck from MicroCentric

The newly-developed MicroCentric KSF RC (Rapid Change) power chuck is now available in the UK from Leader Chuck Systems. Offered in two diameters, the chuck features MicroCentric's patented rapid-change jaw system that the company says can minimise changeover times on CNC turning machines.

The KSF-08/RC is a 210 mm diameter chuck with a 66 mm through-hole, while the larger KSF-10/RC is 254 mm diameter with an 82 mm through-bore. Both are rated at up to 5000 rpm and can be specified with A2-5, A2-6 or A2-8 spindle mounting plates.

Offering a bolt-less design, the quick-change jaws are supplied soft as standard, with hard jaws available as an option. KSF chucks offer a repeatable accuracy of 0.0025 mm, such that when top jaws are finish-machined on the chuck, MicroCentric guarantees that parts will run within 2.5 µm radial and lateral TIR if the top jaws are not removed. After machining, when the top jaws are removed and then replaced on to the base jaw, a maximum runout of 0.025 mm TIR is guaranteed. A graduated scale engraved into the master jaw facilitates quick, precise positioning of the top jaws during changeover.

For those requiring a higher level of accuracy after top jaws are changed, the radial runout of KSF chucks can be adjusted. Since the spindle adapter mounts to the spindle nose and the chuck then mounts to the adapter plate, the radial runout of the clamped part can be corrected to between 10 and 20 µm using four radially adjusting screws on the outer diameter of the chuck body.

For further information
www.leaderchuck.com