

Get a grip and TESTit

For a safe, precise and productive manufacturing process a regular check of the actual clamping force being achieved is indispensable. To address this demand, Hainbuch has launched the extremely capable and easy to use TESTit clamping force gauge. Capable of measuring clamping forces greater than 200kN the TESTit is the only device currently capable of measuring internal and external workholding systems, such as mandrels and manual/power jaw or collet chucks.

Manufacturing process security often requires the maximum permissible holding force of any clamping device be applied during the mechanical machining of any components, whether turning, milling or grinding. While this is straightforward for solid workpieces, where the clamping force should be as high as possible to minimise any centrifugal force losses, an increasing number of thin-walled and sensitive workpieces are being manufactured that can easily be deformed if too much clamping force is applied.

Mark Jones, managing director of

Hainbuch's sole UK agent, Leader Chuck Systems says: "Design necessity and optimum material selection means that some components require lighter clamping forces, or manufacturers risk damaging the part. However, if it not clamped securely the machining operation will be compromised. With the margin between clamping too tightly and not tight enough being so narrow it is vital that the actual clamping force is known. Using the TESTit gauge the clamping force can then be calibrated to exactly match the process requirements."

In operation, the new TESTit gauge is completely wireless with all the clamping force values transmitted via Bluetooth to a display device, such as a smart phone, desktop or tablet PC, or PDA with the appropriate software installed. Featuring automatic sensor recognition and a Li-ion rechargeable battery for more than 5 hours of operating time, the TESTit clamping force gauge can be used to measure stationary or rotating holding forces both internally and externally.

"In the face of global competition manufacturers have to optimise every



machining process. Using the new TESTit clamping force gauge the efficiency of any fixturing will be maximised. If you cannot measure something, you cannot control it, so specific clamping measurement data should be demanded by industry," concludes Mark Jones.

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SCHUNK launches new edition of best-selling chuck

SCHUNK has sold over 10,000 units of its manual ROTA-S plus lathe chuck to date. This unprecedented success with the highly efficient classic chuck now sees the competence leader for clamping technology and gripping systems launch a Version 2.0. The new ROTA-S Plus Version 2.0 now incorporates an optimised wedge bar drive system and an improved lubricant system to ensure consistently high

clamping forces from the new lathe chuck.

Since higher rotational speeds and cutting speeds are possible, users can apply more efficient cutting strategies that shorten the manufacturing time. The quick-change jaw system has now been improved, too. A new optimised drive allows fast, comfortable and repeat accurate jaw changes. This new lathe chuck is fully compatible with its predecessor and customers' already existing base jaws can be used in the new Version 2.0. SCHUNK sets great importance on safety issues and to this end the new three-fold jaw safety device prevents operating errors. Moreover, SCHUNK has located an indicator pin at the chuck circumference to display the individual clamping status. Three useful additional options complete the next generation manual chuck. Firstly,

SCHUNK is offering the lathe chuck with a manually actuated expansion arbor that can now be quickly retrofitted. It is directly actuated via one of the ROTA-S Plus 2.0 chuck jaws and it precisely clamps internal diameters as small as 20mm in the chuck. The ROTA-S Plus 2.0 can also be equipped with an enclosed protection sleeve, or a deep stop on request. This makes it perfectly adjusted to the individual clamping tasks. This innovative manual chuck is available in sizes 165, 200, 250 and 315mm. Information on larger chuck diameters will be available soon.

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