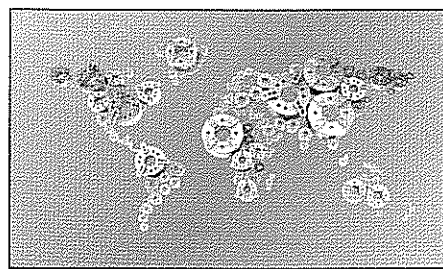


Leader takes Bison by the horns

Workholding specialist Leader Chuck Systems recently signed a contract with the Polish workholding manufacturer, Bison-Bial. Under this new agreement the Birmingham-based company will assume responsibility for the sale of Bison's extensive cost-effective product range in the UK, which includes pre-sales technical support, stocks of popular items and spare parts being held by Leader.

Founded in 1948, Bison is Poland's largest manufacturer of machine tool ancillary products. From inception the company manufactured both bench and machine vices and, in 1950, started to produce lathe chucks. Offering cost-effective solutions, Bison products are sold in more than 50 countries around the world and are renowned for high-quality, durability, precision and value-for-money.

Today, the ISO 9001 accredited company employs around 600 people and produces a wide range of standard manual chucks, many of which are available with cast iron or steel bodies. With diameters ranging from 80 – 1250mm the standard manual chucks are available with 2-, 3-, 4- and 6-jaws, and



various internal/external hard and soft jaw configurations are offered. Geared scroll self-centring, independent and combination models provide robust fixturing for the turning of raw material or parts.

Mark Jones, Leader Chuck Systems' managing director, says: "The quality and range of the Bison's manual chucks is exceptional. Offering a cost-effective workholding solution the products are extremely well engineered, accurate and robust. And, while the economic climate is improving manufacturing companies still have to consider each investment decision carefully. So the introduction of the Bison range - some of which is already known in the UK as it was

previously sold under the Toolmex TMX brand name - will provide an ideal cost-based alternative."

Industry-specific products developed by Bison provide focused workholding solutions, such as the 'oil country' chucks which highlight how the company listens to its customers and develops robust and efficient answers to the manufacturing problems they face. These chucks feature a large through bore compared to the diameter of the chuck body which is ideal for pipe machining. For example, the 800mm diameter chuck has a 463.5mm bore. They can be used individually or as pairs either side of the lathe spindle to support very long workpieces.

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Haas increases performance of core rotary products

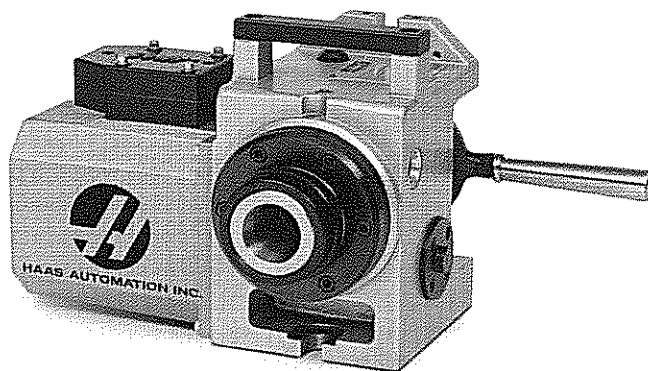
Adding a 4th-axis rotary table or indexer to a machining centre is a sure way to boost productivity, reduce setups and increase accuracy on multi-op parts. Haas Automation has increased the performance of its core rotary products to boost customers' productivity and yield a faster return on investment.

The performance gains come in the form of increased speeds, higher acceleration/deceleration rates and reduced brake dwell time. Depending on the model, speeds have increased 25 to 34%, accelerations have increased 33 to 125% and brake dwell times have been reduced 89 to 95%. The Haas rotary products offering these higher performance levels are the HA5C, HRT160, HRT210 and HRT310, as well as their respective SP models, and the HRTA5 and HRTA6.

Each rotary table was designed to gain the highest possible performance, without sacrificing reliability or longevity. Haas engineers optimised oil patterns to reduce

drag, and modified the brake systems for faster response. Combined with higher acceleration/deceleration rates, these mechanical enhancements yield much faster overall speeds and shorter cycle times.

Haas Automation has been a leader in 4th- and 5th-axis parts positioning since introducing the world's first fully programmable collet indexer in 1983. Today, Haas manufactures more than 35 models of precision rotary table to meet the needs of every shop. Built in California, USA, all Haas rotary products are backed by the worldwide network of Haas Factory Outlets, the most extensive system of support and service in the industry.



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