

Media Release

Biel, Switzerland
June 2023

GF Machining Solutions focuses on applications at the GF Global Solutions Days in Biel

At its second important customer event in Switzerland this year, GF Machining Solutions invited VIP customers to its headquarters in Biel from 23 to 25 May 2023 to give them an overview of machines and applications in a real-life environment.

After the first customer-centric GF Global Solutions Days took place in the EDM plant in Losone in March, the second GF Global Solutions Days were the opportunity to show customers GF Machining Solutions' main milling plant and headquarters in Biel (Switzerland).

Applications and technology were the focus of this event. Visitors were able to learn more about fuel cell applications made with Milling and plastic mold manufacturing with Laser and explore the possibilities of Grinding and Milling on the same machine. Customers attending the event were given a tour of the factory and had the possibility to experience live demonstrations on many different stations in Biel's Center of Competence (CoC). The stations were dedicated to Milling, EDM and Laser and highlighted the new solutions Mikron MILL P 800 U S and MILL S 600 U, AgieCharmilles CUT X 350 and AgieCharmilles LASER S 1200 fs. During the factory tour, customers were able to take a look at the Milling assembly and the Step-Tec spindles production line, while at the stations they were able to learn more about the specific capabilities of the presented machines on challenging applications.

In Milling, GF Machining Solutions demonstrated customers the advantages and functionalities of the high-performance five-axis Milling machine MILL P 800 U S, a high dynamic solution with an acceleration of 1.7g and a very convenient footprint when combined with automation, and the MILL S 600 U, which allows for Milling and Grinding on the same machine. With these Milling solutions, customers are ready to reduce their manufacturing times and increase their productivity, even for small batches. On the MILL P 800 U S and the MILL S 600 U, applications displayed were a multi-cavity plastic injection mold, which requires high-efficient machining, and a syringe accessories mold, which includes up to four automated production processes depending on the required component design features (Die-sinking, Milling, Laser and Automation).

The CUT X 350 brings together over 100 years of experience in wire-cutting EDM by providing a new level of accuracy. This solution is capable of holding extreme pitch positioning and contouring capabilities for superb part quality, making it suited for stamping, molding and micro-machining applications in the Electronic Components (EC), Medical and Automotive markets. Applications displayed at the Global Solutions Days in combination with this machine were watch components that require a surface finish of Ra 0.30 μ m and a profile accuracy of 1.5 μ m, and an application for the ICT market segment with an accuracy of 1.5 μ m and a surface finish of Ra 0.15 μ m.

The main innovation from GF Machining Solutions in the Laser technology in 2023 is the LASER S 1200 U fs, which is equipped with a fiber femtosecond Laser. This novelty on

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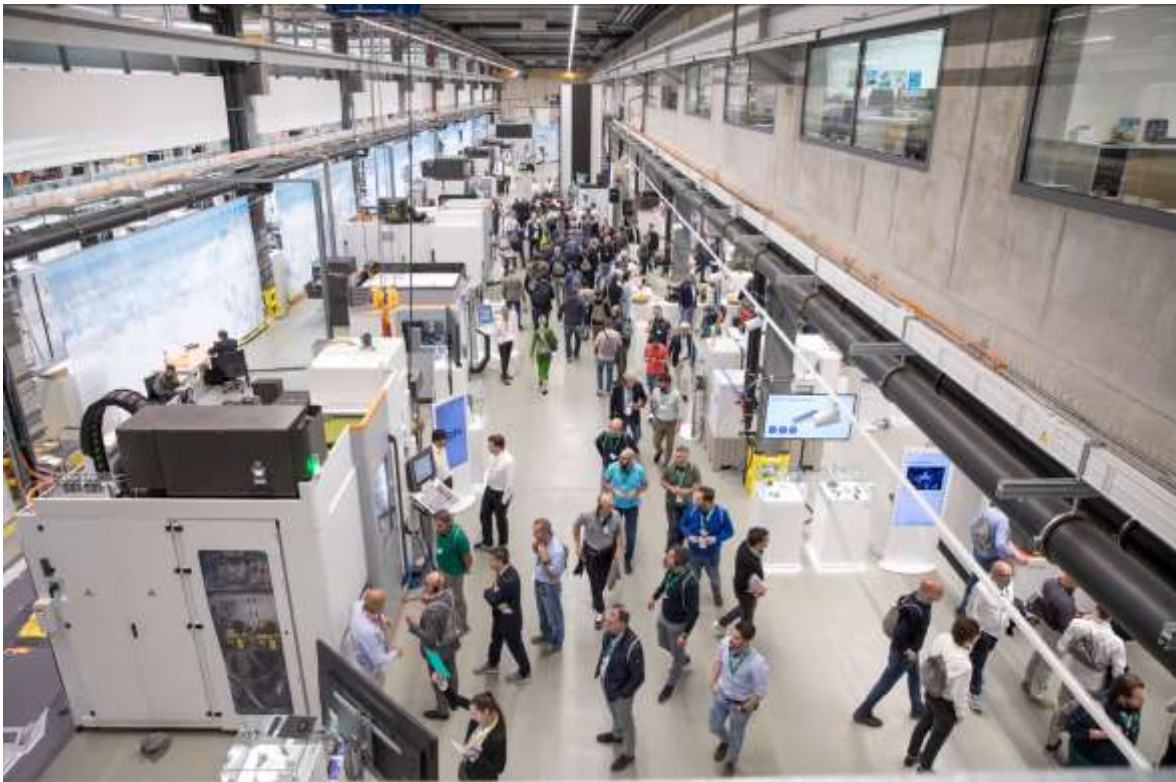
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this highly efficient machine ensures a Laser machining process capable of creating finest details with enhanced quality while maintaining a high performance on large-size parts. Examples of applications machined on the LASER S shown at the event were a lotus flower with a different texture on every petal and a headlamp mold core for the Automotive segment, which represents different manufacturing challenges like the handling of a vast amount of micro-features and the management of small tools.

A highlight of the GF Global Solutions Days was the fact that customers were able to get feedback on their specific challenges from experts in the field, in line with its motto "Your experience + our solutions".

The company's headquarters in Biel have been inaugurated in 2019, after a construction period of two years. The state-of-the-art facility enables customers who come to the site to experience GF Machining Solutions' portfolio first-hand.



The GF Global Solutions Days in Biel included a visit to the headquarters' Center of Competence (CoC).

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At the CoC, customers were able to learn more about the specific capabilities of the presented machines on challenging applications.

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Applications displayed were watch components, applications for the ICT market and a lotus flower with different textures.

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The LASER S 1200 U fs, GF Machining Solutions' main innovation in the Laser technology in 2023.



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A highlight of the event was the possibility to speak to experts about specific challenges.

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Profile of GF Machining Solutions

GF Machining Solutions is one of the world's leading providers of complete solutions for precision components and tools manufacturers and the mold-making industry. The portfolio includes milling, EDM, laser texturing, laser micromachining, and additive manufacturing machines. Additionally, the division offers spindles, automation, tooling, and digitalized solutions backed by unrivaled customer services and support. With its solutions, the division advances energy-efficient and clean manufacturing. GF Machining Solutions is a globally acting Division of the Georg Fischer Group (Switzerland) and maintains a presence at 50 locations worldwide. Its 3,398 employees generated sales of CHF 948 million in 2022. More information can be found at www.gfms.com.

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