

High performance spindles from Germany's Alfred Jäger GmbH took centre stage at Viscom 2005 held in Düsseldorf, Germany, this autumn. According to Jäger's Stephan Friedl, interest at Viscom was particularly high with respect to two new products: Jäger's so-called "Gravier-Bundle", or engraving bundle, as well as the company's new chopper spindle, which insiders praised as a leaner, attractively priced variant of Jäger's line-up of high performance spindles.

New High Performance Spindles Made by Jäger

Aimed primarily at internationally active makers of engraving and milling machines, the new products were an immediate hit and even generated sales on the trade show fair. Insiders attributed this somewhat unusual visitor behaviour to the quality of the new systems and Jäger's special "bundle pricing". "The response at Viscom definitely showed we're on the right track," said Friedl, a plant manager for Jäger in Ober-Mörlen.

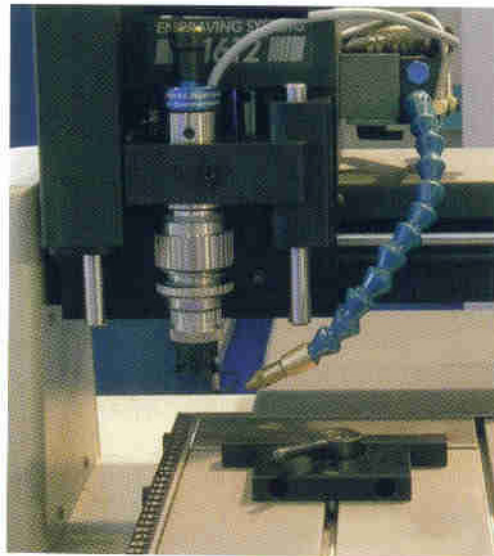
Consisting of a high frequency spindle, a motor cable and an appropriately dimensioned frequency converter, Jäger's "Gravier-Bundle" gives engravers the perfect package to dramatically increase their productivity. But according to

a spindle at Viscom by actually working exclusively with stainless steel, arguably one of the raw materials most feared by engravers."

Engravers fear stainless steel because the raw material is extremely expensive and because a mistake or slip during the engraving process can be costly. But at Viscom, Jäger showed interested visitors that a HF spindle can actually increase productivity by a factor of three in comparison to conventional, belt-drive spindles and that it can do so with no reduction in quality. In fact, a HF spindle like the one in Jäger's engraving bundle actually reduces vibrations by up to 90 percent, something that can only make engraving work much more precise.

graving when working with these HF spindles. Any unevenness in the engraving material can be compensated for

dles offer users plenty of bang for the buck. At the heart of the package is a cleverly implemented spindle concept



by means of a height adjuster that can be preset using spring force. The ability to lock the height adjustment also makes it possible to perform conventional milling work.

Sharing centre stage at Viscom with the engraving bundle were Jäger's new chopper spindles. Here, too, Jäger wooed potential customers with a modular system bundle consisting of a 1.5 KW, manually operated HF spindle, motor cable and frequency converter. Billed as a leaner variant of Jäger's high-end spindles, the chopper bundle was developed to help customers reduce manufacturing costs at prices starting at just 3,155 Euro.

Even at this attractively low price, the new chopper spin-

that supports various tool clamping systems and clamping options up to a maximum of 10mm. Manual or pneumatic operation, as well as a taper change feature, can all be easily integrated into the basic body. Each chopper spindle can also be attached without the need for a spindle bracket directly to the machine axis using the available T-slots according to DIN 650-8 specs. An integrated ventilation system for cooling the spindle means no additional costs for otherwise necessary cooling units. ■

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Stefan Friedl, Jäger saw the need to take a decidedly hands-on approach at Viscom 2005 in order to convince engravers of the package's value.

"It's always difficult to convince customers of the value of investing in a high frequency spindle using just data sheets and specifications," says Friedl. "That's why we demonstrated the advantages of such

Jäger drove home the point at Viscom by executing a wide range of engraving work in stainless steel with engraving depths of up to 0.8 mm, feed rates of 35 mm/second and spindle speeds of 60,000 rpm. A number of design innovations impressed visitors who viewed the hands-on demos at Viscom. Easy-to-operate mechanics, for example, make it easy to set the depth of the en-