



Kompetenz bis ins Detail

BBG – competence right down to the last detail

PRESS RELEASE

- **BBG again builds special machine for steel hotforming and hardening**
- **Plastics specialist delivers bending/hardening system for the production of ploughs to India**

Mindelheim, May 10, 2011. BBG GmbH & Co. KG continues to expand their international business and delivers a bending/hardening system to Lemken, a manufacturer of agricultural machinery, for the production of ploughs in central India. As early as in 2008, the Mindelheim-based specialist for polyurethane processing was able to use its expertise successfully for the design of so-called hardening presses and to deliver equipment to an Austrian manufacturer.

BBG currently manufactures a bending/hardening system that was developed in cooperation with Lemken and is used to form and harden steel components for the production of agricultural machinery. In the process, the company uses its expertise gathered in almost four decades in the design and production of mould carrier systems for a wide range of applications in terms of polyurethane processing, in particular for the automotive industry.

Special machine for steel hotforming and hardening

The system developed by BBG consists of a forming unit and the hardening unit with a dipping tank. In a first step, special tools are used to form the steel components with a temperature of 900°C in the forming unit. With the help of a complex hydraulic system, the forces and speeds required for the process can be generated and controlled precisely. The system meets the stringent precision requirements defined for their components by Lemken by means of a highly rigid mechanical design, which was created and calculated by CAD systems.

Following the hotforming process, the hot steel components are dipped in a tank filled with a special liquid. This process must be completed within a few seconds for the components to achieve the required hardness values. Heat dissipation and the filtration of the special liquid present a major challenge to the designers. Pumps are used to agitate the liquid. The liquid must be filtered, and its temperature must only vary within a very narrow tolerance around the

optimum working temperature of around 30° C. Suitable measures must be taken to compensate for the heat input of the red-hot steel components and for the ambient temperature, which may rise to 45° C during the summer in India.

From Mindelheim/Germany to India

The tool lists required are already being created, assembly processes are being planned so as to be able BBG technicians to install the equipment speedily once it arrives at the Lemken site at Nagpur in October. Prior to the shipment, the equipment is assembled for test purposes, commissioned and subjected to scrupulous tests.

With a headcount of around 880 employees and prior-year sales of 203 million €, Lemken GmbH & Co. KG, our client, is amongst the largest German suppliers of agricultural machinery for soil cultivation.

A family-owned high-tech company with an international focus

BBG views the contract as another success story within the framework of their “5/50” strategy, with which they plan to increase the percentage of sales generated in industries outside the automotive sector to 50% by 2012. BBG supply their products to their customers all over the world, with the remaining key accounts coming above all from the plastics-processing industry. The export content was at around 70 percent in 2010, with the Asian market playing an important role. BBG has established the two competence areas tool construction and engineering products in order to meet the wide range of requirements defined by the business units. Development contracts and innovative production facilities for the construction and solar-energy industries are gaining in importance. In 2010, the family-owned business, which is run by Hans Brandner, the managing partner, generated sales of around 9.2m euros.

Photos:

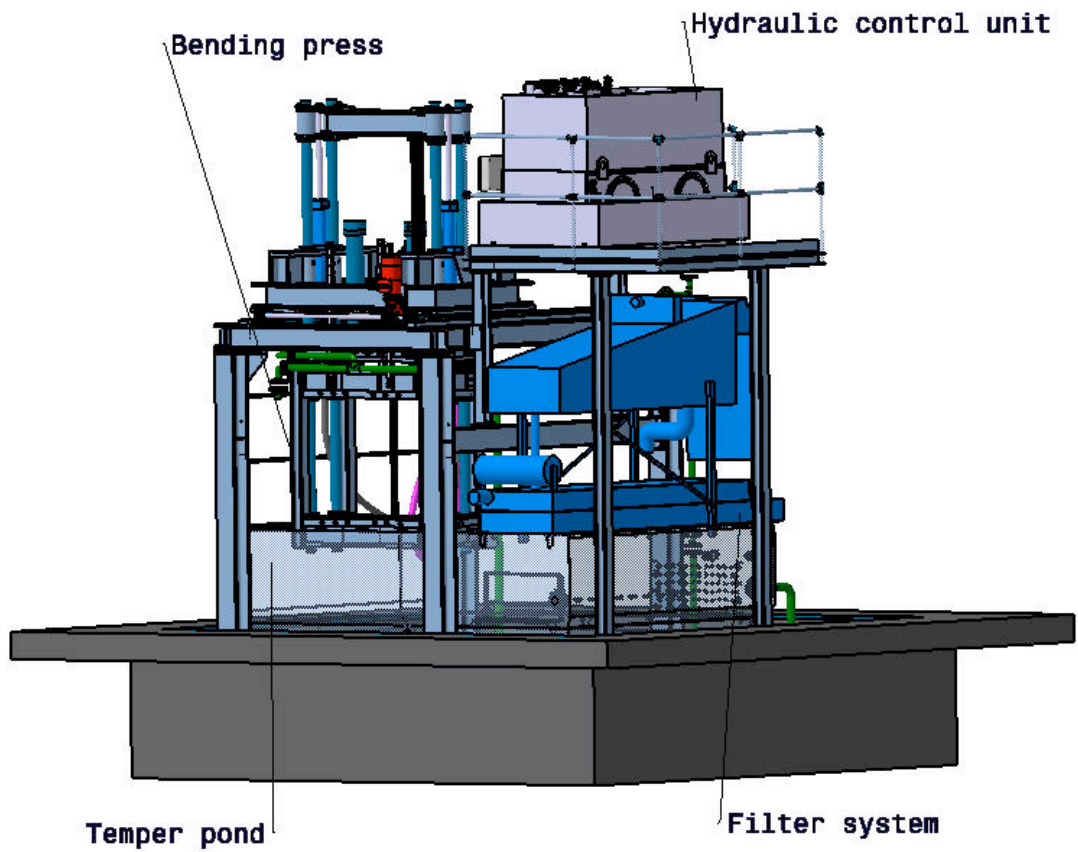


Fig. 1:

Design drawing of the bending/hardening system for India (source: BBG GmbH & Co. KG).



Fig. 2:

Lemken, a manufacturer of agricultural machines, ordered a bending/hardening system from BBG, with which they plan to manufacture ploughs at their Nagpur site in central India (source: Lemken GmbH & Co. KG).

For print-quality photo downloads, please go to:

http://www.auchkomm.com/touren/e86/index_ger.html.

Contact:

BBG GmbH & Co. KG, Martina Barton, Phone +49.(0)8261.7633.23, e-mail:
martina.barton@bbg-mbh.com.

Please visit www.bbg-mbh.com for further **information**.

Please send a specimen copy to:

auchkomm Unternehmenskommunikation, F. Stephan Auch, Auf AEG, Muggenhofer Straße
135, D-90429 Nuremberg