

EUROPEAN TOOL & MOULD MAKING

# ETMM

JUL/AUG 13

The trade magazine for tool, mould & die making

Volume XV | Issue 7 | July/August 2013 | ISSN 2194-7589 | €11

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## Buyer's Guide 2013-14

Annual Issue, International Sourcing Directory with Comprehensive Suppliers Database

## Revamped die-sinking EDM units have small footprints, novice-user friendliness



Source: GF Agie Charmilles

GF Agie Charmilles has re-engineered its die-sinking EDM centres Form 20 (photo) and Form 30, which come at a good price/performance ratio, the company said.

The machines feature a high-power generator, a Tecform module to enhance machining efficiency and idle times, and easy setup for a quick start to erosion, according to their supplier.

Designed to minimise space on the shop floor, the units are said to be some of the most compact standard die-sinking EDM machines on the market. In a

one-meter width, a 940 mm x 540 mm workpiece can be loaded, the company said. The machines feature a rigid and compact mechanical structure for reliable, stable operation, the supplier said. The cast iron, short C-frame design ensures static and dynamic rigidity, while linear glass scales on the cross table provide positioning accuracy.

At the heart of the company's die-sinking machines lies GF Agie Charmilles' proprietary, Intelligent Power Generator (IPG). The generator is said to have a maximum output of 70A for the Form 20 and 140A for the Form 30. Furthermore, the Tecform module embedded in every machine means customers can confidently, safely and quickly achieve best performance and produce the desired results, the company noted.

» **GF AgieCharmilles,**  
Geneva, Switzerland.  
[gfac.com](http://gfac.com)

## Lower-cost EDM wire suited for entry-level machining operations

Berkenhoff's Cobracut family of spark-erosion wires has been available to tool and mould makers under the Bedra brand for more than 30 years, and the company has added a product for the entry level. Cobracut AS serves as an economical and more reliable alternative to cheap imitations of the Cobracut technology that have infiltrated the market, according to the supplier. These wires are said to be designed to satisfy the common demands of manufacturing companies working with Agie wire-cutting EDM machines—specifi-

cally, reproducible precision and surface quality.

The galvanised-brass wire is produced in the manufacturer's own smelting shop from the highest-purity alloy components, it noted. An optimised galvanisation and drawing process employs so-called speed annealing said to ensure that the erosion wire delivers a certain level of performance. Galvanic coating systems used to make Bedra wires allow the coats of zinc, which are free of harmful additives, to be applied evenly in concentric layers, the company said.

The hard, straightened wire electrode exhibits very good reliability in applications involving automatic threading, the company said. Cobracut AS is available in a diameter of 0.25 mm from authorised Bedra dealers.

» **Berkenhoff,**  
Herborn, Germany.  
[bedra.com](http://bedra.com)



Source: Berkenhoff

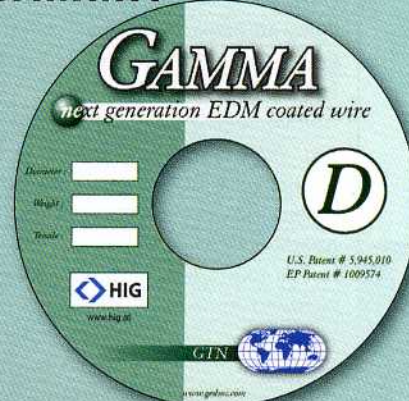
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