

### Efficient and safe additive manufacturing: EOS and Grenzebach deepen their partnership

- Next step of the cooperation in industrial 3D printing
- Development of efficient, safe and holistic automation processes

**HAMLAR, KRAILLING/ Germany.** To further advance the additive manufacturing of metal and polymer parts, technology provider EOS and automation specialist Grenzebach deepen their partnership. "It is essential for us to further automate and network industrial 3D printing as intelligently as possible with different processes. For years, we have been appreciating the exchange and cooperation with Grenzebach as our technology partner and now, we will take this next step together", says Dr. Marco Nock, Senior Vice President Business Unit Systems and Innovation Management, EOS.

#### Long-standing collaboration and development

Since the start of the cooperation, a portfolio of periphery equipment was developed. These included automation systems and transport solutions for the respective system platforms at first. In 2017, the much-acclaimed innovation project NextGenAM, which aimed to realize the fully automated series production of quality metal components, was a starting point. An aerospace and automotive manufacturer from Baden-Württemberg used the automated solution, in which Grenzebach had been involved from the very beginning as a consulting and solutions partner of EOS. Together, the project was made a success.

The portfolio was extended during the partnership and is still growing. More machines in the metal sector, such as the unpacking station, were handed over to Grenzebach. The developed solutions in the metal sector were adapted to the industrial 3D printing of polymer components. In the *POLYLINE* project, supported by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), a fully automated cell is realized. An automotive OEM from Bavaria as a customer takes care that the solution meets all requirements of the automotive industry. Within the scope of the project, the *EOS P 500* will be equipped with the fully automated feeding of the exchange frames.

#### More efficient, safe and holistic

The partners, cooperating in research and customer projects, develop individual configurations and derive holistic process and production solutions, which meet the respective requirements of common customers. They focus on the highest possible utilization of the industrial 3D printer and the accompanying periphery, efficient and robust production processes and optimal occupational health and safety production.

Grenzebach has also continually extended its portfolio for industrial 3D printing in the past months. In addition to 3D printer-specific automation and transport solutions, Grenzebach developed automatic storage as well as bin picking and sorting solutions to further advance the automation of up-and downstream process

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steps. "We have already demonstrated our expertise with automated guided vehicles, robotics and efficient material flow in the automated transport of parts within process chains", Oliver Elbert, Head of Additive Manufacturing at Grenz-bach, explains, "in the future, we will also contribute our know-how in further steps of the production process of additive manufacturing. There are still many processes which we have to automate on our way to a Lights-Out-Factory."

The automation of additive manufacturing is a clear growth area for the medium-sized Grenz-bach Group. The close and trustful cooperation with partners such as EOS is a key factor of success for Oliver Elbert. "Only with strong partnerships in the market, in which everyone contributes their part, we are able to develop efficient solutions for industrial 3D printers users. We are happy to further deepen our partnership with EOS, which has grown over the years." In the future, Grenz-bach will provide more machines in the direct as well as indirect environment of the EOS 3D printers and will thus open new opportunities and fields of interaction to address the specific industry and customer requirements even more efficiently: intelligent, safe and flexible.

### **About additive manufacturing at Grenz-bach**

Grenz-bach is the reliable partner for efficient and safe serial production of components based on intelligent automation and networking. Together with manufacturers of 3D printers and other additive manufacturing equipment as well as companies that use the process, Grenz-bach develops holistic solutions that precisely fit the respective requirements. Grenz-bach is also active as a partner in research projects such as Polyline, which focuses on the series production of plastic components. Here, the company contributes automated hardware and software interfaces as well as holistic solutions for material flow and transport between the individual processes.

### **About Grenz-bach**

Grenz-bach is a leading automatization solution provider for the global glass, building material and intralogistics market. In addition, the company develops new application areas, such as friction stir welding, the automatization of industrial additive manufacturing, phosphorus recycling and digital networking. Grenz-bach ranks among the international technology leaders in its markets. The global manufacturing footprint with production sites in Germany, Romania, the US and China, as well as additional worldwide locations ensure customer support on-site. More than 3,000 systems installed in more than 55 countries stand for quality and reliability. Since the company opened its doors over 60 years ago, it has been owned by the founding family. With an export ratio of more than 90 percent, Grenz-bach is a global player.

### **About EOS**

EOS provides responsible manufacturing solutions via industrial 3D printing technology to manufacturers around the world. Connecting high quality production efficiency with its pioneering innovation and sustainable practices, the independent company formed in 1989 will shape the future of manufacturing. Powered by its platform-driven digital value network of machines and a holistic portfolio of services, materials and processes, EOS is deeply committed to fulfilling its customers' needs and acting responsibly for our planet. [www.eos.info](http://www.eos.info)

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