

First-class spare parts made in Italy

Euroricambi supplies the truck market with first-class gearboxes and spare parts

When a truck gearbox malfunctions, the truck's owner has the agony of choice – a large number of manufacturers offer spare parts at different pricing and very different quality levels. One of the biggest providers in this market is Euroricambi, based in Bologna/Italy. The company has the broadest product portfolio, at nearly 7,000 individual components, gearboxes and differentials for nearly all European and many US brands. The company's own aspiration is not quantity but technological leadership in particular. "Our main objective is customer service excellence", President Pierluigi Taddei, son of the company's founder Orazio Taddei, emphasizes. "We provide immediate availability from our warehouse, a fast and efficient logistics service, competitive prices and standout quality on the spare parts market." To ensure quality, Euroricambi is constantly investing in state-of-the-art technology. "Our strategy has always been to invest continuously and keep pace with the times. You are only successful in the long term if you offer really good products that keep your customers satisfied."

It is precisely this quality and technological leadership aspiration that makes Liebherr gear-cutting machines so interesting. When the company decided to invest in new gear-hobbing machines around ten years ago, it opted for Liebherr for the first time. "From our point of view two criteria tipped the scales", Pierluigi Taddei recounts. "On the one hand there was the very flexible ring-loader system, which provided us with major benefits. On the other hand the LC 300 enabled us to hob larger workpieces. Collectively this greatly increased our flexibility." Given the large number of different com-



ponents that are mostly manufactured in small batches of between 50 and 300, set-up times and significant workpiece size range are key factors for the Italian manufacturer. This enables faster and more flexible manufacturing. The first Liebherr machine did such a convincing job that the company has now ordered its 20th machine. Euroricambi's assemblage of fully automated machinery totals eleven gear hobbing machines, six gen-

erating grinding machines and three gear shaping machines.

The last purchase from Liebherr was an LSE 300 with electronic helical guide function for the cutter head. Precision lead angle adjustments to μm -accuracy enable lead crowning to be produced at the touch of a button. This enables premium-quality gears to be produced.

Solutions-focused partnership

Together the gear specialists have developed a new grinding technology for precision machining. “We have to keep pace with technological innovations in the market and need partners to help us to do that. With Liebherr we have a partner that takes a solutions-based approach and designs the right machines for our business”, Pierluigi Taddei explains. That includes the development of software as well as of customized tools and seminars. Liebherr organizes on-site seminars and workshops in Italian for Euroricambi’s employees. Euroricambi is also provided with support by Liebherr-Utensili (LUT).

Euroricambi’s production facilities operate on an automated two-shift basis: one person loads and operates three to four machines. The machines can continue to operate beyond the 14th hour without human supervision, because they can be stocked in advance. A worker requires some two to three hours to load up “his” machines. “We have developed a really smart automation solution for small quantities of between 50 and 2000 components”, the President relates. Liebherr was also involved with this automation solution. ■



Giovanni Della Ferrera, Managing Director of Liebherr Utensili, the company's founder Orazio Taddei and Managing Director of Euroricambi, Pierluigi Taddei (from left to right)



Versatile: the generating- and profile-grinding machine LCS 300

Euroricambi: an Italian success story



From the very beginning this company has been a success not just in the Italian market. 98 percent of products are exported from Italy and 80 percent to countries outside of Europe. Euroricambi is part of the FA,TA, Ricambi Group, which is based in Italy, Romania and Poland. Euroricambi is the nucleus and still the largest company within the family-owned group of businesses.

Industry: Automotive industry
Company size: over 400 employees
Founded: 1979 by Orazio Taddei
Places: Italy, Romania and Poland
Managing director: Pierluigi Taddei
Website: www.euroricambi.com

Liebherr machines at work: Gear hobbing, gear shaping and gear grinding machines