

PRESS RELEASE

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Flexible automation on minimal floor space**With FlexCell automation cells, WITTMANN offers more cost-efficiency in injection molding**

They are designed to be extremely compact, based on a standardized concept and yet very flexible. In its FlexCell automation cells, WITTMANN combines in the automation of injection molding systems maximum efficiency with considerable cost savings.

The footprint of production equipment is an important efficiency key figure. As a supplier of turnkey injection molding systems, WITTMANN has shown great skill in exploiting space saving potentials. The new FlexCell automation cells are an outstanding example. They offer the protective housing, linear robot and conveyor belts all integrated into one safe, compact unit.

Modular and retrofittable

With its three different versions – Basis, Primus and Plus – FlexCell covers the entire range of injection molding applications. From simple pick & place tasks all the way to planned integration of downstream equipment, such as packaging stations for molded parts.

What all versions have in common is their space-saving, modular design. The cells are compatible with injection molding machines of all brands and can be retrofitted on existing production equipment.

Since the cells are mounted directly onto the injection molding machine and allow production with the machine safety door open, the automation equipment can be positioned very close to the clamping unit. In the Primus and Plus models, the protective housing is mounted on the conveyor belt and thus requires no separate floor space.

Fast setup and safe production

The FlexCell automation cells are extendable by integrating additional modules. All automation components have their fixed place and are safely enclosed inside the FlexCell. In this way, the concept contributes to greater occupational safety as well as more efficient setup processes. Temperature controllers can also be integrated in a space-saving way. They are placed underneath the conveyor belt and thus take up no extra floor space.

Special emphasis was placed in product development on easy access to the mold space for manual interventions, servicing and maintenance work. So the conveyor belts with the protective housing can be moved very easily to one side in the Primus and Plus models.

Due to their standardized design, the FlexCell automation cells recommend themselves by short delivery times and an excellent price/performance ratio. As a first step, this new solution is being launched on the German market.

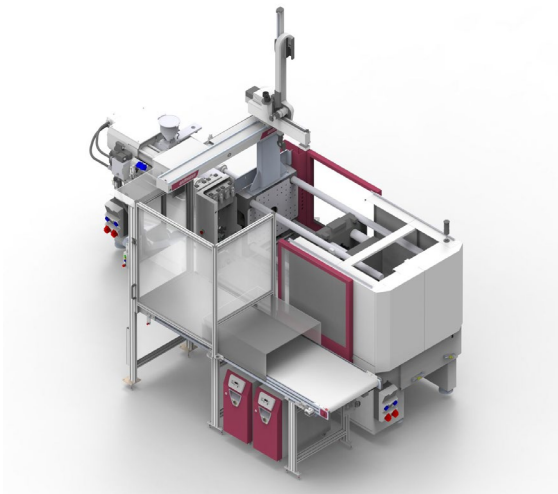


Fig. 1: The FlexCell automation cells from WITTMANN – shown here in the Primus version – reduce the production cell's footprint and enhance process safety.

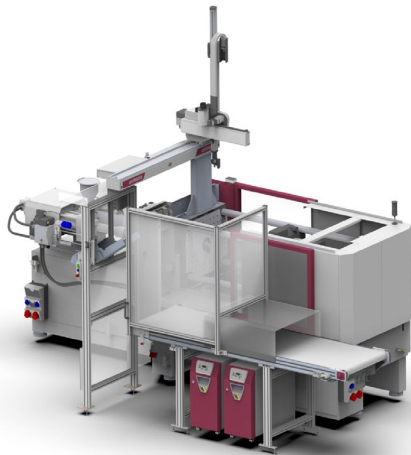


Fig. 2: In developing the FlexCell, special emphasis was placed on easy access to the mold space. The conveyor belt with the protective housing, can be moved very easily to one side.

Photos: WITTMANN

The WITTMANN Group

The WITTMANN Group is a globally leading manufacturer of injection molding machines, robots and auxiliary equipment for processing a great variety of plasticizable materials. The group of companies has its headquarters in Vienna, Austria and consists of two main divisions: WITTMANN BATTENFELD and WITTMANN. Following the principles of environmental protection, conservation of resources and circular economy, the WITTMANN Group engages in state-of-the-art process technology for maximum energy efficiency in injection molding, and in processing standard materials and materials with a high content of recyclates and renewable raw materials. The products of the WITTMANN Group are designed for horizontal and vertical integration into a Smart Factory and can be interlinked to form an intelligent production cell.

The companies of the group jointly operate ten production plants in six countries, and the additional sales companies at their 36 different locations are present in all major industrial markets around the world.

WITTMANN BATTENFELD pursues the continued strengthening of its market position as a manufacturer of injection molding machines and supplier of comprehensive modern machine technology in modular design. The product range of WITTMANN

includes robots and automation systems, materials handling systems, dryers, gravimetric and volumetric blenders, granulators, temperature controllers and chillers. The combination of the individual areas under the umbrella of the WITTMANN Group enables perfect integration – to the advantage of injection molding processors with an increasing demand for seamless interlocking of processing machines, automation and auxiliaries.

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