

# MRT Castings 'turns the tables' on Brothers

Established in 1947, MRT Castings specialises in the manufacture of high-quality aluminium die castings. In addition to regularly investing in the most up-to-date casting technologies, over the past 70 years the progressive family business has introduced a range of complementary end-to-end services.

Along with state-of-the-art high pressure and gravity diecasting, the Andover, Hampshire based company now provides first-class tool making, surface finishing, mechanical assembly and not least a comprehensive CNC Machining provision.

The mainstay of MRT Castings' impressive machining facility are its collection of highly efficient Brother CNC Vertical Machining Centres supplied by Whitehouse Machine Tools Ltd. MRT's policy of standardising on machines from a single supplier provides enhanced flexibility as both operators and products are interchangeable between machines. Additional benefits include the use of standardised fixturing, tooling and CNC rotary tables.

Having previously used two well-known brands of CNC rotary tables, following advice from Whitehouse Machine Tools, the company's most recently installed Brother VMCs were specified with the addition of p1 LEHMANN CNC rotary tables.

MRT Castings Managing Director, Phil Rawson explained. "MRT Castings is able to support our customers from initial ideas, through product development and design for manufacture stages, to full production and logistics. "Our extensive in-house CNC machining facilities are at the very core of our operations. To help ensure short lead times and the manufacture of premium quality products we use a range of Brother machine tools, the fastest machining centres available.

"Such is the quality and cost-effective nature of our CNC machining provision, in addition to



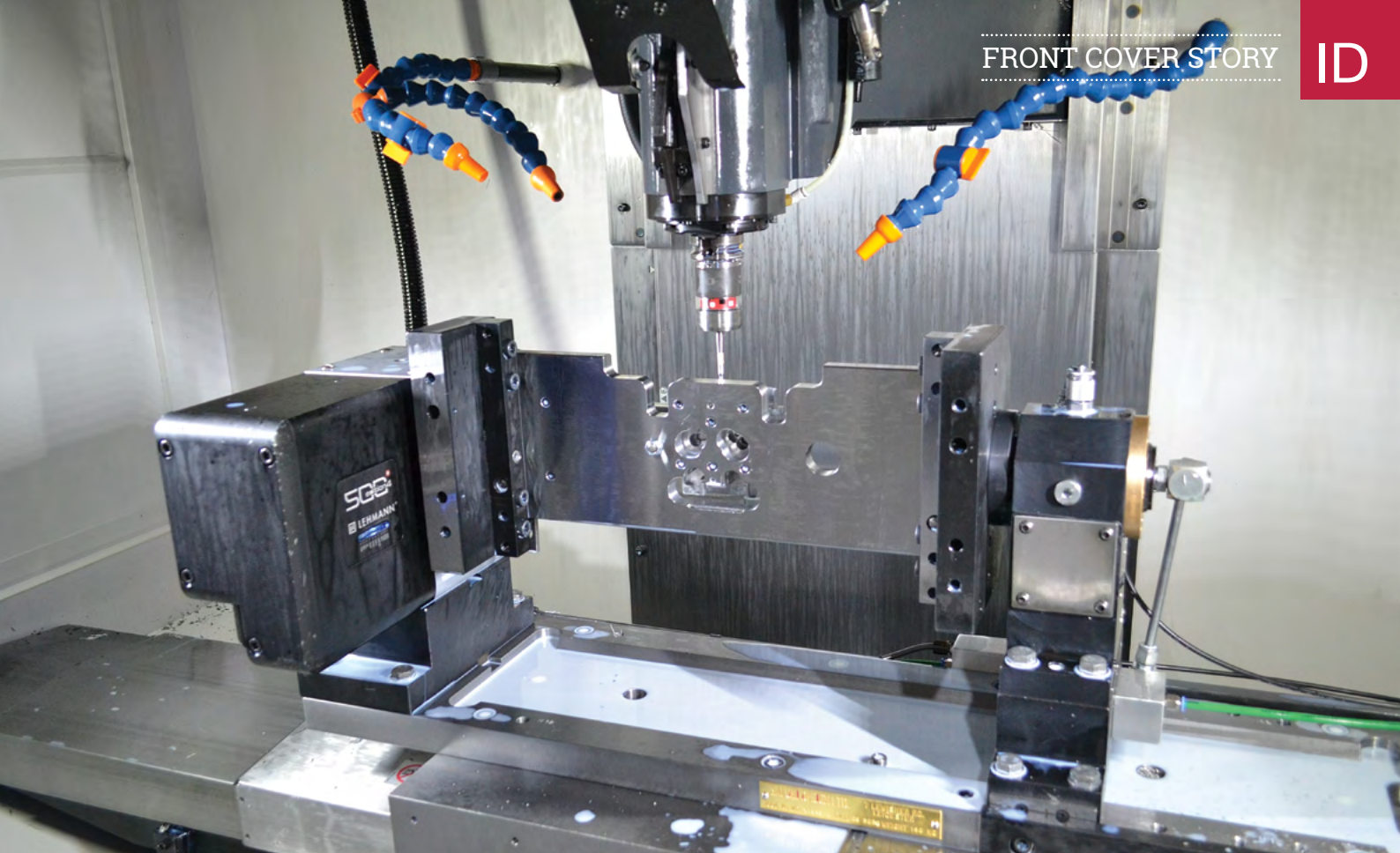
machining die castings that are produced in our own foundry, we also machine components cast by other companies. As we usually perform small to medium production runs on a diverse range of products, we need each of our machine tools to deliver the best possible levels of flexibility, we also strive to maximise machine utilisation times and to minimise set-up times. Over several years, our use of rotary tables has made important contributions in these areas.

"As many of the components we manufacture are relatively complex, without the use of rotary tables we would need to perform 2 – 3 different machining operations on them, rather than the 'one-hit' machining that we carry out. Also, the ability to finish machine parts in a single cycle means that we don't face the issues related to the

accurate relocation of workpieces for subsequent machining operations.

"Over the past 12 months we have been involved in the casting and machining of critical parts that were urgently needed for medical ventilators. To help enable us to keep-pace with this extremely challenging production schedule we brought the planned purchase of six Brother Vertical Machining Centres forward, bringing our current Brother VMC count up to 25 machines. To provide highly efficient 4-axis capabilities, each of our latest six Brother VMCs were specified with the addition of p1 LEHMANN rotary tables.

"As the use of rotary tables and the 4th axis they deliver is central to our machining efficiencies and having previously used other brands, we



were advised by the staff of Whitehouse Machine Tools to use pL LEHMANN CNC rotary tables. Our adoption of pL LEHMANN CNC rotary tables has provided us with a range of advantages.

“Despite our pL LEHMANN CNC rotary tables being extremely robust and able to perform all of the tasks we require, when compared to our previously used rotary tables they are relatively small. Their reduced footprints mean that, when mounted inside our Brother VMCs they take-up a minimum area. In addition to releasing machine bed space for other workholding, the reduced size of pL LEHMANN CNC rotary tables means that when they are not required, they can often be left inside our VMCs when other machining jobs are being carried out. Additionally, the reduced height of pL LEHMANN CNC rotary tables helps to increase the available working volumes of our machines.

“In addition to benefiting from the quality of pL LEHMANN’s products, we have received excellent installation and interface help from Whitehouse Machine Tools and from pL LEHMANN’s UK service agent. The machining flexibility, precision and speed delivered by our pL LEHMANN CNC rotary tables is now proving invaluable to MRT Castings.”

pL LEHMANN has been involved in the design and manufacture of high-quality rotary tables for over four decades. The in-depth expertise gained throughout this time is reflected in the quality of the company’s advanced products. To help reduce parts and to enable the availability of Swiss Quality at a cost effective price, pL LEHMANN rotary tables are based on an innovative modular design system. This highly efficient arrangement enables a wide range of CNC rotary table options to be made available to meet customers’ diverse needs.

Four basic sizes pL LEHMANN CNC rotary tables are available - 507, 510, 520 and 530 mm, with centre heights from 110 to 240 mm. Due to the company’s modular design approach, from these size options it is possible to offer more than 170 different rotary table variants. Models are available from basic single-spindle 4th axis units to 4-spindle tilting rotary tables with 4th and 5th axis capabilities. Now, rather than compromise and obtain a rotary table that represents a close-match to a machining requirement, pL LEHMANN customers are able to take delivery of a high-quality CNC rotary table that exactly correspond to their specific needs.

In addition, the company’s modular design system means that the purchase of a well-engineered

pL LEHMANN CNC rotary table represents a safe, future-proof investment. For example, if a customer’s manufacturing requirements change, instead of investing in a new rotary table, their existing pL LEHMANN CNC unit can be easily modified and adapt to changes of use.

pL LEHMANN’s standardised spindle arrangement allows the use of an extremely wide range of workpiece clamping systems. As a result, in addition to standard workholding being set-up for an initial workpiece range, the system can be quickly converted to accommodate other workpieces.

pL LEHMANN CNC heavy-duty CNC rotary tables have earned a global reputation for their outstanding performance, quality and longevity. Further aiding efficient, precision machining, the company’s robust products benefit from excellent clamping torque, load weight capabilities and accuracy specifications.

[www.lehmann-rotary-tables.com/de/home](http://www.lehmann-rotary-tables.com/de/home)