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November 2007
Issue No. 22

New Look for STEP-FOUR



■ New design of Step-Four

Austria's only manufacturer of computer controlled milling machines and hot wire cutting systems sharpens its image definition and sets new focal points as an industrial partner.

Step-Four, the globally operating company that is based in Salzburg, meets the ever-growing demand, which is continuously being raised by the industry, and places increased emphasis on user-friendly holistic concepts, which are based on the quality and reliability of the respective systems. "We see our main objective in the realisation of ideas and visions. Designs take shape, come to life, and can be found in our customers' products", ex-

plains Ernst Ramberger in his succinct description of the corporate philosophy. Step-Four is particularly characterised by a high level of flexibility and innovation. Step-Four systems are applied in the areas of prototyping, industrial construction and plant engineering and construction, as well as in the development and construction of architectural models, and renowned customers, such as Airbus, BMW, Toyota and many more, have learned to rely on Austrian quality. "All manner of seemingly difficult assignments provide positive challenges for our developers, thus, an increasing number of special purpose machines are manufactured for the industrial sector," explains Ramberger, the founder and director of

Customer Information

 **STEPFOUR**
www.step-four.at

STEP FOUR

Editorial



Keeping in step with time ...

Time does not pass without leaving its mark: This is why we have decided to upgrade our visual image. A new logo and the introduction of a new corporate design are the pre-eminent trappings of this transformation.

Thus, we are able to optically convey the level of reliability that you can duly expect, both now and in the future, when working together with a modern and innovative company. Due to the fact that we are still deeply rooted in the field of modelling, we have created the new Step-Four Club. More information can be gathered from the inside pages.

All V4 milling software users should pay particular attention to the sensational offer for the switch to the high-performance XpertMILL / XpertLINK system under windows. With a final reference to the new generation of 3D milling machines, which will be available from the beginning of 2008, I would like to wish you lots of pleasure with our Step-Four News.

the company, in his description of the successful collaboration with customers. This continuing success and the expansion of the customer segment in the international industry has brought Step-Four several steps forward and helped to create a new image. With a



clearer, improved structure of picture language, which points out the range of products and services more distinctly, as from now, Step-Four presents itself as an industrial partner with a new corporate design and logo. The restructuring will be carried out during the next

few months. However, our second supporting pillar, modelling, will not be neglected by us. Far from it, we have founded a club in order to be able to provide our modelling partners with even more specific

information and support. Interesting solu-

tion approaches are regularly provided from this particular area of application of our machines," declares Ernst Ramberger. Free offer till the end of the year: Sign up for the Step-Four Club, and you don't have to pay an annual fee until January 2008.

Special offer for all V4 milling software users

Milling the easy way under Windows with XpertLINK and XpertMILL:

The switch to the XpertLINK / XpertMILL system under windows is so easy and such a bargain.

Enjoy the numerous advantages provided by milling under windows, and keep your fingertips on the pulse of time.



■ XpertLINK Windows-Adapter

Upgrade example

Do you operate your milling machine with the aid of SF-C2 electronics and the V4 Pro milling software without expansion modules? With XpertLINK and the V4 Pro upgrade to XpertMILL, available under Windows for the special offer price of only EUR 399.00 including VAT, you will become capable of real time and multitasking operation. Make the most of this opportunity and send us a request for your individual offer!



■ XpertMILL Milling Software

The new Step-Four e-mail newsletter

Register now under www.step-four.at and you will always receive the latest information about our products, events and offers. This service is absolutely free and can be cancelled at any time.

The whole world of Step-Four in my club

- Exclusive club area under www.step-four.at
- Free download of data sets, pre-processed for your computer controlled milling machine or hot wire cutter
- 3 % club discount on all Step-Four list prices (does not include special offers)
- Member forum
- Participation in STEP-FOUR events
- Exclusive STEP-FOUR fan articles
- Only 35 Euro per annum



You can register at the Step-Four Club now and you don't have to pay the EUR 35.00 annual fee until January 2008. Thus, you will be able to enjoy the numerous club advantages free of charge for the next two months. Simply fill in the reply coupon or register directly under www.step-four.at.

Cut out here and send coupon to STEP-FOUR.
Or simply fax this coupon: +43 (0)662/45 93 78-20



Yes, I would like to become a STEP-FOUR member



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Bayernstraße 77
A-5071 Wals-Siezenheim
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.....
 First name

.....
 Last name

.....
 Street

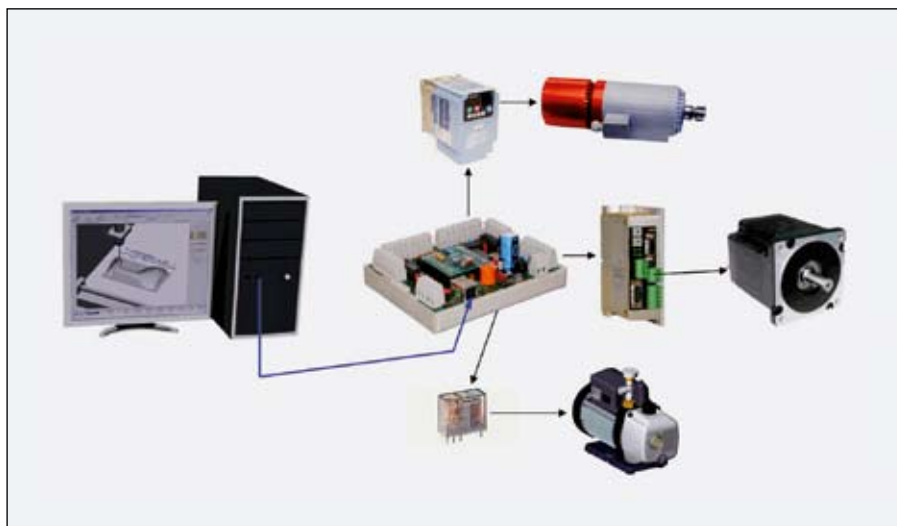
.....
 Postcode and town

.....
 E-mail

.....
 Signature

- After filing the membership application, annual memberships come into effect beginning with the respective following month. The current membership fee for one year (12 months) is € 35.00. Each member must pay the complete sum of the annual subscription in advance. Club members are not subject to any further obligations to buy. STEP-FOUR reserves the right to reject a membership application without having to state any specific reasons.
- The membership is concluded for an indefinite time. Should a club member – for whatever reasons – wish to resign club membership during the running membership period, the previously paid membership fee is forfeited. The club member can tender a written (per fax, post or e-mail) notice of cancellation up to two months before the end of a respective year.
- I agree to the terms that my data, which is stated on the registration, is processed under observation of the applied data protection law, and that I will also receive written information and coupons by e-mail from STEP-FOUR. I can revoke this agreement at any chosen time.

New: XpertLINK for external systems



■ Controlling external systems with XpertLINK

XpertLINK combined with Xpert-Mill milling software enables the immediate control of both self-manufactured milling machines and systems made by other manufacturers. The tried and tested Xpert-MILL Windows milling software in combination with XpertLINK external system electronics provides everything that anyone could expect from a user-friendly control system for milling machines and much more. This interface enables both the activation of up to four stepping motor end phases with clock and direction signals, as well as servo amplifiers with clock and direction input.

Highlights

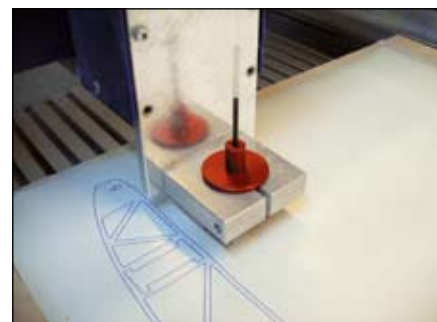
- 3-4 axle interpolated driving technology with course foresight
- Reference switch and limit switch input for each axle
- 5 additional inputs
- Connection of up to four switching relays
- Connection of spindle converter with On/Off signal and the analogue voltage output to the speed control
- Connection to the PC via USB
- Inputs and outputs arranged as terminal strips
- Delivery in housing with one side open for top hat rail assembly
- Supply either directly via USB port or externally (12-24V AC, 15-32V DC, required for analogue spindle output)

XpertLINK with XpertMILL LT for only € 699.00 incl. VAT.

XpertMILL under Windows VISTA

Of course, XpertMILL also runs under Windows VISTA. For useful installation assistance, you can refer to the instructions provided on our website www.step-four.at.

New: Step-Four pen



■ The Step-Four pen

This is how to put components and plans to paper that are more extensive than the print range of your printer. The new Step-Four pen can be fitted into a 33 mm clamp collar. It provides, for example, an A3 format drawing area for the Basic 540. Due to the fact that the system is open to the left and right and the paper can, thus, be fed through, you can virtually draw endlessly. Now only € 45.60 incl. VAT.

Trade fair schedule

We will exhibit at the following trade fairs in autumn 2007. Come visit us!

1st till the 4th of November 2007

FASZINATION MODELLBAU

Friedrichshafen,
hall A3, stand 3544



5th till the 8th of December 2007

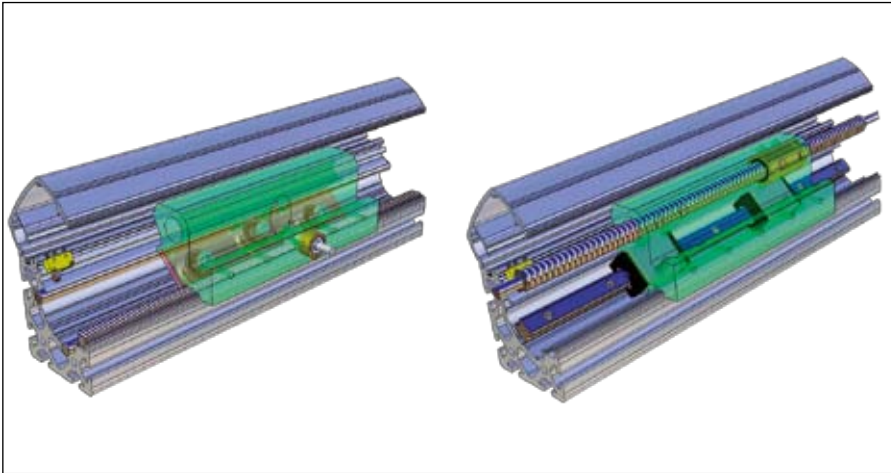
EUROMOLD

The world fair for tool making and mold design and construction.

Hall 9.0, stand F06



New 3D milling machines as a world's first at EUROMOLD



■ Integral feed system: left with a roller guide and rack drive, right with linear rail guide and ball screw

For the very first time, Step-Four presents a new line of machines at this year's Euromold in Frankfurt, which has been developed especially for the 3D processing of wood, rigid foams or aluminium. The core of this new system is a specially de-

veloped integral feed system made of precision extruding press profiles, which are especially characterised by their high level of rigidity and low level of weight. Thus, both a considerable reduction of the mass to be moved is achieved

and the highest possible acceleration values for short processing times are also enabled. Depending on the specific application with its respective individual requirements regarding precision, the application area and processing speed of the integral profile system can be equipped with various guiding systems and advance feed drives. Thus, an ideal alignment of the machine can always be guaranteed.

Integral profile system

Irrespective of the chosen drive concept, the efficient and uncompromisingly user friendly Step-Four Xpert-MILL milling software is also available for controlling machines and systems. In addition to hardware and software, appropriate instruction and training courses are provided for users, which nicely rounds off the offer. The machine line is available as of spring 2008.

Wine festival at Möbel Leiner

A grand autumn festival was held at the famous Austrian furniture store, Textil-Teppich-Möbel Leiner (www.leiner.at), in Salzburg on the 28th and 29th September 2007. Within the scope of the festival, our chief modeller, Hannes Schmalzer, provided visitors with help and advice in building their own airplane models. Of course, the visitors also had the opportunity to appropriately test the airplanes in the subsequent hand launch glider contest.



■ Children building airplanes

Masthead

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In-house exhibition summary 2007

Within the scope of our fourth in-house exhibition that was held at our new plant, we were able to present the Porsche 944 with our enthusiastic pilot, Reinhard Brandstätter, at the wheel, as well as several exclusive scale models of classic and modern airplanes made of wood and mixed construction by CNC Modellbautechnik Bayer. After taking part in an informative tour, the interested visitors were able to relax with food and drink, and they were also provided with lots of inside information and insights into the world of Step-Four.

Letter of thanks from pcm

... We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you for your successfully staged in-house exhibition! We would like to express our particular thanks to Mr. Schmalzer, who provided us with some really excellent advice regarding material selection and 3D milling machines! We will definitely implement many of the suggestions for our man-carrying project. The customer attention and support provided by Mr. Ramberger is also unparalleled. It filled us with great pleasure to see how an Austrian company has grown through sheer commitment, quality and a special kind of charm.

Competition

1st prize: Sightseeing flight around Salzburg in a power glider worth € 250.00, Siegfried Huber (Enns)

2nd prize: Europark shopping vouchers worth € 100.00, Martin Bruckmoser (Oberndorf)

3rd prize: A voucher for the Carpe Diem Lounge-Café in hangar 7 worth € 50.00, Ulrich Stadler (Deutschfeistritz)



■ Quite a bustle



■ Ernst Ramberger likes to hit the gas



■ Die YAK 54 The YAK 54 from Mr. Borgetto awaits visitors



■ Interesting subjects to inspire visitors of all ages



■ Search and you shall find ...



■ Workshop 2007: You live and learn



■ A little refreshment for Mr. Bayer and Mr. Hohenlohe

New coating process for EPS and XPS



■ Billboard coated with Wisent Safe-COAT

The new Wisent PU Coat is suitable as an absolutely impact resistant coating for EPS, XPS, wood, plastics and metal. The base colour of the coating is actually transparent and can be coloured to choice by simply adding pigments. Wisent PUR Coat can be applied by brush, roller or by means of a special spray gun. The coating dries without shrinking and leaves a smooth, even surface. The coating can be cleaned and painted after drying.

Impact resistant coating

If this is used as a base coating on EPS and XPS, then a more “aggressive” coating (solvent-containing paint) can be subsequently applied. Available in two 25 kg containers (components A and B) and 450 g accelerator. 1 kg of Wisent PUR Coat yields a 1 m² layer with a thickness of 1 mm. Breathing protection equipment must be worn during application. Wisent Safe-Coat, which is also new, is used as a protective coating on EPS, XPS, wood, plastics and much more. Safe-Coat is not quite as hard as Wisent PUR Coat. Just

as with PUR Coat, the base colour of the coating is actually transparent and can be coloured to choice by simply adding pigments. The material is applied by means of a brush or roller. This material also dries without shrinking. The surface is smooth and even and can be cleaned and painted.

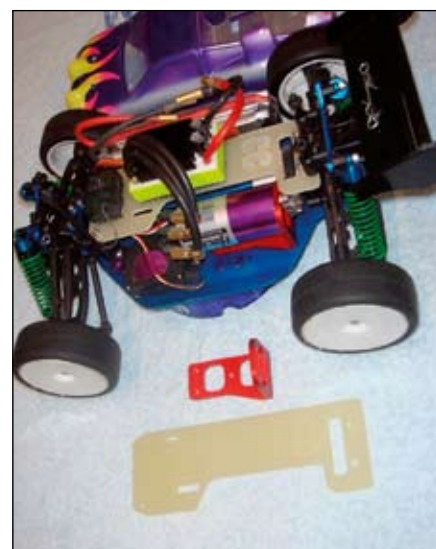
Wisent Safe-Coat

Wisent Safe-Coat coating can be used as a base coating on EPS and XPS, so that a more “aggressive” coating (solvent-containing paint) can be subsequently applied. Unlike Wisent PUR Coat, Wisent Safe-Coat can be applied without the user having to wear breathing protection equipment. Available as of January 2008.



■ During the 14th MFC Arriva Anderle large sailplane competition, which was held on the 1st of July 2007 in Hochreith, our modelling expert, Hannes Schmalzer, came in first in the team contest and second in the individual category. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our high-flyers.

Milling success for beginners



■ Model car scale 1:18

Mr. Mertl wrote to us from Tulln: Hello! I am the proud owner of a Basic 540, which I purchased around three months ago; without any previous training in the areas of milling or CAD programmes whatsoever. Thanks to your support and the help provided by “The Cool Tool” team, it works excellently! Enclosed you will find a photograph of a model car scaled at 1:18 (Shark 18 Nitromonster), which I converted from a gasoline motor to a brushless electro motor. The motor mounting and the chassis plate are my “grade A practical graduation models”, so to say. Others are sure to follow!

Erratum

In edition 21 we inadvertently printed the wrong web address of the acroteam model constructors. The correct address is www.aerobatic-team.de.

STEP-FOUR Precise 760

Autumn Package

The industrial milling machine for practically every area of application!

- Step-Four Precise 760 autumn package:
 - Basic 760 milling mechanism assembled
 - SF-C2 control electronics
 - XpertLINK Windows-Adapter
 - XpertMILL milling software
 - Kress electric motor 800 FME
 - 10-piece VHM milling tool set
- Now only € 4299.00 excl. VAT.

You can save
over € 1000.00



Order now!

Phone: +43(0)662 45 93 78-0 or e-mail: office@step-four.at

Offers are limited to Austria and Germany and are applied until the 30th November 2007.

STEP-FOUR PC-Cut 1000

Autumn Package

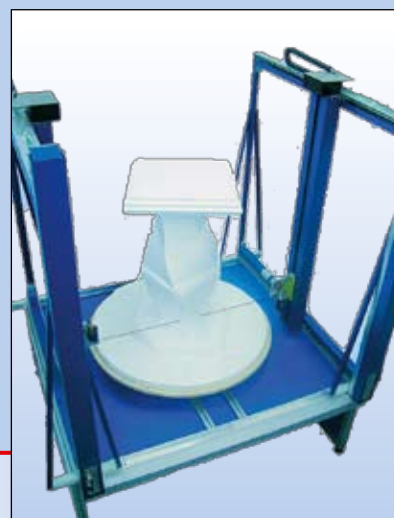
For our professional hot wire cutter, we now offer our top model PC-CUT 1000 complete package at great conditions.

Step-Four PC-Cut 1000:

- Cutting mechanism X/Y portals assembled
- Control electronics
- Cutting transformer
- Electronic wire tensioner
- Machine frame
- Pro cutting software V4

Now only € 9490.00 excl. VAT.

You can save
over € 1700.00



Order now!

Phone: +43(0)662 45 93 78-0 or e-mail: office@step-four.at

Offers are limited to Austria and Germany and are applied until the 30th November 2007.