

Media release

Starrag Group wins coveted Chairman's Award for Innovation from British Aerospace Systems

A team made up of employees from British Aerospace Systems and the Starrag Group has won the prestigious Silver Chairman's Award for Innovation from BAE Systems. The award is in recognition for their development of new technology for the cost-effective processing of safety-critical Titanium alloy aircraft components. The team, which went by the name of "Two heads are better than one", was one of over 3'000 nominations who were then whittled down to 16 finalists before finally receiving the prize in December 2012 at a gala event in Washington D.C.

The team was rewarded for its successful multi-concept development, including production and implementation, of a new horizontal twin-spindle machining center with a weight of over 200 tons, which can mill two complex parts at the same time. This new development has been crucial in maintaining both highly-skilled jobs and the production of advanced, complex Titanium parts in Europe.

"BAE Systems needed a best-cost solution in order to be globally competitive over the long term when it comes to modern Titanium processing," said David Holmes, Investment & Infrastructure Services Director. "The current market was unable to meet our demands, so we decided to opt for a partnership with a leading machine tool manufacturer to jointly develop new technology which would fulfil our main criteria of operational safety, constant precision and high operational productivity."

"We are incredibly honored to be part of the winning team for the Silver Award," added Frank Brinken, CEO of the Starrag Group. "Throughout the entire development stage, we worked really well together with the BAE Systems specialists, and as a result, we now have the world's leading solution for efficient Titanium processing at a location in Great Britain. The machine was delivered with typical Swiss punctuality and is already exceeding expectations in terms of performance."

The BAE Systems production facility at Samlesbury in Lancashire is already using the new technology, while the Starrag Group is currently producing a second machine for a customer overseas.

Company profile Starrag Group

Starrag Group is a global technology leader in manufacturing high-precision machine tools for milling, turning, boring and grinding workpieces of metallic and composite materials. Our customers are primarily internationally active companies in the Aerospace, Transport, Industrial, Energy, Medical, Watch + Jewelry sectors. In addition to its portfolio of machine tools, Starrag Group provides integrated technology and maintenance services that significantly enhance customer productivity.

Starrag Group products are marketed under the following strategic brands: Berthiez, Bumotec, Dörries, Droop+Rein, Heckert, Scharmann, SIP, Starrag, TTL, WMW. Headquartered in Rorschach/Switzerland, the Starrag Group operates manufacturing plants in Switzerland, Germany, France, the UK and India and has established a network of sales and services subsidiaries in numerous other countries.

Starrag Group is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (STGN).

Company Profile BAE Systems

BAE Systems is a global defence, aerospace and security company with approximately 93'500 employees worldwide and a primary focus on five home markets: the US, UK, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Australia and India. The Company delivers a full range of products and services for air, land and naval forces, as well as advanced electronics, security, information technology solutions and customer support services.

Rorschacherberg, 21 January 2013

Starrag Group Holding AG

[BAE Silver Award group photo](#)

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Forthcoming events

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| • Preliminary information on annual results | 25 January 2013 |
| • Key figures 2012 / Annual report | 8 March 2013 |
| • Media and analysts conference in Zurich | 8 March 2013 |
| • Annual general meeting | 12 April 2013 |
| • Interim information first quarter 2013 | 6 May 2013 |
| • Half-year report 2013 | 26 July 2013 |
| • Interim information third quarter 2013 | 5 November 2013 |

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