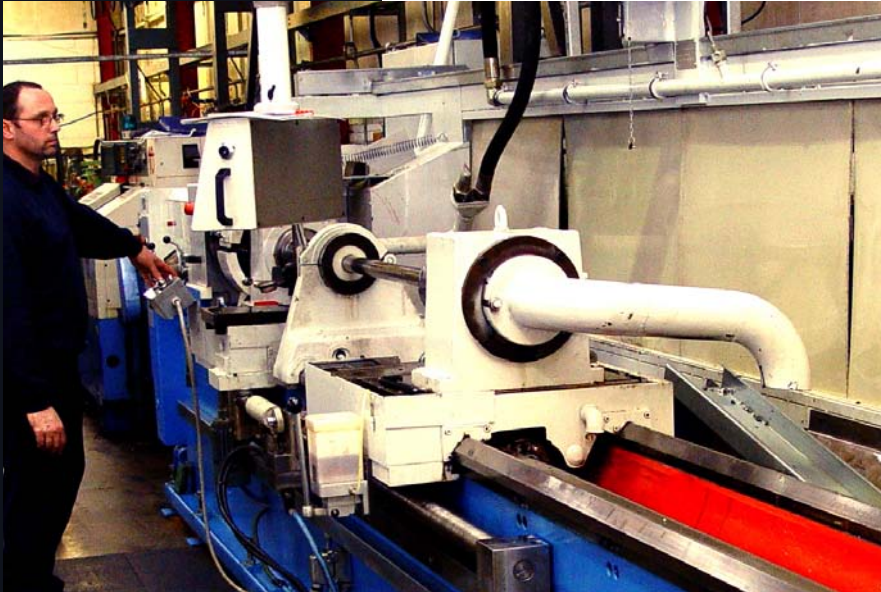




New deep hole borer makes its presence felt at Hone-All Precision



Hone-All Precision's new Boehringer VDF B3 deep hole borer can machine a 140 mm diameter through hole in 2 m long billets.

The commissioning of a new Boehringer VDF B3 deep hole borer has delivered the additional capacity needed by Hone-All Precision to satisfy the steadily growing demand for its specialist machining skills. Prior to installing the new machine, the Dunstable-based sub-contractor had been operating at full stretch for several months.

"We provide a full 'one-stop-shop' machining capability," says Andrea Rodney, Director, "but we are increasingly focused on the machining of exotic and difficult-to-machine materials such as titanium and Inconel. The impact of increasing demand for this expertise has been most noticeable in terms of our deep hole boring capability, so although we had plans in place to increase capacity in this section it was necessary to bring the investment forward to avoid extending delivery times to customers.

"Although price and component quality are always factors in a customer's decision to place an order, lead times are increasingly a major consideration. We are totally committed to improving our delivery performance whenever possible because we believe it is the key to staying one step ahead of the competition and it is, therefore, an integral part of our 'best practice' initiative."

Hone-All Precision has completed its transformation from a niche drilling, honing and boring business into an award-winning business offering a complete manufacturing service and equipped to respond positively to customers' machining requirements, however demanding they may be.

The new borer takes billets up to 200 mm diameter and 2 metres long, and is capable of machining a close tolerance 140 mm diameter through hole in materials such as Inconel. To make room for the new mid-range arrival in its 10,000 sq. ft. premises, Hone-All Precision relocated several smaller machines to its satellite operation in nearby Houghton Regis, which specialises in one-offs and small batch work, while at the same time taking the opportunity to adjust the layout of the main machine shop to improve workflow.

ISO 9001-accredited Hone-All Precision's deep hole boring capability extends to 3 m billet lengths, which matches the capability of the turning section. The company also offers CNC milling and gun drilling as well as honing, grinding and EDM drilling, while the recently upgraded quality control and inspection facility houses a Quantum 6104 CNC co-ordinate measuring machine and an impressive array of metrology equipment.



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