

ZKL NEWS



ZKL on Shanghai Fair



Presenting AKCA Company

Golden Medal For NEW FORCE Bearings Opening ZKL Training Center



INNOTRANS Fair

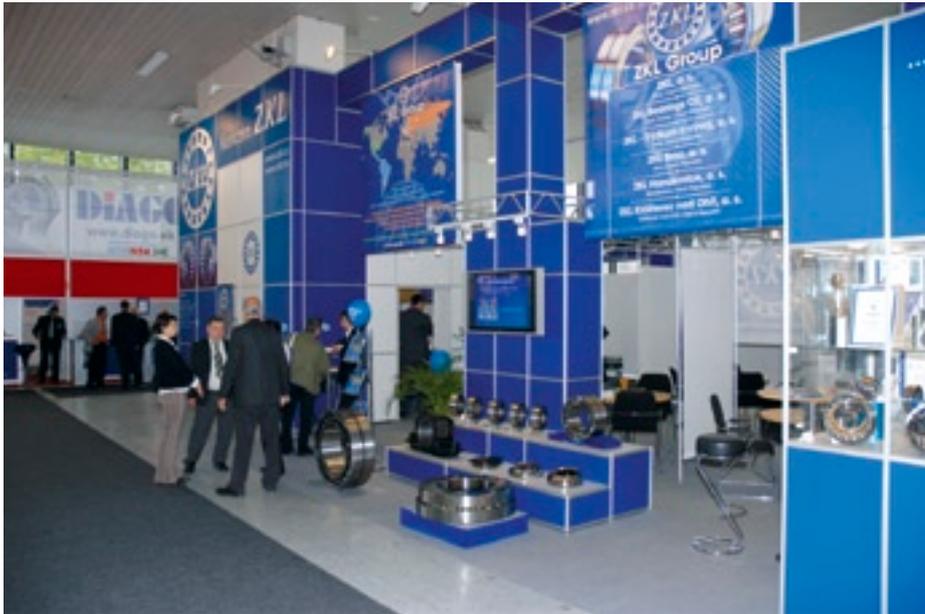


Hall Reconstruction in Hanušovice



Read further in this issue:

GOLDEN MEDAL FOR ZKL NEW FORCE ROLLER BEARINGS



- Finishing operations and surface treatment of bearing components.

Therefore, based on the results of development and innovations, ZKL offers to clients rolling bearings of high utility parameters:

- High dynamic load
- Reduced rolling and sliding friction
- Higher reliability in most challenging operating conditions.

The high dynamic load rating brings longer service life of bearings and permits the clients to lay out structures of lesser dimensions for accommodation of same load, thus bringing chances to cut down total costing of the installation as well as to achieve energy savings in its operation.

Basic parameters of NEW FORCE bearings are designed in conformity with ZKL proven methodologies set down under international ISO standards and own know-how resulting from tests results and experiences from production and operation of ZKL bearings. The proposed parameters of ZKL NEW FORCE

roller bearings are being verified by tests in course of their development as well as by periodical quality evaluation throughout the serial production process. These tests are performed on individual test facilities of bearing testing laboratory under the company ZKL-Výzkum a vývoj, a.s., the member of Czech Testing Laboratories Association CTLA.

*Vladimír Zikmund, Eng.
Director, ZKL-Výzkum
a vývoj, a.s.*

ZKL Group won Golden Medal in best exhibits contest organized traditionally at the occasion of the Jubilee 50th International Engineering Fair in Brno. The awarded exhibits were spherical roller bearings NEW FORCE in EMH version. This is the first design series of bearings belonging to new generation of ZKL bearings with extended service life which should become principal product of our Group in the coming years. The award was handed over at the festive evening on September 16, 2008 to ZKL General Manager Mr. Jiří Prášil, Eng. CSc. (see photo).

This acknowledgement is the result of one of pivotal innovations of recent time, representing the start of a gradual production implementation of ZKL spherical roller and ball bearings of a higher standard under the designation NEW FORCE. ZKL thus follows on already materialized innovation phase of spherical roller bearings with pressed steel sheet and machined brass cages. The intention of the process initiated this year is to introduce in serial production approximately 50 % of entire assortment of ZKL rolling bearings in NEW FORCE category by the year 2010.

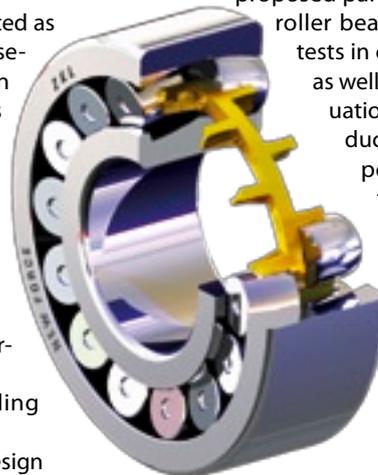
Installation of bearings of the new generation brings to users by their quality higher service life of the equipment, higher operation safety, prolongation of service intervals and thus a substantial operating cost reduction. Bearings NEW FORCE are designed for most demanding mountings of gearboxes, railway vehicles, presses, rolling mills, paper machines, pumps, machine tools, power equipment, printing machineries etc.

Radial spherical roller bearings for challenging operating conditions, where standard bearings with pressed steel sheet cage are not

suitable, are being marketed as first comprehensive new series. These bearings are in prong-type machined brass cage version and bear the suffix EMH.

The parameters of NEW FORCE bearings result from development achievements of ZKL in the following areas:

- Materials of rolling bearings components
- Bearing rings cold-rolling technology
- Optimization of inner design



GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS



**Dear Employees,
Esteemed Business Partners,**

The end of year 2008 with the time of Advent and Christmas is here. It is also the time of looking back where we were successful and where we failed. So what sort of year it was?

When assessing it by results of three quarters of 2008 we could say that we have been able to implement the strategy and strategic targets which we have set for this year. By these results we at the same time establish conditions for implementation of the objectives for years 2009 to 2011. Though you undoubtedly know the strategic targets till the year 2011, it is worth to remind them again:

Group Targets

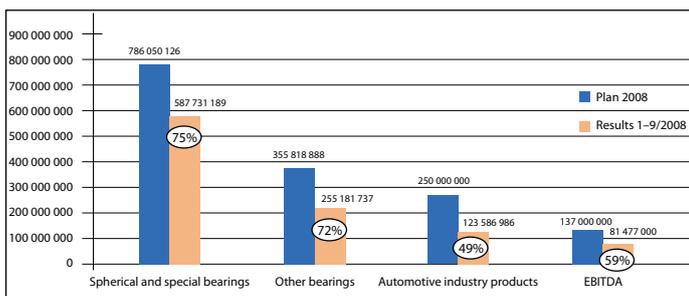
(inclusive ZKL Klášterec nad Ohří)

Expressed financially (in CZK millions)

Indicator	2008	2009	2010	2011
Sale of spherical and special bearings	786	938	1215	1370
Sale of other bearings	355	548	603	635
Sale of automotive parts	250	270	280	300
Total revenues	1391	1756	2098	2305
Operating cash flow	137	221	253	317

When identifying with them it needs to realize that the sales and operating cash flow indicators are set at most ambitious manner and practically mean annual increase by approximately 15 percent against year 2007.

In the period of first three quarters of 2008 we met the targets as shown in the following graphic depiction (figures in CZK):



The evaluation shows that the targets of 2008 are met in conformity with the plan in respect of our principal domain – in spherical and special bearings and that prerequisites are created to fulfill the year-long goals

as well. Unfavorable development is shown in the section of supplies for automotive industry. The indicators for first 3 quarters of 2008 are fulfilled at the level of 49 percent and this corresponds to the current situation on world vehicle market. This is an objective situation and it is beyond our capabilities to influence it.

The decrease in deliveries for automotive industry affected in adverse manner the creation of operating cash flow (EBITDA), however, we take measures (including unpopular reduction of manpower in ZKL Hanušovice, a. s.), which in final effect should improve the economic situation of the company.

Fulfillment of sales plan and of economic indicators is closely related to fulfillment of technical and production advancement plan. I am compelled to say that I am not satisfied with it. Or strategy anticipates the following objectives:

To put into production bearings of new EMH design			
Designing	Plan: 45 projects	Reality: 45 projects	
Testing	Plan: 9 projects	Reality: 5 projects	In-process: 4
To introduce new production technologies of brass cages			
	Plan: 15 projects	Reality: 5 projects	In-process: 10
To innovate spherical roller bearings			
	Plan: 24 projects	Reality: 21 projects	In-process: 3
To innovate automobile pipes			
	Plan: 10 projects	Reality: 5 projects	
To innovate special bearings			
	Plan: 5 projects	Reality: 5 projects	

In this field we must increase our pace, improve management and rectify errors done namely in course of introduction of new technologies for production of machined brass cages.

We shall be facing the following tasks in year 2009:

To sell products

- in spherical and special bearings section at CZK 750 mil.
 - in other bearings section at CZK 548 mil.
 - in automotive parts program at CZK 160 mil.
- i.e. totally CZK 1 458 mil.

To establish operating cash flow (EBITDA)

of CZK 221 mil.

These tasks represent a decline of approx. 17 percent against our strategy as a result of present financial and economic world crisis but ZKL Group has staffer, technologic, managerial and marketing potential which enables to secure their performance.

Dear employees,

This is the time of Advent and Christmas of 2008. I would like to avail of this opportunity to thank you for efforts performed in year 2008 in all companies of ZKL Group. I wish you cheerful spending of Christmas and good health, happiness and personal content during the coming year of 2009.

Jiří Prášil, Eng. CSc.

ZKL Group General Manager

START OF SUPPORTED OPERATION



Starting from October 1, 2008 we have entered upon supported operation of integrated information system SAP in companies ZKL Brno, ZKL Bearings CZ and ZKL-Výzkum a vývoj.

In the SAP platform there will be applied the users' versions which should make the processes within

ZKL more instrumental and will enable a more flexible and efficient communication with business partners. This is a further step carried out in implementation of integral processing system in entire ZKL Group.

The solution which we are introducing is called mySAP Business Suite. At present this system represents a backbone of SAP company

offer and is considered as its flagship. It is the largest collection of business application solutions covering the employees information needs on all levels of management.

In course of supported operation the individual program units have been already loaded with appropriate data and all company activities, starting from orders receipt, material procurement and production

control up to invoicing, inventories keeping, wages processing, research and development management etc. are being monitored.

After interconnection with ZKL Hanušovice, a.s., where SAP system is operating for full one year already, another integration of process management across the whole concern will thus take place.

Pavel Katolický, Eng.
Coordinator of SAP project implementation

ZKL ON INNOTRANS 2008 TRADE FAIR - BERLIN, GERMANY



INNOTRANS is an important trade fair oriented to rail transport. It is being held once in every two years. This year it was organized between the days of September 23 and 26, 2008 and it broke the record both in numbers of exhibitors (1 912) and in its total area. Railway transport sector registers an upward trend and no wonder a number of major world companies had their representations in the fair. Our participation helped us to acquire further information of the market segment of railway bearings, it enabled us to present new ZKL railway bearings and to introduce ourselves as a potential or alternate partner of a wide range of potential customers.

*Jana Pařízková, Eng.
Trade Department Manager, ZKL Bearings CZ, a.s.*



INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR BEARINGS 2008 IN SHANGHAI

In the days of September 23 to 26, 2008 the 11th international trade fair of bearings – bearings 2008 was being held in the Shanghai National Congress Center. ZKL Group introduced himself there as well. The organizer informed that the fair was visited by about 80 000 visitors who could take view of the exhibitions of about 600 participants from 17 countries on a total area of 32 000 sq. m. Most exhibitors were the manufacturers of a wide range of rolling bearings, among them also the manufacturers of mounting accessories, lubricants and suppliers of production technology and gauges. The unceasing yearly growth of exhibitors and visitors number indicates the increasing interest in the fair. This was also documented by participation of several world's leading manufacturers of bearings. Among the biggest exhibition stands belonged the stands of companies Timken, ZWZ, URB and LYC. The display stand of ZKL was of considerable interest too. It was visited by a great number of customers, especially from the Far East, Asia, Europe and even from Latin America. The representatives of ZKL Bearings CZ and ZKL-Vyzkum a vyvoj provided

throughout the fair duration the information about ZKL product range and cooperation possibilities. The venue of this fair is namely important for business activities in the region of Eastern Asia. The accompanying photos show both the ZKL stand but also the panorama of modern Shanghai center with Shanghai World Financial Center skyscraper (SWFC), belonging with its 492 meters among the highest buildings of the world.

*Vladimír Zikmund, Eng.
Director of ZKL-Výzkum a vývoj, a.s.*



Brno Jubilees

The following employees crowned their 25 years of employment in ZKL Brno, a.s. in course of second half-year: forewoman Mrs. Edita Gabrišová, inspection worker Mrs. Vladimíra Konvičná, machining shop worker Mrs. Hana Kadlecová, forewoman Mrs. Jarmila Vařílková, machine serviceman Mr. Zdeněk Konečný and machine adjuster Mr. Pavel Turoň.

Their fiftieth birthday celebrated Mrs. Eliška Škorpíková, dispatcher, Mrs. Růžena Kolářová, machining shop worker, Mrs. Růžena Strancová, assembly shop worker, Mrs. Jaromíra Ciprysová, personal dept. manager, Mr. František Brychta, assembly shop worker, Mr. Vlastimil Sedlák, turner and Mr. Karel Konečný, grinder.

Mrs. Miloslava Drbalová, machining shop worker, Mrs. Jiřina Kompersová, storekeeper, Mrs. Jana Švábenská, machining shop worker, Mrs. Jana Cigánková, technologist, Mr. Josef Bedřich, heattreater and Mr. Libor Utikal, machine adjuster retired as pensioners.

*Ilona Portešová,
Staff Dept. of ZKL Brno, a.s.*

Bouquet to Hanušovice

In second half-year the fiftieth birthday were crowned by Mrs. Jaroslava Borůvková, guardian and Mrs. Helga Švecová, char woman.

Mr. Petr Basler, NC machines operator is working in our company for 25 years (since September 6, 1983).

Mrs. Milada Vašková, engineering worker in press shop has retired as pensioner. She had been working with us since October 15, 1968.

*Vlasta Pavelková,
Staff Dept. of ZKL Hanušovice, a.s.*

Kláštorec Jubilees

In Kláštorec the following employees celebrated their fiftieth jubilee: Mr. Petr Veselý, Eng., purchase manager, Mr. Lubomír Drozd, warehouse foreman, Mr. Dušan Berky, machine adjuster, Mr. Jan Moro, workshop fitter, Mrs. Zdeňka Nývtová, engineering worker, Mr. Zdeněk Šťastný, engineering worker and Mrs. Blanka Dvořáková, inspector.

Mrs. Zdeňka Pánková, inspector, Mrs. Ivana Sásová, engineering worker, Mrs. Irena Říhová, inspector, Mrs. Irena Fagošová, inspector, Jaroslav Freisleben, machine adjuster, Mrs. Marie Lukyová, engineering worker, Mrs. Růžena Šelmeková, storekeeper and Mrs. Věra Špergllová, engineering worker have retired as pensioners.

*Milan Vajdečka,
Head of Economic Instruments, ZKL-ROLL, s.r.o.*

ZKL NEWS

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QUALITY CERTIFICATE VALIDITY RENEWAL – ZKL-ROLL, S.R.O.

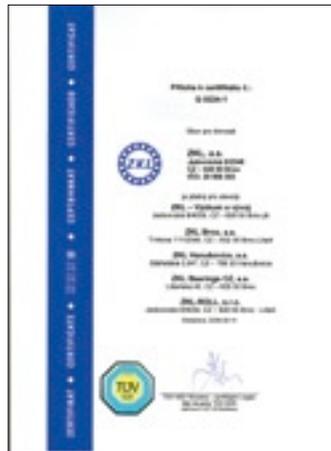
In the days of July 26 and July 31 to August 2, 2008 the amplifying audit by which the affiliated company ZKL-ROLL, s.r.o. with its production point in Klasterec nad Ohri was embodied in the sphere of matrix certification of ZKL, a.s. took its successful course.

The audit was performed by auditors of certification body TÜV SÜD Slovakia, s.r.o. in conformity with stipulations of CSN/STN EN ISO 9001:2001 standard. All processes were audited on the basis of process analyses used by the organization for process analysis, control and monitoring. A random inspection of described processes took place in conformity with audit plan and certification matrix plan and was fully adhered to. A part of the audit was also examination of documents and records administration in connection with processes and quality management system including electronic data and files.

During the audit it was ascertained that the company ZKL-ROLL, s.r.o. keeps at disposal a functional system of quality management

which is used and observed by all its employees. All the requirements defined by CSN/STN EN ISO 9001:2001 standard are being fulfilled. The auditors came to the following positive findings:

- Documents and records admin-



- Documents and records administration in respect of quality established on server accessible by all users;

- Very good descriptions of processes and process access to system management;

- Very good company strategy in respect of further development and experiences in deliveries for automotive industry sector;
- Very good support of management system by executive director and his personal engagement and great experiences;
- Excellent activity of quality manager;
- Good company visualization and promotion in production sections;
- Cohesion of report on management review with computer database of documentation and analyses;
- Very good activity of personnel department and care in employees health, personal protective means and labor safety and health care;
- Very good solutions of problems and repetitive problems;
- Very good order and organization of tools and gauges in tool cribs.
- Very well organized process of hardening in controlled atmosphere.

At the same time the auditors specified their recommendations of ameliorations in processes "System planning and revision" and "Documentation administration".

Good result was obtained and appraised by auditors of certifying company with pronouncement to renew the certificate.

The company management thanks all its employees for efforts in attaining good results, for conscious application of processes and quality system requirements in daily routine on workplaces and wishes to permanently adhere to the published quality management principles in all activities.

*Oldrich Martinek, Eng.
Quality Manager
ZKL-ROLL, s.r.o.*

*Radim Bocanek, Eng.
Quality Commissioner
ZKL Group, a.s.*

PRESENTING AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTORS OF ZKL BEARINGS:

Company AKCA, Turkey

AKCA company is our authorized distributor since year 2005 but the start of our cooperation dates already to year 2003. Up to now it has risen to become our most important distributor in Turkey.

AKCA is a family business founded after previous 41 years of successful activities and gain-

ing experience in bearing sector of Adana region.

It focuses exclusively on sales of ZKL /ZVL bearings manufactured in the Czech Republic and Slovakia and keeps at disposal a significant store in Istanbul and distribution network throughout entire Turkey. Deliveries of bearings to clients are provided with own transport means.

*Jana Pařízková, Eng.
Trade Department Manager,
ZKL Bearings CZ, a.s.*



STAFF RETRAINING IN ZKL-ROLL, S.R.O.

In conditions of enduring lack of skilled manpower, particularly in the field of metal machining profession, ZKL-ROLL s.r.o. seized the opportunity to increase the availability of this trade by concluding an agreement on mutual cooperation in implementation of retraining education focused namely on metal working.

The vocation under the authority of the Labor Exchange in Chomutov are performed by Secondary Vocational School (SOU) in Kadaň, with which the said agreement has been signed. This year the first course lasting 4 weeks under the management of Mr. Miroslav Král has been performed already. According to SOU headmaster Mr. Jiří Marek, Eng., as expressed in his letter of thanks, our company largely contributed to the quality and practical efficiency of the retraining exercise.

It is an asset of our company that the vocation graduates thus have knowledge of the at-

mosphere and work in ZKL-ROLL and we may become their potential employer. The first concrete result of realized retraining is the employment of one of graduates who demonstrated best results.

Though it is evident that the graduates of such trainings will become full-valued members of working team only after corresponding work experience and further vocational training under the auspices of experienced professionals among ZKL employees, the cooperation in organizing the retraining courses is useful for acquisition of new candidates for work in our company as well as for their selection based on their approach and results in retraining.

At the conclusion it may be said that this novelty in local conditions proved good and in the future the combination of tutorials in school workshops with real production process will be broadened further.

*Ladislav Čepera, Eng.
Executive Director, ZKL-ROLL, s.r.o.*

ZKL GROUP TRAINING CENTER OPENING CEREMONY

The official launching of ZKL Group training center was held on 23 October 2008 at the attendance of important trading partners of the Group, representatives of Ministry of Industry and Trade, CzechInvest agency, banking institutions and the main suppliers of center technology.

After the opening words of the General Manager Mr. Jiri Prasil, Eng. CSc., the center was inaugurated by official cutting the tape performed by him jointly with the ZKL Brno, a.s.

Chairman of Board Mr. Jan Otoupalik Sr.

After that the invited guests along with Group management representatives had the opportunity to visit the training center lecture rooms and particularly the room of technology and metrology. During the tour they had the opportunity to acquaint themselves with various kinds of production and measurement technology, which will serve to professional training of ZKL Group employees, namely in professions of CNC machines operator (CNC

grinding machine, CNC lathe, CNC milling machine, CNC wire cutting machine, etc.).

The practical and theoretical staff training in qualitatively higher level will be conducted by own team of experienced lecturers, technology suppliers experts as well as professors of Brno University of Technology, taking share in preparation of educational materials for ZKL Group Training Center.

*Zuzana Fišerová, Eng.
Head of Training Center, ZKL, a.s.*



The project "ZKL Group Training Center No. 1.3/057" is co-financed by European Regional Development Fund and by Ministry of Industry and Trade of Czech Republic.



INNOVATIONS AND NEW TYPES OF ZKL BEARINGS

Between June and November 2008 another 7 projects were incorporated in technical and production advancement plan (TPA), their materialization is anticipated to take place in years 2008 and 2009. In the said period another 6 projects were also finished and the innovated or new bearings were released for serial production.

Radial bearings:

222 Series: Bearings 222 34, 222 38, 222 40 and 222 48 CW33J were released as further bearings

within innovation of dimensional types 222 34 to 222 48 CW33J.

223 Series: In this series the bearing 223 32 CW33J was released for serial production.

230 Series: It was decided to include in TPA plan the following projects: dimensional types 230 52, 230 56 and 230 60 in version CW33J.

The incorporation of projects with steel sheet cage – CW33J is done first of all to upgrade the technical parameters as well as the utility values of bearings and as substitution of machined brass cages.

239 Series: In this series the projects of new bearings were included in TPA plan, namely the dimensional types 239 60 and 239/600 EW33MH, i.e. introduction of bearings with machined brass cage required by clients. Along with technical parameters enhancement there is higher component basis utilization, as the inner rings and spherical rollers are identical with version CW33J.

Thrust bearings:

No project solutions were initiated or finished during the surveyed period.

Special bearings:

In this category of ZKL Brno products the project solution of dimensional type PLC 410-33/34-2 - the application of polyamide cage in railway bearings, till now manufactured with machined brass cage, has started. This is the continuation of railway bearings innovation. At the same time the solution of PLC 410-13/14-2 project was finished and the said dimensional type was released for serial production.

As far as the technology projects included into plan in previous periods, their solutions is proceeding in concurrence with successively installed investments, production modernization and extension of manufacturing possibilities.

*Pavel Beneš, Eng.,
Technical Production Advancement, ZKL, a.s.*

Bearing Designation	Boundary Dimensions				Basic Load Rating		Limiting Speed for Lubrication by		Mass	
					Dyna-mic	Static	Grease	Oil	Cylindrical Bore	Tapered Bore
	d (mm)	D (mm)	B (mm)	r _s min (mm)	C _r (kN)	C _{or} (kN)	(min-1)	(min-1)	(kg)	(kg)
22234CW33J	170	310	86	4	1080	1600	1400	1800	27,6	27,0
22238CW33J	190	340	92	4	1270	1900	1200	1600	35,1	34,3
22240CW33J	200	360	98	4	1420	2140	1100	1500	43,0	42,0
22248CW33J	240	440	120	4	2050	3070	900	1200	80,0	78,2
22332CW33J	160	340	114	4	1530	2090	1000	1300	49,5	48,5
PLC 410-13-2	120	240	80	3	553	742	-	-	16,0	-
PLC 410-14-2	120	240	80	3	553	742	-	-	16,0	-

NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR HIGHER QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY

Anyone who has not visited ZKL Brno, a.s. company for a longer time, would be surprised by changes apparent at the first sight in all production halls. In last years there arrived new machines which replaced or complemented those which became physically and morally obsolete.

In building No. 5 another pair of Emag VL5 machines with inverting equipment added to group of existing four. Six Emag machines are now gradually replacing the worn machines SPS 2-25 from Zlín. The pair of vertical lathes SPV 20 was added by a third machine primarily intended for turning after hardening. There were also installed another two vertical lathes SPV 40 and thus a machining center was created with its range capable to replace or complete Diedesheim machines. In spite of their high quality and reliability these are rather obsolete and lately are becoming defective. The group of four lathes will be further combined with Demag portal manipulator and the workplace will be further completed with inverting facility developed and produced also by Demag company. Thus an integrated workplace for machining of inner and outer bearing rings up to 800 mm diameter will ensue.

In recent months there also disappeared some of the old machines from building No. 5. Cranky

machines SPS 2-25, inutile AB80, SPK 63, SKK, BSBK and AST26 left the hall to be scrapped or transferred to another plant in order to make room to new technologies.

ZKL is conducting a search how to increase the bearings offer initiated by clients' demands for large-size bearings of double-row spherical roller series, single-row and multi-row cylindrical roller series, taper roller bearings and some of special ball bearings. Production of such bearings on existing machines would be complicated, if not impossible. Machines would have to be equipped with special tools, jigs and clamping tools and production would therefore become very expensive. Today all the newly manufactured machines are already equipped with multi-axial numerical control of operating tools, tool magazines with programmable tool exchange and even with "on-process" measuring enabling to measure the work-piece in course of machining operation or before removing it from the machine. This permits to carry out necessary corrections in spent tooling or changes in machining process.

For the production of large-size bearings there are prepared two machines: a vertical lathe and grinding machine up to 1600 mm diameter. Selection of suitable machines was preceded by a long and uneasy tendering process. One can hardly obtain sufficient number of important information from the offers (similarly as from promotional leaflets of supermarkets) and so our engineers had to drive in different directions in order to personally negotiate and collect technical specifications of individual offered solutions.

The Japanese OKUMA, company of a century-long tradition engaged in production of lathes and machining centers, was finally selected as supplier of vertical CNC lathe. Luckily our colleagues in Hanušovice and Klášterec plants have already knowledge of OKUMA products.

As said already, it is a vertical CNC machining center enabling to machine shape-intricate bearing rings and accessories. By deployment of this machine ZKL expects to achieve greater accuracies, reduction of allowances and deformations in the existing products and production of shape-intricate components of other series of large-size and special bearings.

There would be no reason for using this lathe unless accompanied by appropriate technology for finishing of functional superficies of bearing parts. For this purpose vertical grinding machine from Favretto company of FMT Goup has been selected. The FMT Group originated by merger of two major machine tools producers Favretto, SpA, and Mecanodora, SpA, which we already know in our plant. The company Favretto throughout its 70 years of existence and within three generations of owners produced more than 20 000 machines on a floor area of 10 000 sq. m. It specializes in single- and double-column grinding machines of a wide spectrum of application in execution both with turntable and for surface grinding or for profile grinding.

Our grinding machine belongs to of TRD/U-2H series. It is a double-column vertical universal grinder with turntable. It will be equipped with two

vertical supports and three grinding wheel spindles. One support with vertical spindle will serve for grinding cylindrical and shaped inner and outer surfaces, the other one with rotating head and two spindles for profile grinding and cross-grinding. With this combination the grinder will be able to machine in principle whichever inner and outer bearing rings. Along with tool magazine (pre-clamped grinding wheels) ZKL will thus receive a universal, highly efficient technology for production of large-size and special bearings of all kinds.

The production process in building No. 4 will also undergo changes. Worksites of serial production and rings grinding shop have already received new machines, namely the CNC double disc grinder SATURN from Erwin Junker Grinding Technology, a.s., Holice for productive grinding of ring faces and vertical lathe EMAG VSC-7 for productive turning after hardening designed both for serially produced bearings and special bearings.

No later than by the beginning of 2009 a new universal grinder from Tacchella company will arrive. Tacchella is an Italian company specialized over 80 years in production of grinding machines. It supplies machinery to all leading manufacturers of bearings. Their grinder of Proflex series will be equipped with spindle for external round grinding as well as with spindle for holes grinding. The machine equipped with grinding rests will enable a complete grinding of functional surfaces of bearing inner rings in one operation, at high precision and at observance of minimum permissible deviations and raceways run-out. In principle it will substitute BDA and BK machines.

Unprecedented technology for production of outer rings is expected also latest by the beginning of year 2009. With machinery manufacturer ČZ Strakonice we started a special project, which we would not have courage to undergo with a foreign partner. The goal of this project is to combine the knowledge of our technologists, know-how in cross-grinding on supports and our own design of quality grinding-out spindles with modern technology of CNC machine control. As a result of it a new workplace consisting of two machines based on concept of already known BDA300CNC types will be launched. The machines will be interconnected with portal robot and completed with after-cooling of work-pieces between individual operations. Along with active measuring a promising production of high-precision components as well as limitation or even entire abolition of selective bearings assembly is anticipated.

Arraying of new technologies is made hand in hand with measures to bring individual working sites in ZKL more cultural and modernized. Vast construction changes of objects, disposal of redundant machines, floor repairs, installation of new energy distribution, construction of energy bridges and other activities are in front of us. For all these plans a close cooperation of all plant employees will be needed. The aim of it is not just a modern technology alone but also a modern work environment in which we could become competitive. Petr Kováč,

Technical Director, ZKL Brno, a.s.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

ZKL Brno, a. s.

On **31. 8. 2008** the production manager Mr. Miroslav Prokop ended his employment.

On **17. 9. 2008** Mr. Roman Zouhar assumed the office of production manager.

On **16. 9. 2008** the technical director Mr. Vladimír Vansa, Eng. was relieved of his office.

On **17. 9. 2008** Mr. Petr Kováč assumed the office of technical director.

On **30. 9. 2008** Mr. Pavel Katolický, Eng. resigned his post of executive director.

On **1. 10. 2008** Mr. Július Mora, Eng. assumed the office of executive director.

ZKL, a.s.

On **17. 8. 2008** Mr. Zoltán Szivanyó, Eng. ended his employment as economic director.

On **20. 10. 2008** Mr. Adam Šotek, Eng. assumed the office of economic director.

ZKL Hanušovice, a. s.

On **16. 8. 2008** Mr. Pavel Hloušek, Eng. ended his employment in the post of economic director of ZKL Hanušovice, a.s. New economic director Mr. Zoltán Szivanyó, Eng. assumed this office on **18. 8. 2008**.

We would like to thank all the departing for work performed during their assignment and wish all the newly appointed pretty much success in their posts.

*Staff Departments of
ZKL Group companies*

ACRI ANNUAL MEETING IN MĚLNÍK

ZKL functionaries attended the traditional Annual Meeting of the Czech railway industry representatives held under the auspices of ACRI (Association of Czech Railway Industries) in Mělník in days of November 6 and 7, 2008.

This time the opening program was organized in the premises of local castle, where the landlord, count George Lobkowicz (on photo with the Executive Director of ACRI Mme. Marie A. Vopálenská) greeted us.



Prominent Czech guests, among others Mr. Vojtěch Kocourek, Deputy Minister of Transport, Mr. Milan Hovorka, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Mr. Jiří Nedoma, Senator and Chairman of Senatorial Transport Subcommittee, Mr. Josef Bazala, General Director of Czech Railways Cargo a.s., Mr. Pavel Kodým, Director of Rail Authority and Jan Komárek, Director-General of state organization SZDC (Railway Transport Route Authority), again

attended the discussion forum „Rail Transport, Rail Industry and Its Prospects“. Contributions in the discussion forum and the following talks have brought a number of interesting and promising ideas for further cooperation between the rail industry companies among which our ZKL company, the manufacturer and supplier of rolling bearings for rail industry, also belongs.

*Vladimír Zikmund, Eng.
Director of ZKL-Výzkum a vývoj, a. s.*

RECONSTRUCTION OF FURTHER PREMISES IN ZKL HANUŠOVICE COMPLETED

The centralization of bearing production within the Group receives further impetus in Hanušovice. In the month of October 2008 there was completed the reconstruction of further premises destined for future production of bearing components. We call them provisionally as “Hall 60 Two” as this reconstructed building stands just next to already modernized “Hall 60 One”. The entire building object has a length of 90 m and its reconstruction took place in stages. The rear 30 meters section is planned to serve as area for installation of technology for brass centrifugal casting.

The original premises were used for production of brass cages made of forgings by machining technologies and we plan to continue in this production there even in the future. This year we have been delimitating (this process is still under way) the production of brass cages from an important cooper-

ating company to ZKL Hanušovice, a.s. and along with this transfer the need of further production site resulted. As we have already started in parallel with it verification and production of brass cages from in-coming castings by modern technology (machining center of Japanese OKUMA company), the need of further space entered another dimension. Therefore the reconstruction of these premises was included in 2008 investment plan. The entire construction beginning with contractor selection procedure and designing process up to its materialization passed without any problems – we took advantage of proven method to hire the institute of external construction supervision and it proved again to be well grounded procedure.

The newly reconstructed area is intended to contain a new, modern machining technology for production of large-size brass cages.

Based on the contractor selection procedure the reconstruction was carried out by construction company Stavrel, v.o.s. which in fact is being also used by us for other construction activities on contracting basis as the construction investments volume is growing. The whole redevelopment was executed by most modern materials, for example by sheathing heat insulation we shall save about 30 percent of gas costs for premises heating. This argument is further underlined by special heating method which we have chosen for inner hall area. It consists of gas infra heaters, its heat radiation warms up the objects but not air. The air itself becomes subsequently warmed up by heat radiation of warmed objects. In addition to that in the ceiling there are built-in skylights saving energy for lighting. (See photo on front page.)

*Zdeněk Rýznar, Eng.
Technical Director of ZKL Hanušovice, a. s.*

- *Krásné Vánoce a šťastný nový rok.*
- *Frohe Weihnachten und ein gutes neues Jahr.*
- *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.*
- *Feliz Navidad y próspero Año Nuevo.*

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