

# ARKU

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Booth 1824

## No fear of thick slabs!

ARKU FlatMaster for steel plates up to 50 mm thick –

FlatMaster 80200 in use at a leading manufacturer of construction machinery



One FlatMaster 80 for sheet metal parts up to 20 mm thickness on its way to Mexico

**Mexico** – The leveling of steel plates up to 50 mm thickness is one of the most demanding tasks. If special requirements for the flatness are imposed or if high-strength materials are used, the leveling equipment is often at its limits. Such enormous material thicknesses are

normal in flame cutting operations e.g. for the manufacturing of construction machinery. The need for powerful equipment in this area has become evident to ARKU from the increasing demand for levelers for steel plates up to 50 mm (2.0") thick. Within the last two years, a

leading manufacturer of construction machinery has ordered two ARKU FlatMasters for its Mexican plant. Even with the largest excavators and mining vehicles, precision is necessary down to the last detail for the customer. One FlatMaster 80200 is shown on the photo

above at the beginning of its long journey to Mexico. This leveler can handle steel plates from 1,5 up to 20 mm thick. During the leveling process, high forces occur both on the sheet and the leveler. Mechanical levelers react by enlarging the gap between the

### Our representation in North America:

ARKU Coil Systems Inc.  
42345 Yearego Drive  
Sterling Heights, MI 48314  
United States  
Phone 586 / 731-1464  
Fax 586 / 739-7788  
info@arku-coil-systems.com  
www.arku-coil-systems.com

### Quotation

Nothing great  
was ever  
achieved without  
enthusiasm.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

### Customer portrait:

**Laser**  
**Goded S.L.**  
Spain

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upper and lower leveling rolls. A constant leveling gap is essential for good leveling results. Therefore FlatMaster is equipped with a specific leveling gap control. If the leveling gap changes, then the FlatMaster reacts by building up a counteracting force. This enables the FlatMaster to process a wide range of symmetric and unsymmetric parts.

To rise to the challenge of daily production, the control is of

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High quality leveling results for Laser-Job-Shops with the FlatMaster

great importance as well. That is why the FlatMaster is equipped with a quick change system for the leveling rollers. Flame and laser-cut parts may have oil or scale on their surface. During leveling, these become deposited in the machine together with material residue. »Straightening units must be cleaned«, comments Franck Hirschmann, Sales Manager of ARKU Coil Systems, and adds: »Too much dirt in the

machine will impair the leveling results and finally damage the leveler.« The ARKU quick change enables the user to change the leveling rolls without disassembling the leveler. »The ease of changing the leveling rolls makes the FlatMaster unique«, says Andreas Hellriegel, ARKU Product Manager for parts levelers, and sums up: »Many of our customers have waited eagerly for such a solution.«

## Ready to take on wide strips

6-high levelers with EcoPlan drive for thin coils

**Baden-Baden** – ARKU offers levelers for every task. The FlatMasters are especially for thick steel plates and the 6-high levelers with EcoPlan for wide and thin coil material. Tighter tolerances and varying material qualities are still subject of discussion in the sheet metal industry. 6-high levelers can play their part in reducing this problem. The high capacity levelers are fitted with the patented EcoPlan drive. First of all, it improves the efficiency of the

machine up to 30 percent. With EcoPlan the torque required by individual cardan shafts is significantly reduced. Slippage and differing relative speeds at the leveling rolls wear and leave marks on the material. EcoPlan reduces wear, is gentle with the material and prolongs the service of the leveling rolls. The 6-high leveler, shown on the photo below, is particularly suitable for removing defects in wide and thin strips. These include wavy edges and center

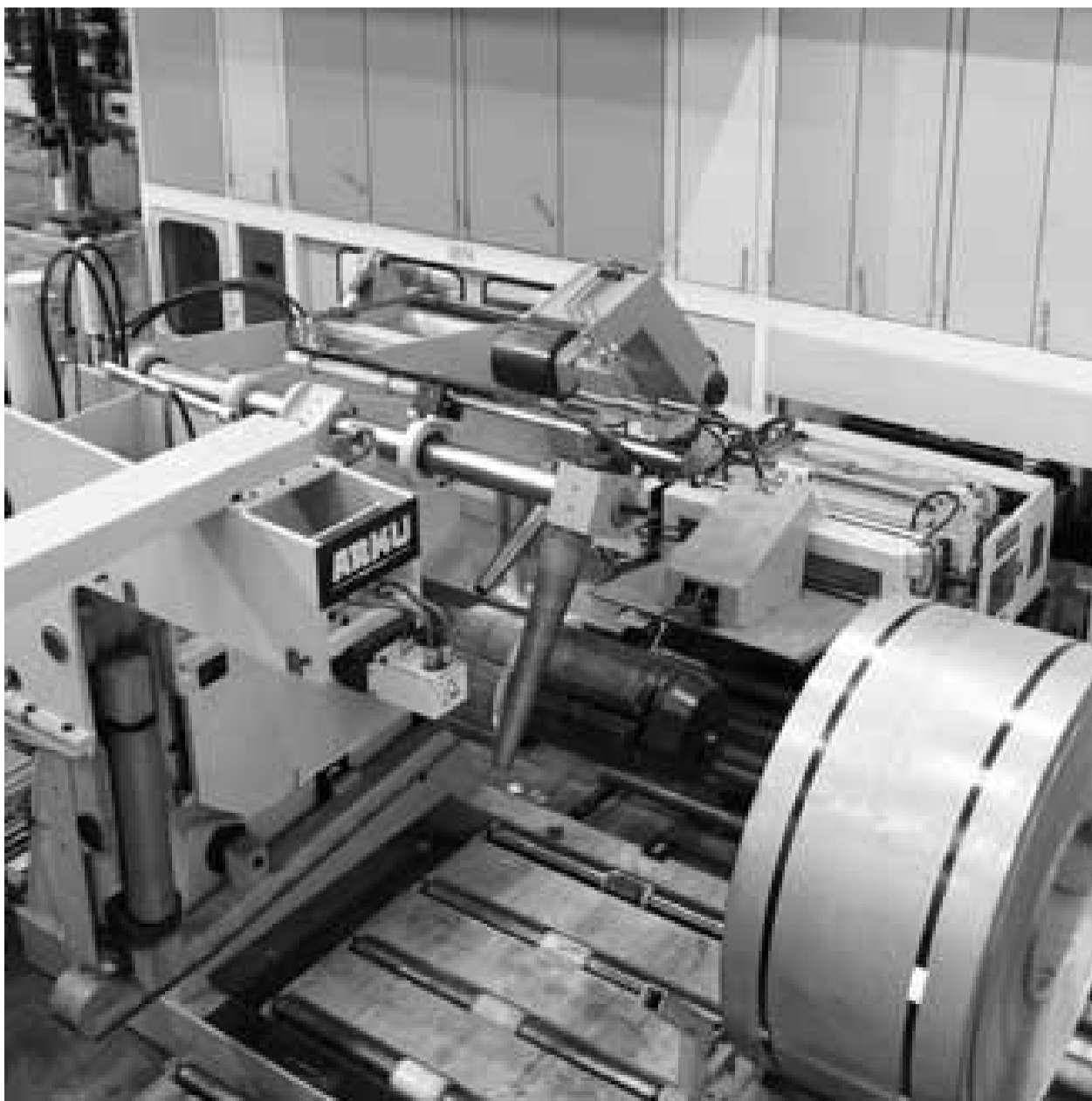
buckles. The leveler is equipped with adjustable backups and can also be cleaned quickly and thoroughly. A cassette change system enables the lower leveling rolls to be removed from the side. 6-high levelers with EcoPlan are used wherever extreme flatness is an important criterion in coil processing. They are characterized by optimum support of the leveling rolls, small roll diameter and easy cleaning facilities.



One Arku 6-high leveler during final assembly

## Zig-Zag to material savings!

LuK Wooster introduces Zig-Zag CompactFeed – LuK saves up to 14 percent material costs



ARKU CompactFeed press feeding line prepares to load coil to supply a 2800-ton press at LuK in Wooster, Ohio

**Wooster, Ohio** – What does a press line have to do today? The answer is simple. It must do more – more availability, more material types and better material utilization. There are several areas that can be tweaked to make a manufacturing process fit for today's requirements. It is surely most appropriate to start looking for the solution at the head of the system. One example is the Zig-Zag CompactFeed press feeding line shown at the left photo. LuK in Wooster, Ohio, has installed such a coil line in order to feed a large 2800-ton press with sheet steel. The compact coil line- half the size of a standard line- can handle thick and strong material. But more important, the Zig-Zag CompactFeed line saves material. »Steel prices are high, and you want to utilize steel as much as you can today,« explains Herbert Wolf, LuK Vice President of Operations. »With this press line we have experienced material savings of 6 to 14 percent based on how we nest the parts.« The

feeder straightener CompactFeed moves from side to side when feeding the material into the press. That offers the advantage of nesting the parts. The result is an optimum utilization of the material, especially in the production of round punched parts. The robust CompactFeed press feeding lines ensure more availability for the whole press line. Coil change times are reduced by means of appropriate automation concepts and special designs. Features such as the hinged feeder straightener CompactFeed enable rapid threading of the strip and reduce coil change times to less than 5 minutes. The press line also meets the challenge imposed by the increasing use of high-strength materials. At LuK, the system reliably produces 5.5-mm thick clutch plate covers from high-strength steel. LuK in Wooster, Ohio, is a subsidiary of the German Schaeffler Group and manufactures clutch systems and torque converters. More information about Zig-Zag and CompactFeed at [www.arku.com](http://www.arku.com)

# It's a small world!

Branch meeting in Hanover – Exhibition diary for 2007

**Hanover** – ARKU can look back at a successful year of exhibitions in 2006. The family company registered a record number of visitors at the exhibition stand at EuroBlech 2006. »EuroBlech 2006 was a complete success«, says Albert Reiss, President of ARKU Maschinenbau GmbH, and adds: »You could also sense the positive mood in the industry at the exhibition.« Along with the well-stocked juice bar, the highlight of the exhibition stand was the FlatMaster. It attracted many interested visitors to the ARKU booth, especially from flame-cutting companies and laser job shops. But the ARKU exhibition team was particularly impressed by the numerous visitors from abroad. »It's a small world!« comments Franck Hirschmann, Sales Manager of ARKU Coil Systems, and sums up: »It is great that we were able to welcome customers from all over the world to Germany.« Machines »Made in Germany« are in demand across

the world. In 2006, the German machine tool industry was runner-up in the export stakes. At ARKU the signs point to internationalization as well. There is a strong increase not only in the inquiries, but also in the order intake from abroad. With the ARKU's sales and service office



Albert Reiss (in the middle) with business friends from Taiwan on the ARKU booth at the EuroBlech 2006

Franck Hirschmann demonstrates the benefits of the FlatMaster

North America, ARKU provides more local presence for its customers. Furthermore ARKU has a strong service department in Baden-Baden and is establishing service points in Asia. »We have more than 20 well-trained speci-

alists in our service team«, remarks Ewald Hund, Vice President Engineering, and continues: »This ensures that we can provide rapid and competent service worldwide.« You will come across ARKU at exhibitions

throughout the world in 2007. The new exhibition year starts with MetalForm in the USA. From the 25th to the 28th of March, ARKU will be welcoming interested visitors in Chicago. The team from ARKU Coil Systems surrounding Franck Hirschmann will be focusing on the leveling of sheet metal parts on booth 1824. In April, we will be meeting up in China. ARKU will be present at CIMT in Beijing for its Asian

customers. In June, it is then back to Germany. BlechExpo in Stuttgart will be this year's home game for ARKU. The exhibition will take place from the 13th to the 16th of June on the brand new Stuttgart exhibition grounds. The finale will then be FABTECH in North America in October. ARKU is once again looking forward to interesting discussions this year at the ARKU exhibition stands around the world.

## Getting even better with KAIZEN

**Baden-Baden** – In order to manufacture high-quality machines, all processes in the value-added chain must be matched. Under the instruction of a KAIZEN trainer, the ARKU assembly team is busy improving its working procedures. Avoiding waste is an important principle. To achieve this, the necessary prerequisites must first be created. The employees have redesigned

their workstations according to the 5-S method: Tidiness, organization, orderliness, cleanliness, standards, sustaining, discipline, which are the supporting columns of the change process. Manfred Pfeiffer of the KAIZEN Institute is on hand as an adviser and trainer for the staff. ARKU has set itself the goal of further improving customer satisfaction with the help of the

KAIZEN method. Quality, costs and throughput time will then be tweaked. If the objectives are achieved in assembly with the KAIZEN method, ARKU intends to use it to monitor further processes.

You will find detailed information on the KAIZEN method at [www.kaizen-institute.com](http://www.kaizen-institute.com).



Manfred Pfeiffer (right) of the KAIZEN Institute with the ARKU staff at the GEMBA (the place where it all happens)

+++ Telegram +++

## ARKU-TICKER

### 1 New web site

ARKU Coil Systems, ARKU's sales and service office in North America, has a new web site. Interested visitors can find out about leveling technology and more at [www.arku-coil-systems.com](http://www.arku-coil-systems.com).

### 2 Second hand machines

You will find used machines on the [www.arku.com](http://www.arku.com) web site under the heading "Second-hand machines". The machines offered here are given a general overhaul by leveling machine experts. Even your used machine will therefore be provided with the customary ARKU quality. ARKU also buys back levelers and coil lines of all makes. Interested? Then get in touch with Thomas Ortlieb right away.

+49 (0)7221 5009 68, [thomas.ortlieb@arku.de](mailto:thomas.ortlieb@arku.de)

### 3 Exhibition diary 2007

This year ARKU will be found at exhibitions all over the world, such as MetalForm in North America and CIMT in Asia. ARKU could hardly miss being present at BlechExpo in Stuttgart. We look forward to your visit.

MetalForm, Chicago: 25th to 28th March 2007

CIMT, Beijing: 9th to 15th April 2007

BlechExpo, Stuttgart: 13th to 16th June 2007

FABTECH, Chicago: 11th to 14th November 2007

## Over rough and smooth

A legend – the Mercedes-Benz Unimog

**Gaggenau** – As a living memorial, the new museum with Unimogs from six decades presents a great deal of technology for the visitor to experience own area in the Unimog museum. The biggest highlight is the outdoor course where the fascination of the Unimog can be experienced directly as a



The Unimog museum opened on June 3rd, 2006

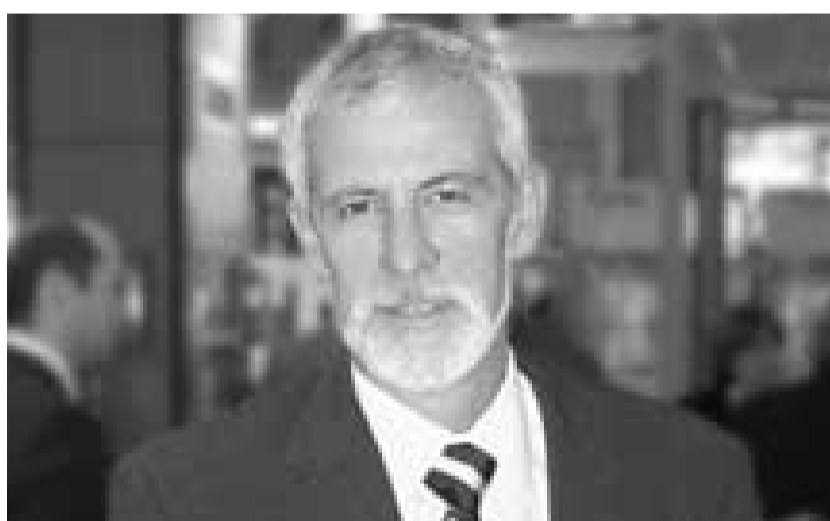
and also covers subjects which extend well beyond the vehicle itself. The new »family museum« close to ARKU's headquarter in Baden-Baden is ultimately intended to address different target groups – right down to the youngest offspring with puzzles and games on all aspects of technology. But art and culture will also have their

passenger over hedges and ditches, through various obstacles and up and down hills. Different displays continuously alternate with permanent exhibits enriched by Unimogs from the different ranges, including members gems as well. Information at:

[www.unimog-museum-gaggenau.de](http://www.unimog-museum-gaggenau.de)

### PERSONALITY PROFILE

## Hans-Peter Pflüger



For many customers and business partners, ARKU is inseparably linked with the name Hans-Peter Pflüger. It's no wonder, as the present-day Vice President Sales has now been looking after his customers for more than 30 years. Pflüger began his training with ARKU in 1977 and in 1981 switched to what was then the Project Engineering and Sales Department. In the following years, Hans-Peter Pflüger was primarily involved in the development of press feeding lines. ARKU originals such as the CompactFeed and the ServoMaster came into

being in close cooperation with customers. Mr. Pflüger's many years of experience are not only held in high regard by customers, but ARKU staff also profits every day from his knowledge. Naturally, the last 30 years have not passed Hans-Peter Pflüger by without leaving their mark. But in spite of grey hair, he is more sportive than some of his younger colleagues. Pflüger is a passionate volleyball player and therefore keeps fit with overhead passing, setting and spiking. The family company thanks Hans-Peter Pflüger for 30 years of commitment.

## Service all around the sheet metal

Customer portrait: Laser Goded S.L.



The FlatMaster 80 during leveling tests shortly before its delivery to Laser Goded



Laser Goded S.L. - one of the largest sheet metal companies in the north of Spain

sed by the maintenance friendliness of the FlatMaster.

Goded supports its customers with complete all-round service when it comes to sheet metal. After the production, Goded can transport the steel parts to its customers with its own well equipped truck fleet. Service is very important for the Goded Group, which supports its customers 24 hours a day. So if you are interested in high quality sheet metal parts, get in touch with the experts at Laser Goded.

**Barcelona / Spain** – Laser Goded S.L. is one of the largest sheet metal companies in the north of Spain. In the region of Catalonia near Barcelona, the company produces the whole range of sheet metal parts. The Goded group is a traditional family-owned company that was founded 1940. Today, the Goded Group has more than 100 employees and consists of four companies: the headquarters in Barcelona, Laser Goded S.L, Oxicorte Goded and Oxillogregat in Salines. Together, there are more than 23000 square meters of production area. The laser cutting department of Laser Goded can handle sheets up to 6 meters long and 2 meters wide. Seven Trumpf lasers are able to cut sheets up to 30 mm thickness with an accuracy of 0,1 mm. With a continuous investment in new

equipment, Goded provides its customers with high quality sheet metal products. Not only the laser cutting department is state of the art. To cut steel plates up to 400 mm thickness, the Goded group owns no less than 18 flame cutters. Even when a customer needs pretty wide slabs this is no problem for the flame cutting specialist. Goded can handle steel plates up to 6 meter wide. Furthermore, the Goded group can offer watercutting, plasma cutting and folding.

In 2006, the Goded group decided on a FlatMaster 80 for sheet metal up to 20 mm. By deploying a hydraulic parts leveler in its manufacturing facility, Goded can provide its customers with tighter tolerances. As well as the impeccable support and the solid overall impression given by ARKU, Goded was also impres-

**Laser Goded S.L.**  
Calle de la Mola, 6  
08213 Polinyà Barcelona  
Spain  
[www.goded.com](http://www.goded.com)

### Masthead

#### Publisher:

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#### Responsible:

Albert Reiss, President

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Sascha Becker

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Rommel & Frank

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