

YCM ALLIANCE

A SHARED VISION COMES TO REALITY

Most successful companies can attribute their growth to the vision of one person. When multiple companies share a vision and combine their resources and expertise, something very special happens. Such is the case of the YCM Alliance.

During IMTS 2022, the YCM Alliance turned heads with a booth that brought together cutting-edge technology from several different companies. The YCM Alliance is unique in that, from a customer's point of view, the equipment comes from a single source. Expert advice, practical solutions, and guaranteed compatibility between equipment combined with installation, training, and support all coming from one company, the YCM Alliance offers a new and better way to put manufacturing solutions into place.

In understanding how the YCM Alliance came about, we need to go back in time and look at the career of YCM Technology USA Inc. President Tony Pekalski. Like many of us in the EDM industry, Tony began his career as a mold maker, learning the skills that would serve him later in life running his own machine tool dealership with his partner Keith Kauzlarich. Back in the mid-1990s, Tony could see the benefit of providing customers with whole solutions, offering a better way to solve many manufacturing challenges. A fundamental philosophy that holds true with Tony, today.

In 2018, Tony was approached by Richard Chen, Chairman of YCM, one of Taiwan's largest and most respected machine tool builders. Mr. Chen offered



Tony Pekalski



Complete Solutions for:

- Die/Mold Machining
- General Parts Machining
- Ultra-High-Speed Machining

Tony the opportunity to run and grow YCM's North American business unit. Tony shared his vision of combining key complementary products as a total process solution that Mr. Chen saw value in and agreed to create what would become the YCM Alliance.

Tony began considering potential alliance partners, based on demanding criteria. The prospective partner companies must offer excellent technology and performance, be committed to customer service, and above all, share the vision of a solutions-oriented strategy. The shared mantra of the YCM Alliance is, Make it Better - Together. This promise applies to everyone in the value chain, from the machine tool builders, to dealers, allied vendors and most importantly, the customers.

To set the tone of what was to come, the YCM Alliance relied on the heritage of the YCM brand, which embodied innovation, quality, and reliability. Founded in 1954, the YCM company specializes in the manufacturing of vertical, horizontal, and turning machining centers, and is recognized globally as a true CNC machine tool builder, not just an assembler as is the case with many other machine tool manufacturers. This commitment starts at the

company's own foundry where the heart of every YCM machine is produced using FEM-optimized Meehanite® castings. All mating surfaces are hand scraped by expert craftsmen resulting in machines that are precise, rigid, and very stable.



The Alliance combines the technical resources of YCM and the Alliance members to create capabilities that are unmatched. The Alliance members are like-minded in many ways, but specifically in the approach to serving customers as a solutions provider.

Companies that turn to the Alliance for assistance with their manufacturing challenges begin with expert consulting. The Alliance direct sales team, dealer representatives, and applications engineers, often collaborate to perform a needs assessment, develop process mapping, and develop recommendations. Alliance consultants work with customers to select a complete process solution that includes all the various technologies that will best meet the manufacturing goals. The YCM Alliance provides world-class machining solutions across virtually all industries engaged in Die/Mold Machining, General Parts Machining, or Ultra-High-Speed Machining solutions.

Grand Opening of the Newest YCM Alliance Technical Center

To better facilitate hands-on demonstrations, test cuts, time trials, and more, the Alliance is expanding, adding Technical Centers. On May 23rd and 24th, 2023, the Alliance is having a Grand Opening event for its newest technical center in Sterling Heights, MI. The Alliance invites you to visit and challenge their application experts with your unique manufacturing requirements. During the 2-day event, there will be presentations by Alliance member experts on the best practices in manufacturing today. There will also be live machine demonstrations and more than two dozen industry application partners on hand. If you are interested in attending, learn more at www.ycmalliance.com/tech-center



YCM Alliance partner, Exeron is headquartered in Oberndorf, Germany. Exeron is a global leader in high-quality machine tools.

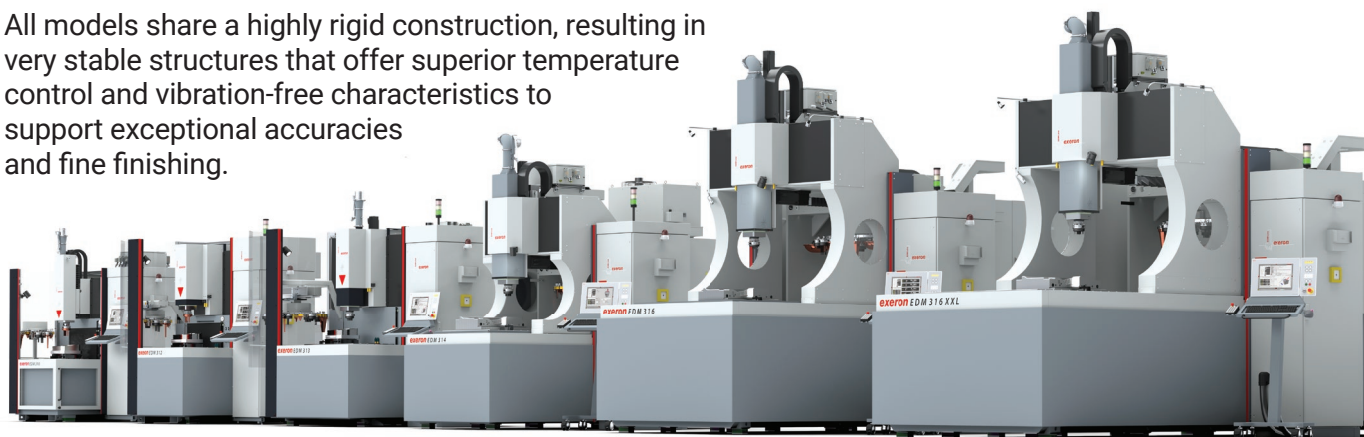
Founded in 1966 as a contract EDM shop, Exeron has evolved to produce some of the world's finest equipment. While known for their Sinker EDM equipment, first introduced in 1978, Exeron is also a leader in ultra-high-speed machining.

Sinker EDM

The Exeron Sinker EDM line achieves a very high level of quality and precision as is with the Exeron ultra-high-speed machining centers. With over 40 years of EDM machine-building experience, Exeron has created a Sinker EDM machine line capable of the most exacting precision.

Exeron Sinker technology is employed globally within the mold making, aerospace, medical, automotive, and production machining industries. The EDM Sinker line spans the range from small size EDM to large-scale solutions, able to accommodate workpieces within a tank size of 100" L x 55" W x 29.5" H.

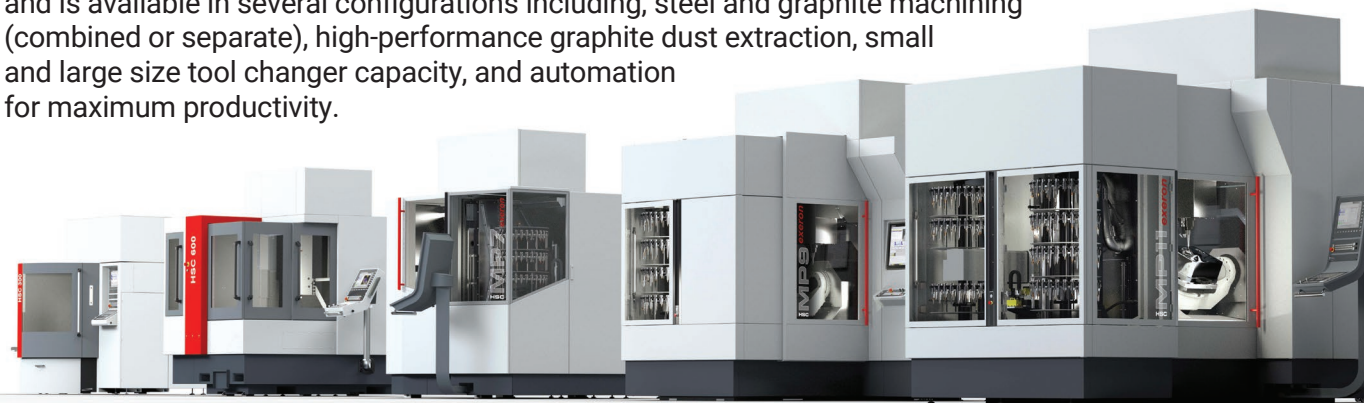
All models share a highly rigid construction, resulting in very stable structures that offer superior temperature control and vibration-free characteristics to support exceptional accuracies and fine finishing.



Ultra-High-Speed Machining

An example of Exeron's ultra-high-speed machining capabilities is the MP Series. This is a full line of 5-Axis CNC machining centers. With spindle speeds more than 40,000 RPM, and rapid travel speeds up to 80 meters per minute, Exeron characterizes the equipment as super precise with hyper-speed machining capabilities. This speed is made possible by using linear motors with active dampening, combined with an ultra-stiff gantry design grounded in a complete polymer concrete structure. The high-rigidity design assures exacting workpiece geometry, even at ultra-high-speed cutting rates providing single digit micron-level accuracy.

The Exeron MP Series structure is designed with cooling throughout the body of the machine and is available in several configurations including, steel and graphite machining (combined or separate), high-performance graphite dust extraction, small and large size tool changer capacity, and automation for maximum productivity.



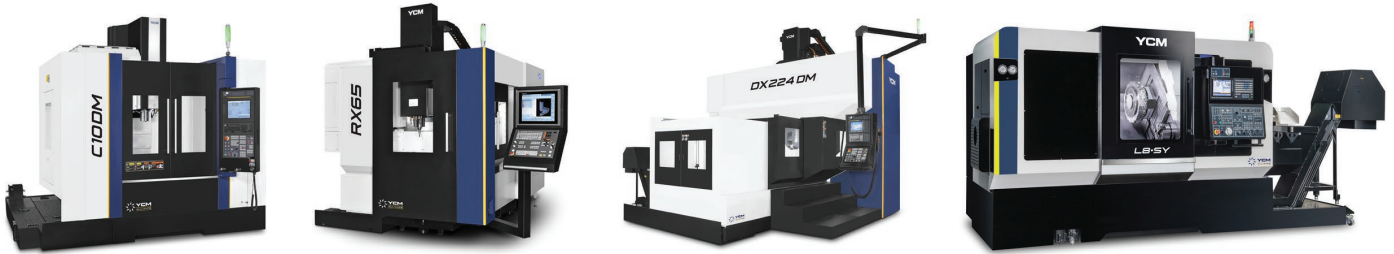
YCM

Besides being one of the few machine tool manufacturers that is vertically integrated and operates its own foundry, YCM also manufactures and assembles their own spindles and complete product assembly. This provides a start to finish build process and control program that produces consistent high-quality products.



YCM serves virtually all industry segments, but has a specific focus and expertise in Die & Mold and General Parts Machining for Medical, Aerospace, Automotive and Energy.

The YCM product portfolio includes both vertical and horizontal machining centers, CNC turning centers and Wire EDM, including Small Hole Drilling EDM machines.



YCM Wire EDM

YCM IMPULS Series



The YCM IMPULS Series of Wire EDM machines features linear motors which enable very fast servo response and high accuracy cutting. The control and generator system are driven by an industrial PC which provides an excellent interface with the machine. When combined with YCM built FEM-optimized Meehanite® castings, the result is a very stable structure that provides superior accuracies and fine finishing. The IMPULS Series is available in three sizes with a maximum part envelope of 39.4" L X 27.6" W X 13.6" H and weights of 1,764 lbs.



TRIMILL

Portal Type Machining Centers

TRIMILL is located in Zlin, Czech Republic, and is recognized as a global leader in building portal type milling machines. Known for its high level of accuracy, stiffness,

and rigidity, TRIMILL equipment has been employed worldwide in the production of die & mold and general parts machining applications.

TRIMILL manufactures equipment in both vertical and horizontal cutting orientations, with 3 and up to 7-Axis versions. TRIMILL machines are highly customizable with options that include fixed tables, built-in rotary tables, and automatic head-changing designs. Vertical machines are



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available with a Y-Axis travel up to 4.5m and X-Axis that are customizable. The machines are designed with high-density concrete and cast-iron components that provide vibration dampening and thermal control.

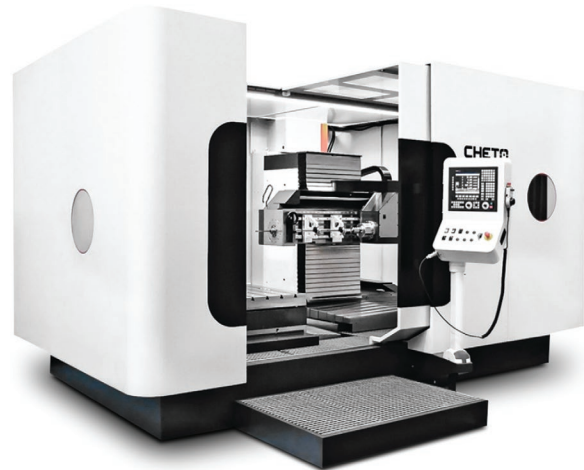
The TRIMILL horizontal line of equipment is also highly customizable with machines available up to 7-Axis. The horizontal design employs an upright gantry configuration for the utmost rigidity and accuracy.

The TRIMILL organization can offer high customization services due in great part to the very significant engineering talent and manufacturing capabilities. Should a YCM Alliance customer need a certain level of customization, the Alliance expert consultants are more than happy to consider custom solutions.

Hole Drilling

Cheto is a company known for building exceptional deep hole drilling machines. Established in 2009 in Portugal, Cheto has become an internationally recognized brand, particularly in the die & mold industry. Cheto offers a unique All-in-One approach that combines deep hole drilling, radial drilling, milling, tapping, and boring, as part of a single machine. A unique feature is the optional automatic drill changing capability providing around-the-clock automatic operation. The obvious result is the elimination of manual drill changing, multiple setup operations and the resulting increase in throughput. Cheto combines Wise Software, Heidenhain or Fagor controls to provide cutting-edge capabilities.

CHETO



Spotting Presses

Millutensil has supported the mold industry since 1955 with high-quality spotting presses for the assembly, adjustment, check, and repair of plastic injection molds and die cast dies. Headquartered in Milan, Italy, Millutensil is a globally recognized name for excellence in the manufacturing of innovative equipment. Millutensil offers several different models with platen sizes ranging from 770mm x 680mm for small molds, and up to 5,000mm x 2,500mm for large molds.

All Millutensil equipment includes features that allow for maximum productivity. Improved working ergonomics allow the operator easy access to the mold without the use of a platform. Classic series models are shorter, with a reduced press height above ground. Often this reduces or eliminates the need for special foundations. Equipment is available in both floor and pit versions.



Manufacturing Automation

Virtually all machining operations require a tooling system that supports quick, repeatable, and precise setup. For over 30 years, the Erowa name has been synonymous with innovation and quality.

From ultra-precise, small EDM electrodes and workpiece holding, to the largest clamping systems for heavy milling, Erowa has an incredibly diverse product line to match any application.

Erowa is more than just work holding. Erowa's Smart Factory solutions allow the Alliance consultants to integrate equipment with a high level of automation that can achieve levels of productivity that are unmatched.

The Smart Factory solutions include all the components that Erowa is known for; Workpiece Holding, of course, but also automated measuring and presetting, automatic loading, process control, and more.

Within the overall scope of Industry 4.0, Erowa offers JMS 4.0 MoldLine software. It is a universal process control system developed specifically for tool and mold making. The system utilizes a tool and pallet ID system to make sure the workflow is correct through the system. Knowing exactly what tools and parts are in which machine, eliminates mistakes. Similarly, the system loads the correct programs into the various controls and constantly monitors production status. Data is captured and can be organized into various reports. Historical machine time utilization is easily determined. With secure web connectivity, production reporting is available to any authorized workstation globally.



Service and Support

The YCM Alliance and its dealer network provide integrated machining solutions for optimal process flow. The YCM team can help map out the right products that will help improve manufacturing performance and reduce lead times.

After the equipment is selected, the Alliance team delivers, sets up, and tests all systems. Once online, Alliance engineers conduct training to make sure that the customer team can use the system to its fullest potential.

Once the installation and training are completed, the YCM team remains committed to ongoing service and support.

To learn more about the YCM Alliance or to register to attend the Grand Opening of the Technical Center in Sterling Heights, MI, May 23 – 24, visit: <https://www.ycmalliance.com/tech-center>