Goldhofer Organizes 5-Axis Machining Process

More and more complex CNC machines and process automation require better job preparation and documentation to assure a manufacturing workflow without any interruptions, misunderstandings, or problems.

M. Kuhn, Production Planer.

Heavy-Duty modular trailer from Goldhofer to solve any transportation task for payloads of over 10 000 tons.

• Twin-wheel heavy duty module
• On- and off-road operation
• Vehicle width 3,000 mm, suspension stroke +/- 300 mm
• Reinforced execution with high axle load

Goldhofer, Inc. is leading manufacturer for special transport vehicles. The range includes heavy-duty trailers, self-driven heavy-duty modules, towbarless aircraft tractors, and aircraft recovery equipment. Over 600 employees produce these vehicles in factory of 120.000 sqm in Germany. So far over 32.000 vehicles have been shipped to over 70 countries. Their continuous success is based on their highly motivated staff as well as their many innovations and flexible manufacturing organization.

The Task
The latest purchase of new 5-Axis CNC machines added the latest metal working capabilities to their plant. But with it came a new dimension of work preparation and data processing that raised questions: how do we organize the many tools? Where do we store the different production documents? How can we get a more powerful shop floor data processing solution and keep the DNC solution that links over 5000 NC-files? How do we integrate our different engineering applications in the process? How can we improve the system without interrupting the production flow?

The Solution
Goldhofer, Inc. decided to implement *WinTool* because it is based on an open database platform. The high-class tool component manger and the ability to easily assemble matching tools including graphics and 3D data were other decisive factors. This feature has been considered a fantastic help to program and verify NC code in a short time and with high accuracy in even the most demanding situations. Also considered of high importance are the meaningful tool list reports *WinTool* generates. This allows an operator to ensure that he sets a machine up with the same tools as used in the CAM system.

The Result
For the Goldhofer managers it was very important to work with a competent and trusted partner. They chose their ESPRIT CAM dealer as *WinTool* supplier who also coached the project implementation to their full satisfaction.
All technical interfaces lived up its promises and the *WinTool* project was realized within budget and on time. The workers showed great appreciation for the improvements which exceeded their expectations.

DATOS
Computer AG