EMO 2025: MACHINE TOOLS SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Markus Heering

Dr. Markus Heering, Executive Director of the German Machine Tool Builders' Association (VDW), shares what to expect from EMO Hannover 2025 for production technology and why India's role is more prominent than ever

The global manufacturing industry is setting its sights on EMO Hannover 2025, the world's flagship trade fair for production technology, scheduled for 22–26 September 2025 in Hannover, Germany. With more than 1,300 exhibitors from over 35 countries expected, EMO will once again become the ultimate stage for showcasing cutting-edge technologies in machine tools, automation, artificial intelligence, and sustainable manufacturing.

In a conversation with Subhajit Roy, Dr. Markus Heering, Executive Director of VDW, provided a glimpse into what makes EMO 2025 a must-attend event, especially for Indian manufacturers.

World-class showcase for innovation

"EMO is like the World Cup for the machine tool sector," says Dr. Heering. Alternating between Hannover and Milan, this edition returns to its spiritual home in Germany, a historic hub for manufacturing excellence. This year's event promises participation from over 40 nations, attracting visitors from more than 140 countries.

According to Dr. Heering, the 2025 edition will spotlight three strategic themes:

Automation – including robotics and collaborative robots (cobots)
Digitalisation – with a strong focus on AI integration
Sustainability – now a global imperative in manufacturing.

"AI will redefine production processes and sustainability will shape how we design, build, and use machines," Dr. Heering noted. To address evolving industry demands, EMO will also feature an Economy Forum and a Customer Industry Forum, covering key sectors like automotive, aerospace, and medical manufacturing.

Celebrating 50 years

EMO Hannover 2025 also marks a significant milestone: 50 years since the show's inception. "We're not only celebrating the past but also looking to the future," Dr. Heering emphasized.

Visitors can expect a dynamic mix of joint pavilions, tech-specific forums, and cross-industry networking platforms. EMO aims to deliver a holistic experience for professionals across the manufacturing value chain—from legacy players to startups.

India in focus

India's expanding footprint in global manufacturing will be clearly visible at EMO 2025. "Last time, around 2,000 Indian visitors attended. This year, we expect a much higher turnout," Dr. Heering revealed.

With top Indian firms such as Ace Designers and Jyoti CNC Automation Ltd. already on board, the Indian delegation is set to make a strong impression. "India's capabilities in IT and software make it a valuable ally in the AI-led evolution of manufacturing," he added.

Why you can't miss EMO Hannover 2025

For visitors, EMO offers a rare opportunity to experience the future of manufacturing—live and under one roof. From hands-on exposure to new technologies to strategic global networking, the event is designed to deliver value on multiple levels.

"It's a win-win," Dr. Heering explained. "Exhibitors gain fresh insights from diverse markets, and visitors discover tailored solutions. Our theme, 'Innovate, Manufacture,' reflects our mission to help companies stay competitive in a rapidly evolving world."

Looking Ahead: EMO Preview in July

Before the main event, a Preview Show in July 2025 will offer a first look at what's in store. As excitement builds, industry professionals are encouraged to mark their calendars and prepare to be part of one of the most influential gatherings in the production technology sector.

"Come to EMO Hannover 2025," Dr. Heering concluded. "Feel the innovation, connect globally, and return with ideas that could transform your business."

Watch the video here: https://bit.ly/EMO25-m4i

What's Changing at Ace Designers?

Amit Goel, Zonal Head – North, Marketing & Service at Ace Designers Ltd., outlines how the recent amalgamation and ₹1,200 crore infusion are positioning the company for accelerated domestic scale-up and a stronger global footprint

Ace Designers Ltd. is rapidly transforming into India's foremost manufacturer of CNC machines following the amalgamation of Ace Manufacturing Systems and Micromatic Machine Tools. This consolidation, coupled with a significant ₹1,200 crore investment from Kotak Alternate Asset Managers, is shaping a new era for the company. Speaking from the Delhi Machine Tools Expo (DMTX) 2025, Amit Goel shared insights into how these changes are driving the company's vision for 2029.

Unified identity & vision

"We were always closely connected," says Goel, reflecting on the historic partnership between Ace Designers, AMS, and Micromatic. "By merging, we are now operating as one cohesive unit instead of three separate entities. This strategic amalgamation positions the group to target a turnover of ₹2,400 crore in the current financial year."

Operating now solely under Ace Designers Limited, the company has clearly defined internal divisions—TCD for Turning Centers, MCD for Machining Centers, and MSD for Marketing and Service.

With a unified mission and values, Ace Designers is targeting the manufacture of 10,000 turning and vertical machining center (VMC) machines annually by 2029—a scale impossible without this consolidation.

Amit Goel

Target set

India's vast market has seen Ace Micromatic leading in turning and VMC segments, currently producing 8,000 turning centers and 3,400–5,000 VMCs per year. "Our goal is to ramp this up to 10,000 machines annually," Goel states, emphasizing how the consolidation enables this growth.

The plan involves not only increased production but also enhanced product customization and adherence to global quality benchmarks. "We currently sell about 5,500 machines, and the market potential is far greater," he explains. "We expect exports to comprise 25% of our product volume as we expand internationally."

Ace Designers has already established footholds in markets including China, South Asia, and Mexico, with exports playing a central role in their future growth strategy.

Strategic investment

Kotak Alternate Asset Managers' recent ₹1,200 crore investment is powering the company's ambitious expansion plans. "Growth requires capital, and we are grateful to Kotak for choosing us as their strategic partner," Goel remarks. Funds will support new manufacturing facilities, research and development, product innovation, and cutting-edge technologies like AI-driven remote machine control. "We are developing machines that meet global standards and integrating AI for remote operations," he notes.

Previewing innovation

At the Delhi Machine Tools Expo 2025, Ace Designers showcased a broad range of innovations: training simulators, 3D printed components, a compact 1.1-meter DTC machine running at 10,000 RPM, die-mold application machines, grinding machines, and a small horizontal machining center (HMC). "This is just the beginning—more advancements are on the way," Goel says.

Strengthening presence

North India remains a vital market, with Ace Designers expanding its network to four branches, five franchisees, and multiple dealerships. "We are also investing in warehouses and outlets to ensure machines are readily available," Goel explains. The company's focus is on enhancing customer satisfaction through better uptime and service accessibility. "Our priority is to keep machines running and customers happy," Goel concludes.

Watch the video here: https://bit.ly/ace-designers

Age of AI

Automating automation may drive 50% productivity gains, says Rainer Brehm, CEO Factory Automation at Siemens Digital Industries

Siemens is taking industrial automation to the next level, unveiling new autonomous AI agents capable of executing full industrial workflows without human input. The company made the announcement at Automate 2025 in Detroit, highlighting a major evolution from traditional AI assistants to fully autonomous systems.

"With our Industrial AI agents, we're moving beyond the question-answer paradigm to create systems that can independently execute complete industrial workflows," said Rainer Brehm, CEO Factory Automation at Siemens Digital Industries. "By automating automation itself, we envision productivity increases of up to 50% for our customers – fundamentally changing what's possible in industrial operations."

These new AI agents are integrated into Siemens' existing Industrial Copilot platform, forming part of a broader strategy to transform factory operations through intelligent automation.

AI agents

Siemens' approach distinguishes between Industrial Copilots, the interfaces users interact with, and the AI agents that power them behind the scenes. Furthermore, the company is developing digital agents, and integrating physical agents, including mobile robots. This way, Siemens is creating a comprehensive multi-AI-agent system where agents are highly connected and work collaboratively.

What sets Siemens' approach apart is the orchestration of these agents utilizing a comprehensive ecosystem. These agents not only work with other Siemens agents but also integrate with third-party agents, enabling unprecedented levels of interoperability.

To further accelerate adoption and innovation, Siemens is planning to create an industrial AI agent marketplace hub on the Siemens Xcelerator Marketplace. This marketplace will enable customers to access not just Siemens' own AI agents but also those developed by third parties.

Read the news here: https://bit.ly/siemens-24may

ECE India Energies charts expansion at RenewX 2025

From manufacturing expansion to market diversification, the solar major charts an ambitious national trajectory

At the bustling Chennai Trade Centre, mojo4industry caught up with ECE India Energies, a rising force in India's solar energy sector. Known for its innovation in solar module manufacturing and market outreach, the company is now executing a bold strategy of scaling up production and expanding its footprint across India's solar value chain.

In a detailed discussion with Aniket Tondare (Director – Sales) and Atul Meshram (Vice President – Sales), the leadership outlined ECE's aggressive goals: expanding into South India, supporting solar MSMEs through digital tools, increasing manufacturing capacity, and entering new business verticals.

South-bound

Aniket emphasized the strategic importance of South India in the company's growth roadmap. "We've already established ourselves in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Now, our focus is on Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Kerala," he said. "We see RenewX 2025 as the gateway to unlocking the southern market."

ECE's channel partner network—key to last-mile connectivity—has more than doubled in the past year, growing from 110 to over 250 partners. "The program is thriving, especially in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana," noted Mr. Aniket. "Our team is here to engage with small integrators and understand their challenges."

Empowering integrators

Aniket also revealed details of the ECE Ecosystem, a digital platform built to empower small solar businesses. "Many solar MSMEs lack the infrastructure to scale. Our platform gives them tools for inventory management, CRM, accounting, warranty management, and even access to a product marketplace," he explained. "We're simplifying operations so integrators can focus on growth."

Manufacturing leaps

ECE is making a major investment in manufacturing. "Our upcoming Amravati facility, just five kms from the current plant, will boost capacity from 1.2 GW to 2 GW starting June," shared Aniket. The facility will support the company's advanced TopCon product line, including certified modules ranging from 585W to 650W.

"We're now offering 650W glass-to-glass TopCon modules, all fully certified," he added. "These modules are available through our representatives across India."

New projects

ECE's Vice President Atul Meshram outlined the company's multi-pronged expansion strategy. "Beyond capacity upgrades—from 450 MW to a target of 5 GW—we're entering two new segments: Commercial & Industrial (C&I) and solar parks," he said. "We'll install large-scale systems and sell energy directly to clients."

ECE is also gearing up to enter the government solar pump market. "Solar pumps are a key area for state nodal agencies, and we're positioning ourselves to serve both the C&I and government sectors," Mr. Atul stated.

Financial targets

Backed by aggressive growth plans, ECE India Energies is projecting robust revenue figures.

"We're expecting to close this financial year at ₹700–₹800 crore," said Aniket. "Our target for next fiscal is ₹1500 crore."

With renewed focus on regional expansion, digital integration, and large-scale installations, ECE India Energies is fast emerging as a pivotal player in India's solar transformation.

Watch the video here: https://bit.ly/ece-india

Atul Meshram

Aniket Tondare

SAIL, ABB India join hands for digital transformation

Left to Right -Kapil Agarwal (ABB) and Biswa Ranjan Palai (SAIL)

ABB India and Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL), a Maharatna central public sector company, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to digitally optimize ironmaking and steelmaking processes at the Rourkela Steel Plant in Odisha state, India. SAIL's plant will exchange data with ABB India to prepare data-based models to create digital twins of blast furnaces and basic oxygen furnaces of steel melt shop areas.

The plant will harness ABB's expertise in automation and digitalization, including mathematical and data-based models, to optimize processes in both ironmaking and steelmaking. The goal is to deliver actionable insights and enable data-driven decisions to support optimal operations, paving the way for a more sustainable and cost-effective future in steel production.

"This partnership with ABB India is a significant step towards modernizing our operations and achieving greater efficiency and sustainability," said Biswa Ranjan Palai, Executive Director (Works), SAIL. "The development of this digital twin technology will transform our steel manufacturing processes by providing us real-time insights into furnace operations, thereby enabling us to optimize our performance, improve product quality, increase asset longevity and remain competitive in the global market."

"This collaboration underscores our continued commitment to driving digital innovation and supporting the steel industry in its quest for excellence," said Kapil Agarwal, Senior Vice President & Local Division Manager, Process Industries, ABB India. "By integrating advanced data-driven models and leveraging digital twin technologies, we aim to revolutionize the steelmaking processes, ensuring higher efficiency and a reduced environmental impact."

Read the news here: https://bit.ly/abb-sail