

Press release

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5 years of Berkenhoff Competence Center – Innovation made by bedra

With its umbrella brand bedra, company Berkenhoff has demonstrated its core competence „intelligent wires“ for decades. At its heart is the Berkenhoff Competence Center (BCC) providing intensive research and development, training and information. The BCC was established five years ago; reason enough to take a look behind the scenes.

Today, spark erosion is the most utilized solution in creating highly complex and precise workpiece shapes. A significant part in the development of this technology has been played by company Berkenhoff with its brand bedra. There is hardly another wire manufacturer so dedicated to developing fine wires of copper and copper alloys, coated and uncoated. It is impossible to imagine modern EDM processing without the high-tech wires from bedra such as topas® plus, cobracut®, broncocut®, megacut® and microcut®. A milestone in this success story was the opening of Berkenhoff's BCC (Berkenhoff Competence Center) in 2003, centralizing training, information, service, research and development. The intention was to create an optimal link between customer requirements and product development.

Training and Information Center

The training and information center is equipped with most modern seminar rooms and an application laboratory with EDM machines of renowned manufacturers. Regular training in theory and practice is provided to their own employees as well as to distribution partners and endusers from the mold and tool making sector and the electronics and welding industry. Application-based workshops are held with demonstration on latest EDM machines. This offer is complemented by seminars, expert lectures and panels.

Service Center

Furthermore, the unique range of services includes direct technical support to distributors and OEMs, current market and competition analyses as well as the

identification of advantages of using bedra high performance wires in specific applications.

Development Center

Strict quality assurance guarantees the high quality standard of the bedra products. The complete production process, such as casting, rolling, drawing or electroplating is done in-house. As a basis for this, fundamental research is performed in the research center of the BCC and long-term development projects are carried out in cooperation with OEMs and renowned universities. Tailor-made and market-oriented solutions are the result of this research. „Our technical expertise developed over many years, our varied experiences gained from the cooperation with universities, OEMs and endusers, supplemented by the technological potentials at Berkenhoff, provides us with a unique platform to develop innovative products“, emphasizes Dr. Tobias Nöthe, Development Manager at Berkenhoff. „Our continuous commitment is to set new standards in the market.“

Numerous patents such as for the high performance gamma phase wire topas® plus have been developed at Berkenhoff. The triple coated high precision wire microcut®, designed for the most demanding micro cutting applications, was also born here. More than 25 years ago, Berkenhoff developed the zinc-coated precision wire par excellence, the cobra-cut® A.

Promoting competence and advancing innovation – no mere phrase but a commitment reflected in bedra's daily business. In recent years, technologies and applications have been continuously tested and further developed in the BCC, and the expertise has been placed at the users' disposal. Since it was established, hundred's of international endusers and distributors have been trained in the BCC and practical knowledge has been exchanged. Market- and customer-oriented development and service management has become for bedra a central contribution to innovation and securing the future. This is all the more essential as wires from bedra set benchmarks in many industrial sectors and are distributed in more than 80 countries by now.

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