

Press Release

AutoForm Unveils AutoForm^{plus} R1 – the First Release of the New Product Line AutoForm^{plus}

Zurich, Switzerland, May 26, 2009: AutoForm Engineering GmbH, the leading supplier of software solutions for the sheet metal forming industry, announces the worldwide release of AutoForm^{plus} R1. This is the first release of the already announced new product line AutoForm^{plus}, which focuses primarily on the new solver technology. This release can be used with the graphical user interface of the current AutoForm version 4 technology. The innovations which this state-of-the-art technology offers are remarkable to AutoForm users.

The new product line AutoForm^{plus}, which was announced by AutoForm in March, aims towards Comprehensive Digital Process Planning – a multidimensional approach which considers function and quality as well as lead time and cost. AutoForm^{plus} R1, the first release of the new product line is now available on the market. The main highlights of this release are:

- **Advanced kinematic hardening model:** In order to further improve springback simulation results, AutoForm has developed a material model which accurately describes the complex material behaviour at unloading. This model is completely compatible with current AutoForm material data widely available in industry.
- **Real pilot modelling:** AutoForm^{plus} R1 provides a model for physical pilots. Pilots play an important role in progressive die stamping for strip positioning and are essential for precise sheet positioning during gravity, closing and forming.
- **Hot forming:** Hot forming is a temperature and time dependent process and its simulation is more complex compared to conventional sheet metal stamping. Despite this complexity, AutoForm has succeeded in developing a hot forming solution which offers AutoForm users the level of user-friendliness they are accustomed to.
- **Spring supported tools:** AutoForm^{plus} R1 permits the simulation of tools supported by gas and mechanical springs. As a result, AutoForm's range of applications is extended for progressive dies and for various processes where the blank is temporarily supported.

Dr. Waldemar Kubli, CEO of AutoForm Engineering stated: "The new release is the first one in a complete chain of releases related to our new product line AutoForm^{plus}. We are delighted that we can already now introduce our users to Comprehensive Digital Process Planning and its great potential in the sheet metal forming industry."

About AutoForm Engineering GmbH

AutoForm offers software solutions for the die-making and sheet metal forming industries along the entire process chain. With over 200 employees, AutoForm is recognized as the leading provider of software for product manufacturability, tool and material cost calculation, die face design and virtual process optimization. All of the Top 20 automotive OEMs and most of their suppliers have selected AutoForm as their software of choice. Besides its headquarters in Zurich, AutoForm has offices in Germany, The Netherlands, France, Spain, Italy, USA, Mexico, India, China, Japan and Korea. AutoForm is also present through its agents in more than 15 other countries. For detailed information please visit: www.autoform.com

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