

Press Release

AutoForm Assembly 26 – New Capabilities for Faster and More Accurate BiW Assembly Process Validation

Pfäffikon SZ, Switzerland, September 22, 2026: AutoForm Engineering GmbH, the leading supplier of software solutions for stamping and BiW assembly processes, unveils its latest software version AutoForm Assembly R26. This version introduces a range of new capabilities and enhancements for the BiW assembly process chain. With AutoForm Assembly R26, users can gain deeper insights into the assembly process, quickly evaluate alternative part and assembly process designs, identify the root causes of dimensional deviations, implement effective countermeasures, and resolve assembly process issues before production begins.

AutoForm Assembly R26 introduces a new arc welding model for the simulation of MIG/MAG welding processes. Compared to laser welding, MIG/MAG welding generates higher heat input, resulting in a larger heat-affected zone and increased thermal distortion, which can significantly affect dimensional accuracy. Using key process parameters, the software automatically determines the effective heat input and resulting thermal loads, enabling a realistic prediction of welding-induced dimensional deviations. This new software capability provides deeper insights into the effects of welding on dimensional behavior, supports optimized joining process design, and helps engineers make confident decisions earlier in the development cycle.

This software release supports efficient use of scanned subassemblies. In many cases, users need to design assembly processes that include subassemblies as components. Their primary focus is on the process being developed, while the subassemblies are treated as inputs. In the later stages of development, once prototypes of these subassemblies become available, users can improve dimensional accuracy by incorporating their measured geometry into the assembly process. With AutoForm Assembly R26, measured subassembly data can be directly integrated into the simulation, enabling more realistic and reliable results.

AutoForm's assembly simulation supports users in validating dimensional accuracy against clearly defined engineering requirements specified by GD&T. With AutoForm Assembly R26, GD&T information from CAD becomes an integral part of the simulation workflow. GD&T definitions are automatically interpreted and used throughout setup and evaluation, preserving the original design intent from CAD. This establishes a direct link between engineering requirements, assembly validation, and quality assessment, enabling faster and more consistent validation with greater confidence in engineering decisions.

In addition, AutoForm Assembly R26 introduces new options for mirroring and translation of asm files, accelerating simulation setup and increasing engineering efficiency. The software also enables users to efficiently reuse and adapt existing subassemblies for new vehicle projects. Users can import an existing subassembly into the new vehicle environment and position it accordingly. The software automatically updates the subassembly definition, ensuring rapid and efficient adaptation to new vehicle design requirements.

Dr. Markus Thomma, CMO of the AutoForm Group, stated: "We are pleased to release AutoForm Assembly R26 with a range of new capabilities and enhancements that further strengthen the BiW assembly process chain. With AutoForm Assembly R26, we are bringing engineering requirements, process simulation, and dimensional accuracy closer together. Our goal is to give engineers the insight they need to identify the causes of dimensional deviations, evaluate alternatives, and address assembly issues before they become costly production problems."

About AutoForm Engineering GmbH

AutoForm offers software solutions for sheet metal forming and BiW assembly process. With over 500 employees dedicated to this field, AutoForm is recognized as the leading provider of software for product manufacturability, tool and material cost calculation, die face design and virtual stamping as well as BiW assembly 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 Switzerland, AutoForm has offices in Germany, The Netherlands, France, Spain, Italy, Czech Republic, Sweden, USA, Mexico, Brazil, India, China, Japan and Korea. AutoForm is also present through its agents in more than 10 other countries. For detailed information please visit: www.autoform.com

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