Press Release

AutoForm Forming R26 – Greater Confidence in Process Feasibility and Validation

Pfäffikon SZ, Switzerland, November 19, 2026: AutoForm Engineering GmbH, the leading supplier of software solutions for stamping and BiW assembly processes, unveils its latest software version AutoForm Forming R26. This version introduces a range of new capabilities and enhancements across the sheet metal forming process chain, specially designed to support users during process feasibility and validation phases. By enabling more reliable feasibility assessments and improved process validation, AutoForm Forming R26 helps users increase efficiency, reduce costs, improve product quality, and achieve a new level of competitiveness in today's highly dynamic automotive and manufacturing industries.

As lightweight vehicle designs increase the use of aluminum, manufacturers face growing challenges in accurately predicting material failure during forming. Aluminum materials can transition rapidly from localized deformation to fracture, making reliable split prediction difficult without highly refined finite element meshes. AutoForm Forming R26 addresses this challenge with a new smart mesh refinement strategy. The software automatically identifies areas requiring greater accuracy and selectively applies local mesh refinement. This targeted approach significantly improves split prediction while maintaining efficient model sizes and reasonable computation times. The result is greater confidence in feasibility assessments and more efficient validation workflows.

Surface quality plays a key role in vehicle appearance and customer perception. In the automotive industry, zebra line analysis is widely used to detect reflection-related surface defects. AutoForm Forming R26 introduces enhanced zebra line evaluation capabilities, enabling a more realistic and flexible assessment of surface quality. Advanced reflection modeling through a virtual light tunnel or wall enables users to accurately reproduce the lighting conditions used in quality inspection departments as they occur in reality. Complete inspection setups can now be saved and reused, ensuring repeatable evaluations and reliable comparisons across users and projects. AutoForm Forming R26 supports repeatable, accurate, and consistent surface quality evaluations throughout the development process.

AutoForm Forming R26 also enhances AutoForm-DieDesignerPlus with a new workflow for creating and finalizing tool geometries for secondary operations such as forming and trimming. Based on existing draw die data, the software enables the rapid creation of tool geometries for secondary operations while automatically reusing information already defined in the process plan. This intelligent reuse of information streamlines the transition from concept geometry to final tool geometry, resulting in a faster, more efficient, and more reliable tool development workflow.

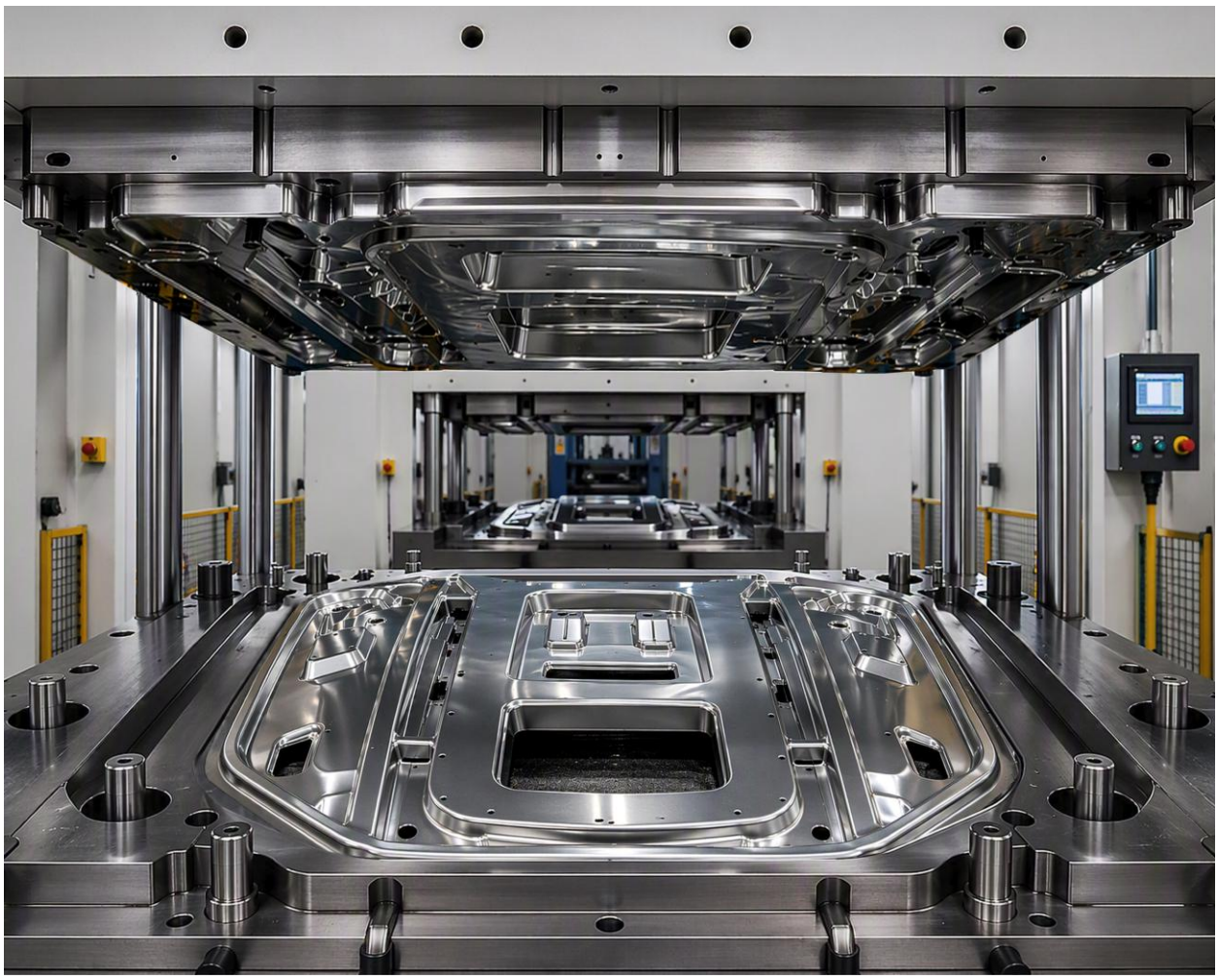
Dr. Markus Thomma, CMO of the AutoForm Group, stated: "With AutoForm Forming R26, we remain committed to providing our customers with accurate and practical solutions for process feasibility and validation in sheet metal forming. The new capabilities enable users to make more confident decisions, streamline development workflows, and achieve higher product quality while reducing engineering effort and costs."

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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AutoForm Forming R26 offers a range of new capabilities and enhancements for the sheet metal forming process chain.

If you need a high resolution image, please contact us.