

The History of TTS Automation

A Tale of Two Companies (and What They Created)

TTS Automation is a young company with a wealth of experience and expertise behind it. TTS Automation supplies servo transfer systems to metal stamping and forging companies, as well as providing technical support for Sander in North America. TTS Automation became operationally independent in 2003, but its story began much earlier than that.

Parallel Histories

A new company with a rich history? It all started over 40 years ago with the separate foundings of two companies: one in Canada; one in Germany. In 1962, Frank Gauder opened Barrie Tool and Die in a small 60 square meter facility. They didn't know it then, but that same year Rolf Sander opened Sander Umformtechnik in Oberkirch in Germany's beautiful Black Forest region.

Both companies quickly outgrew their original facilities as they expanded their tooling operations and began to add metal stamping capabilities. By 1969 Barrie Tool and Die had increased the size of its facility ten-fold and incorporated as Theta Industries Ltd. Back in Germany, in 1974 Sander moved its operations to Renchen-Ulm, near Stuttgart, where it is located today. In 1989 Theta built its present-day main facility. For both companies growing production demands has meant ongoing expansion, right up to the present.

Different Companies; Common Values

What drove these businesses was a commitment to technical excellence and an ongoing search for new technologies and manufacturing techniques. For Sander this was demonstrated in 1979 when they built their first mechanical transfer system. Similarly, Theta was entering the transfer stamping market and identified the need for a system that could provide the reliability, precision and performance demanded by the technically challenging parts they were developing.



Sander Automation's new facility in Renchen, Germany.

Sander Automation

Meanwhile, Sander began to sell small mechanical transfer systems to other metal stampers. Some raised their eyebrows at the thought of buying equipment from a competitor, but Sander was always completely open about their metal stamping roots and even invited transfer system buyers into their own facility to see the technology in action. The strategy worked and the transfer division enjoyed steady growth. In 1995 they took a big step into the new frontier of cold- and warm forging. With the

introduction of their first servo transfer in 1999, the division's growth exploded and Sander became a recognized market leader with a superior system. In 2003 Sander Automation GmbH was formed and moved into its own facility in Renchen. Today, Sander has hundreds of installations worldwide.

Transfer Technology Solutions

To meet its demanding production requirements, Theta launched a market-wide search for a suitable transfer system. Unable at first to find a system to meet their needs, they began developing their own when they discovered Sander's technology. Impressed with its performance and design, they purchased their first system from Sander in 1997.

The collaborative relationship evolved and in 1999 Theta and Sander joined forces to create Transfer Technology Solutions. Today TTS enables both companies to effectively service their customers' growing international needs.

TTS Automation!

With the extensive experience and commitment to excellence of its parent companies, TTS Automation is well equipped to write its own history.

We hope that you will be a part of the story!

