

INDUSTRY NEWS

Chairman of Indian machine tool maker Jyoti seeks to more than triple sales at Huron unit by 2018

Turnover at French machine tool firm Huron will reach €30 million this year, according to P.G. Jadeja, chairman and managing director of the firm's Indian parent company Jyoti, and he plans to increase sales at the unit to €100 million in five years.

Speaking to *ETMM* at the Imtex/Tooltech exhibition in Bangalore, India, Jadeja said annual sales at Huron fell from a high of €47 million to just €21 million during the 2009 downturn, which spurred him to invest in expanding and updating production. He explained that Jyoti took a major step to gain ground in other sectors in late 2007 with the acquisition of Huron, a premium-brand producer of milling machines for the aero-



P.G. Jadeja, CEO of Indian machine tool maker Jyoti, explains one of his company's machines.

space, automotive and tool and die sectors. Up to that point, the company had focussed on lathes.

Since its founding by the Jadeja brothers in 1989 –

with “100 rupees of pocket money” the CEO joked – Jyoti has relied on cutting-edge innovation to fire growth and build its reputation for reliability and customer service. It displayed 20 milling and turning machines at the fair to show how far the company has come: Eight machines featured entry-level controllers from Siemens, four had the entry-level controller from Fanuc, eight more used the high-end 840D Siemens control and drives package. Of the company's 1,200 employees, 90 in India and 15 in France work in R&D.

Up until 1998, the company was primarily a parts and sub-assembly supplier to other machine builders. That year, after participating

in a CNC-seminar organized by Indian machine tool association IMTMA, Jadeja changed tack with the immediate implementation of CNCs for company lathes. In 2001, Jyoti built its first machines with high-speed linear motors, the first Indian manufacturer and one of only a few companies internationally to feature high-end drives in its products.

Since then, the Gujarat-based company has expanded rapidly, a success which led to Jadeja being recognised with the IMTMA Vinod Doshi Outstanding Entrepreneur Award at Imtex/Tooltech 2013.

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Source: Fouhy