

## Thixomolding: Cooperation between Bole Europe and NMF

Magnesium is currently of considerable interest in China as a lightweight construction material. The increased use of magnesium in the future is a key element in fulfilling requirements for reducing the vehicle weight. The goal is to increase the proportion used in vehicles to more than 40 kg over the next five years. Thixomolding is considered to be the most cost-saving process for manufacturing magnesium cast components, offering high energy and material efficiency.

This development will certainly also have an impact on the European automotive and foundry industries. In order to promote this technology in Europe and give companies the opportunity to test the latest machine technology, BOLE Europe Technology Co. LTD. sp. z o. o. and Neue Materialien Fürth GmbH have decided to cooperate. Bole is an established Chinese manufacturer of Thixomolding machines and will provide a new 300t Thixomolding machine (MTX300). NMF will support Bole Europe in presenting the technology. With more than 20 years of experience in magnesium Thixomolding NMF can also assist European companies in many ways to adopt the technology. Customers can be supported in the design or modification of casting molds (e.g., sprue design, mold filling simulation), the sampling of casting molds or producing small series to demonstrate the performance of the process and machine as well as the quality of the castings. The cooperation will also include the technology's further development. In addition, the machine will be available to customers and NMF for their own development projects.

End of October, the first step toward implementing the cooperation was taken with the delivery of the 300-ton machine. Currently selection of the peripherals (spraying, take-out robot, tool temperature control systems, etc.) is underway for setting up a casting cell. We look forward to the cooperation.



Figure 1: Installation of the Bole MTX300 Thixomolding machine at Neue Materialien Fürth GmbH is in progress.