



McCormick Industries Discusses Role of Swiss Machining Services in Precision Manufacturing

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McCormick Industries, a precision CNC machining company with more than 25 years of experience, announced this week that it is expanding public discussion of its Swiss machining services in response to growing demand from the aerospace, medical, defense, and industrial sectors. The company said the move reflects increased customer interest in ultra-precise, small-diameter components that require single-setup manufacturing.

Swiss machining, also known as Swiss turning, is a specialized manufacturing process that produces slender, complex parts from bar stock using a sliding headstock design. Unlike a conventional CNC lathe, a Swiss-style lathe feeds material through a guide bushing while the headstock itself moves along the Z-axis, allowing the cutting tool to work closer to the point of support. This configuration enables tighter tolerances and reduced deflection, particularly on small-diameter parts.

McCormick Industries operates a fleet of Swiss CNC turning centers, including multiple Citizen Cincom models ranging from seven to twelve axes of motion. The equipment allows the company to combine turning, milling, drilling, knurling, threading, and other operations into a single continuous process, reducing the need

for secondary handling. Dual-spindle configurations on several machines also allow a main spindle to begin work on one part while a sub-spindle completes finishing operations on another, increasing throughput without sacrificing accuracy.

The company reports that its Swiss machining services routinely achieve tolerances as tight as plus or minus 0.0001 inches, with roundness tolerances as precise as plus or minus 0.00008 inches. Materials processed through the Swiss turning centers include stainless steel, titanium, aluminum, brass, bronze, tool steel, and various plastics and exotic alloys, along with high-performance materials such as Inconel for demanding aerospace and defense applications.

Gary Hermesen, chief executive officer of McCormick Industries, said the company has built its Swiss machining program around the specific requirements of highly regulated industries. "Our customers in aerospace, defense, and medical device manufacturing don't have room for variation," Hermesen said. "When a part has to hold a tolerance of a few ten-thousandths of an inch and still ship on schedule, that's exactly the kind of problem our Swiss turning centers are built to solve."

McCormick Industries has applied its Swiss machining capabilities across a range of documented projects, including a custom dowel pin for the electromechanical industry measuring roughly 0.472 inches in length and 0.118 inches in diameter, a stainless steel gas lens used in TIG welding equipment requiring drilling, milling, and stamping in a single setup, and a surgical mallet shaft manufactured to a tolerance of plus or minus 0.002 inches on diameter with a fully polished, defect-free surface finish. The company also completed a military trunnion with complex geometric and surface features machined to tolerances of plus or minus 0.0001 inches, verified through on-machine vision inspection followed by caliper and micrometer measurement.

The company noted that its Swiss turning centers are capable of lights-out and multi-process machining, allowing production runs to continue with minimal operator oversight. This capability supports both low-volume prototype work and higher-volume production runs, giving customers flexibility as projects move from design validation into full-scale manufacturing.

McCormick Industries is ISO 9001:2015 certified and adheres to RoHS compliance and conflict-free minerals sourcing standards. The company said these certifications, combined with its Swiss machining infrastructure, position it to support customers in sectors where documentation, traceability, and repeatability are treated as requirements rather than preferences.

Hermesen added that the company continues to invest in equipment and training to keep pace with the increasingly small and complex parts that customers are requesting. "Every year the parts get smaller and the tolerances get tighter," Hermesen said. "We've structured our Swiss machining services so that our team

and our equipment are ready for that trend rather than reacting to it after the fact."

The company's Swiss machining work spans industries including aerospace, medical device manufacturing, military and defense, hydraulics, electromechanical assemblies, and musical instrument components, reflecting the versatility of the Swiss turning process for parts requiring intricate features such as internal and external threads, contours, slots, and grooves. McCormick Industries accepts design files in formats including PDF, AutoCAD, DWG, DXF, Parasolid, and SolidWorks, and provides engineering review as part of its quoting process.

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McCormick Industries

McCormick Industries is a precision CNC machining facility specializing in swiss-type machining of small, complex parts for the industrial, aerospace, defense, and medical sectors since 1996.

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