

# GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

GLEASON CORPORATION • KEEPING THE WORLD IN MOTION™



## Gleason Cutting Tools adds advanced coatings capability

**G**leason Cutting Tools Corporation is keeping pace with record demand – and shorter leadtimes – by adding advanced coatings equipment to its ultra-modern facility in Loves Park, IL USA. Their new Balzers Model RCS Rapid Coating System can fully automate the application of all types of PVD thin film coatings with shorter leadtimes and greater flexibility. Now available: a full array of even the most advanced single and multi-layer coatings including TiN, TiCN, TiAlN, AlCrN and others – all applied in about half the time it takes with other advanced coatings systems.

The investment is just part of Gleason Cutting Tools' Lean Transformation, which has enabled the company to slash deliveries on products like hobs and shaper cutters from the industry average of 8-10 weeks to just 2-4 weeks – while at the same time accommodating record demand from around the world.

“95% of delivery time is product waiting in queue,” says Bob Phillips, Senior Vice President of Gleason's Tooling Product Group, and one of the architects behind Gleason's global 'Lean' initiatives. “With Lean, we've increased capacity,

and reduced the inherent expense of excessive work in process (WIP) by producing smaller batches of product that flows more swiftly through the factory – all driven by actual customer demand. The new Balzers unit meshes beautifully with our Lean system because it's also designed to process smaller batches twice as fast.”

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The new Balzers unit complements the substantial capacity and advanced coatings capability that already exists at the Gleason Cutting Tool Service Center, including multiple Balzers BAI-1200 coatings systems and a Balzers USI-2000 automated, computer-controlled cleaning system. This is a critical component because it insures that all substrates are in an optimum clean state prior to coating. Excessive coating buildup from continuous recoating can lead to a degradation in performance. In these cases, and with non-recoatible layers such as in hard/soft combination coatings, it is necessary to remove all coating layers by chemical stripping. Gleason Cutting Tools can strip most common PVD coatings from HSS and carbide substrates with no damage to the surface layer.

In addition to new product applications, this is important to Gleason Cutting Tools' fast-growing Contract Services capability, offering customers fast, economical turn-around on the reconditioning, resharpener and recoating of hobs, shaper cutters, milling cutters, shaving cutters, and broaches.

For more information, contact:

# Gleason



## Services

### TiNite®, Titanium Nitride

TiN is a good general purpose coating for machining and forming applications.

### CarboNite®, Titanium Carbonitride

TiCN is commonly used for machining of abrasive materials like cast iron and aluminum-silicon alloys.

### AlNite™, Titanium Aluminum Nitride

Several varieties of TiAlN are available including Balzers Balinit® Futura and X.treme. AlNite™ offers improved life over other TiAlN coatings in both wet and dry cutting applications.

### Chemical Coating Stripping

Most common PVD coatings can be safely stripped from steel and cemented carbide substrates. Unlike most chemical processes, there is no cobalt leaching of cemented carbides.

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