# S&S Steinhuber GmbH

steinhuber-blechverarbeitung.com

S&S Steinhuber GmbH was founded in 1997 in Gunskirchen, Upper Austria, and employs 75 people. Thanks to bold investments, the company has developed from a pure laser cutting contractor to a complete supplier, providing customers with simple sheet metal parts and complete components. Highly productive laser systems and increasing batch sizes required optimisation of the subsequent production processes. With the flexible, retrofittable Flex Cell bending automation system from TRUMPF, managing directors Ferdinand and Gerhard Steinhuber initially equipped an existing machine to eliminate the bottleneck caused by bending.
After a short time, productivity increased and delivery times became shorter. What's more, the flexible automation component not only relieved the burden on the Steinhubers' skilled workers, but also inspired them. That is why they decided to purchase another TruBend 7050 including Flex Cell within six months, turbocharging their automation and production.

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**INDUSTRY**
Contracted sheet metal processing

**NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES**
75

**LOCATION**
Gunskirchen (Aus tria)

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**TRUMPF PRODUCTS**

- TruLaser 5030 TruLaser 5030 fiber
  TruMatic 7000 TruBend 7050
  TruBend 7036 TruBend 5230
  TruBend 5320

**APPLICATIONS**

- Laser cutting
- Bending
- Punch laser processing

## Challenges

Highly productive lasers and punch laser machines require the optimisation of subsequent machining processes. "Fast cutting processes alone will not enable us to increase production and shorten delivery times," explains Gerhard Steinhuber. He had been considering how to tackle the bottleneck of bending without immediately investing in a fully automated bending cell. "After all, it's impossible to predict how the market will develop and whether such an investment will ultimately pay off." When TRUMPF presents its flexible, retrofittable Flex Cell bending automation system, it sounds like the perfect solution to Gerhard Steinhuber. "Automation that allows the machine to continue to be used manually is exactly the flexibility we wanted."



"In nur 25 Minuten lässt sich die Flex Cell abkoppeln, verschieben, wieder ankoppeln und neu kalibrieren. Dieses Maximum an Flexibilität gibt Sicherheit."

**FERDINAND STEINHUBER**
KFM. GESCHÄFTSFÜHRER S&S STEINHUBER GMBH

**Solutions**

With Flex Cell bending automation from TRUMPF, the TruBend 7050 can be converted into a bending cell in next to no time. "Although we have not yet decoupled our two Flex Cells in operation, the mere knowledge that we could continue to use the systems manually provides security," says Gerhard Steinhuber, while his brother Ferdinand adds: "During training, we disconnected the bending automation once. It was a simple process. In just 25 minutes, it was disconnected, moved, reconnected and recalibrated. Ferdinand and Gerhard Steinhuber were won over by the maximum flexibility, high productivity and processing quality. "From a cost-benefit perspective, Flex Cell is the ideal solution for us", Gerhard Steinhuber concludes

**Implementation**

As the first step, the brothers equip an existing TruBend 7050 bending machine with a Flex Cell. "This allowed us to start production two weeks after the training," says Gerhard Steinhuber. "The machining quality was perfect and although we have not yet exhausted all the options, productivity has increased noticeably. Of course, this has a positive effect on our delivery times." This convinces the Steinhubers, and after a few weeks they order another TruBend 7050, including Flex Cell.

"Programming was challenging at first," admits Gerhard Steinhuber. "But we have a great team who really enjoyed trying something new. They quickly got the hang of it." Now, it takes just one hour to program simple parts. For more complex parts, it can also take a little longer for the machine to be ready for use, but when it is running, it runs – in the meantime, an is increasingly unmanned at night.

Today, Steinhuber bends over 50 different parts automatically – and the numbers are growing. "You do need more qualified staff to operate it," says Ferdinand Steinhuber. "But this requires more output and fewer skilled workers. We can put them to good use elsewhere now."

The Flex Cell has enabled Steinhuber to get started with automated bending flexibly, easily and quickly. "Thanks to the coupling and uncoupling options, I can use automation flexibly and relieve employees of monotonous work. Even smaller, recurring series can be produced efficiently – the setup effort is minimal," says Gerhard Steinhuber, summarising the advantages of the solution. Ferdinand Steinhuber adds: "I am impressed by the processing quality. The robot picks up each part in exactly the same way and positions it precisely. This is particularly important for asymmetric components."







**Forecast**

"We have been very active in terms of expansion and investment in recent years," says Ferdinand Steinhuber. "Now is the time to review and improve all our processes. Automated bending is a major step in the right direction." Over the next few months, Gerhard Steinhuber plans to switch more parts to production on the Flex Cell. "It is quite possible that we will invest in another Flex Cell."

**Find out more about our products**



## Flex Cell

The Flex Cell bending automation transforms the manual TruBend 7050 into the fastest bending cell supplied by TRUMPF. The mobile robot cell can be easily connected to the bending machine – and uncoupled just as quickly. A generously dimensioned raw material store and compact installation area are ideal prerequisites for getting started with automated bending.

Zum Produkt



## TruBend 7050

The TruBend 7050 is a prime example of man and machine working in perfect harmony. The ergonomic high-speed machine bends small and medium-sized parts in a space-saving manner thanks to the ACB angle measuring system, ensuring reliable processes and excellent quality. Operation sitting down or standing up is comfortable for the operator, and due to BendGuard Automatic, the setup operation is also extremely fast and safe.

Zum Produkt

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