



## Press Release

# Artificial intelligence makes inroads into laser material processing

**Voice-controlled TRUMPF lasers banish the need for manual input of control instructions and enable barrier-free operation // CEO LT Schmitz: “With AI, lasers will become even more efficient, easier to operate and more adaptable.”**

*Ditzingen/Munich, June 24, 2019* – At the LASER trade show in Munich, high technology company TRUMPF will be presenting a laser system with artificial intelligence (AI) that allows it to be operated intuitively using voice commands – similar to the voice recognition function familiar to smartphone users. The system, which is equipped with a marking laser, demonstrates the potential benefits of AI in laser material processing. Artificial intelligence (AI) takes automation to the next level and is a key technology for connected manufacturing. “With AI, production processes that use our lasers will become even more efficient, easier to operate and more adaptable,” says Christian Schmitz, Chief Executive Officer Laser Technology at TRUMPF. The technology demonstrator shows how the operator can instruct the machine to carry out actions such as “open/close the door”, “start the marking process,” or ask “how many products have been marked today,” simply by speaking into a microphone. The laser system responds immediately and carries out the instruction.

There are many advantages of voice control. For instance, it makes it easier for inexperienced users to operate the machine because they don’t have to learn how to navigate the multi-layered menu structure when entering instructions manually via the software interface. It also saves time, because operators have their hands free to prepare the next part for processing or remove a finished part from the machine. Moreover, by providing barrier-free access, voice control allows handicapped persons to operate the machine.

### **In the future, machines will select the right program automatically**

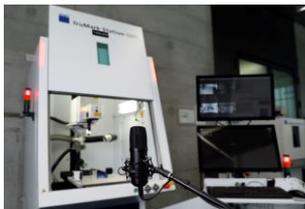
As the next stage in this project, the TRUMPF development engineers intend to further simplify operation of the marking laser system. But what does that mean in practice? At present, the operator has to tell the machine what part has been



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loaded so that it can start the appropriate marking program. In the future, advanced sensor systems and image recognition software will enable the machine to identify the part and select the necessary program on its own. It's not even necessary to load the part in a specific orientation – the machine is so intelligent that it can automatically position the laser at the correct angle before starting the marking process.

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### **TRUMPF-technology-demonstrator-voice-control**

At the LASER trade show in Munich TRUMPF presented a technology demonstrator and showed how the operator can instruct the machine to carry out actions simply by speaking into a microphone.



### **Managing-board-dr-christian-schmitz**

Christian Schmitz,

Chief Executive Officer Laser Technology and Member of the Managing Board



### **About TRUMPF**

The high-technology company TRUMPF offers production solutions in the machine tool and laser sectors. It is driving digital connectivity in manufacturing industry through consulting, platform and software offers. TRUMPF is the world technological and market leader for machine tools used in flexible sheet metal processing, and also for industrial lasers.

In 2017/18 the company – which has about 13,400 employees – achieved sales of 3.6 billion euros. With over 70 subsidiaries, it is represented in nearly all the countries of Europe, North and South America, and Asia. It has production facilities in Germany, France, Great Britain, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Poland, the Czech Republic, the USA, Mexico, China and Japan.



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For more information about TRUMPF go to [www.trumpf.com](http://www.trumpf.com)

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