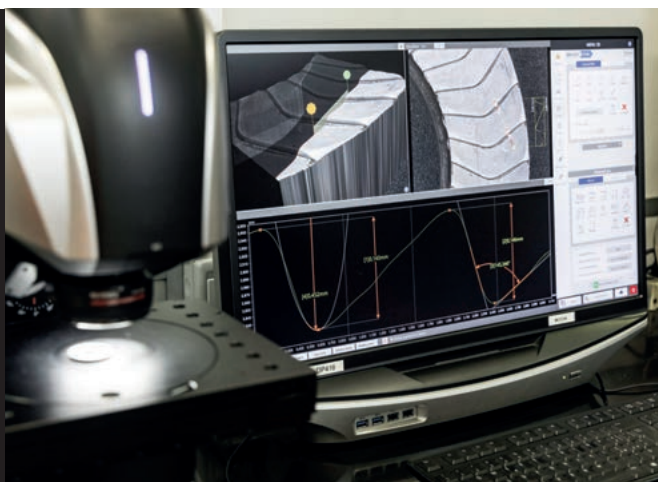


Growermetal's internal R&D lab is equipped with the latest testing instruments

QUALITY-CENTRED EXPERTS, LOOKING FOR INNOVATION

From quality control to the investments in R&D, **Growermetal's** approach to fastener manufacturing showcases its commitment to the supplying of premium services and products. That's a vision shared by an alliance of technical and scientific partners, through its participation in the Joint Research Centre for Metal and Trasformation Technologies.



In the fastener manufacturing sector supplying reliable, certified and efficient products or services is not only recommended, but necessary. Just think of some of the main application fields where safety washers are used, like automotive, railway or aerospace: the consequences of a loosening fastening system would be serious.

Flawless and safe fastening systems are essential to fulfil their locking function with the maximum reliability. Therefore, the creation of a productive system able to respond to local and international quality standards, providing safe designs and constant supervision of the different stages of the manufacturing process, must be considered a priority. But how does a business pursue and maintain premium quality and high safety levels? From its headquarters in northern Italy, Growermetal has been developing its personal vision of quality for more than 70 years.

AN IN-HOUSE PRODUCTION FOR RELIABLE PRODUCTS

The fastener manufacturing process is composed of many different stages, with a great level of management complexity. As an experienced producer of safety washers, railway washers and special blanked parts, Growermetal has developed an in-house process that allows its team to control every stage of the production. So, if a machine shows problems or malfunctions, the synergy between the monitoring software and the company's technicians ensures a rapid response and a quick management of problems.

For Growermetal, the attention given to the production cycle reflects on the final quality of its washers. Well aware of the importance of ensuring the greatest dependability to customers, the Italian company meets relevant standards, with an ISO 9001, ISO 14001, IATF 16949 and EN 9100 certified manufacturing process.

Together with blanking, coining, wire rolling, treatments and coating, a crucial stage to consider for a consistent product is quality control. Especially for applications exposed to extreme vibrations, high temperature variations or in the presence of dynamic loads, ensuring the integrity of the parts is extremely important. Through cutting-edge machinery and optical sorting technologies, every piece is inspected to check its structure, integrity and characteristics, reducing the risk of material problems.

R&D: THE KEYS TO GROWTH

The commitment to quality and innovation spreads also beyond the manufacturing process, including programmes of acknowledgement and research inside and outside the company.

From this point of view, Growermetal considers its internal R&D laboratory a key investment, equipping it with the latest testing instruments, including a sophisticated Junker test machine, which can simulate the efficiency of fasteners under particular conditions or vibrations.

Research and testing are essential not only in improving the performance of fastening systems developed by Growermetal, but also in the creation of innovative designs suitable to the needs of current markets. Among the latest products, introduced in the washers family during 2022, there are high thickness and precision flat washers, special blanked and bended parts, EPDM moulded part project and parts with glued EPDM inserts.

Following this tendency towards innovation, in April 2020 Growermetal joined the Joint Research Center MATT – Metal and Trasformation Technologies. A centre aimed at developing and promoting activities and initiatives to support competitive, innovative growth and knowledge among its members.

Based on the concept of Open Innovation, JRC MATT is an example of a strategic approach to innovation, which creates a vertical and horizontal alliance to share knowledge, technology and resources, giving companies the opportunity to go beyond their limits.

"We are glad we have answered the call for joining the JRC MATT," comments Paolo Cattaneo, CEO of Growermetal. "This collaboration between culture, science and industry is a great opportunity to increase competitiveness and share know-how, projects and visions."

Talking about innovation, the CEO concludes: "For Growermetal it is essential to maintain an approach focused on innovation, creating value and making our company ready to face the challenges of a more and more competitive global market. And our work with the R&D department represents one of the most rewarding investments for our company in terms of improvement of the fixing technologies, reliability and capability to provide the best fastening systems for the different application fields."

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EVOLVING TECHNOLOGIES FOR IMPROVED FASTENING SOLUTIONS



oing ahead.

Expertise, innovation and research are essential to realize cutting-edge fastening systems.

Thanks to our R&D laboratory, we bring new technologies to life, studying the most suitable designs and improved characteristics for your applications.

Special shaped blanked and bended parts, high thickness and precision flat washers, EPDM moulded part projects and parts with glued EPDM inserts are the latest fastening technologies introduced in the range.

Discover what's next.



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