



**Tools and tooling systems
for the processing of wood
and advanced materials**

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Leitz Weighs In On Industry 4.0 – Smart Tooling With eApps

Grand Rapids, MI – Tooling generates a great deal of information during its lifecycle. However, until now, most of it could only be interpreted at the end. That meant that occasionally parts or components had already been produced that might be out of specification because of tooling wear or malfunction.

Now, Leitz Tooling is developing the first generation of “smart tools.” By integrating a data chip in the tool body, operators and production managers gain the ability to review information on critical production values; tool dimensions, cutting geometry, RPM, feed rate, performance times, servicing cycles and much more.

This new information system is a logical advancement of the data chip tools introduced by Leitz in 1993.

Leitz is also instrumental in the development of a European research project called eApps4Production. Its goal, using data chips and other information collection media, will be to create a fully networked production facility, optimizing processing at every station.

Leitz, with U.S. operations headquartered in Grand Rapids, MI, and worldwide operations managed from Oberkochen, Germany, is a leader in high-technology engineering and manufacturing of precision tooling and systems for machining wood, plastics and advanced composites. In addition to Grand Rapids, the company has U.S. service centers in Archdale, NC, Garland, TX, San Bernardino, CA and Kent, WA.



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Leitz Tooling is developing a new generation of “smart tools” that will feed operators, production management and technicians a wide variety of critical production data across a network connection.