



7 Designer and manufacturer of special purpose industrial knives **Heusch** looks back upon 160 years of activity in textiles, carpets and leather processing tools. Based in Aachen, Germany, the brand has built up a worldwide reputation of reliability and quality in the leather industry, principally in the supply of precision all steel spiral shaving machine knives where it has played a leading role.

Heusch has not rested on its laurels and concentration on ongoing development resulted in a new specification of fleshing machine spiral knives being brought to the market. In a recent press release Heusch claims to be the first in producing an all stainless steel fleshing knife, the manufacture of which is the subject of a patent application.

The characteristics of the new knife, named the Excalibur, are reported to include good hardness, flexibility and corrosion resistance, a combination of properties that the conventional fleshing knife cannot offer. Technical tests reveal a 62 Rockwell hardness value, a high degree of flexibility and a force/deflection ratio of 1.25, indicating low brittleness. Further, Heusch says that the new knife has a 30% longer life compared with earlier types and points out that the absence of corrosion avoids leaving rust marks on leather being fleshed. Longer life means fewer blades, hence reducing cost for the tanner.

The market for this type of knife is considerable as it is mounted by original fleshing machine manufacturers as well as being a consumable part subsequently supplied to the users of the machines. 🌐



60,000 m² base and production plant of Ungricht situated at Moenchengladbach, Germany. Some 200 employees work here at this sole site. Roller body construction, surface treatment, engraving departments, galvanic processing and plasma-ceramic coating take place here.

8 **Ungricht**, engraved rollers and plates manufacturer, established in 1892 today it is still a family run business, now in its fifth generation. It is an important and growing supplier to the worldwide leather industry both to original tannery machinery manufacturers as well as to the users of such machines.

With more than 45,000 different roller embossing designs, ranging from fine hair cell to large geometric patterns plus 50,000 printing designs in the Ungricht collection, customers find choice and inspiration. Pilot machines in its unique laboratory enable the embossing of customer materials with designs outside the existing collections. All designs can be engraved on any size of roller or plate.

The latest laser machines employed by the company make it possible to engrave rollers in the fastest possible way to the highest quality. A special laser can burn every natural or technical structure onto the surface of rollers. Nevertheless, despite the advanced laser system, traditional engraving by tools continues to be indispensable. As a consequence Ungricht's 120 years of know-how and its human capital of roller manufacture and the engraving process is a vital ingredient. WHL 🌐

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