ECONOMY

Rzecz <mark>O</mark> nnowacjach



An innovative frame of mind is an important factor affecting competitiveness on the market and stimulating growth. OSSA Machinery Works (Zakład Budowy Maszyn OSSA), and the company's owner, Jan Ossa are excellent examples of a visionary approach in business. The innovative approach of the entrepreneur and the entire company have been recognised by independent bodies.

Jakub Maksymowicz

he enterprise's line of business includes bolted-joint technology, i.e. equipment for tightening and unscrewing bolts with adjustable torques of up to 40 thousand Nm, including design, manufacture, consulting, sales, repair, and other related services.

On 26 November last year, during the official celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Patent Office, Jan Ossa was honoured with a distinction from the Polish Prime Minister for his contribution to innovation. And one of the company's most recent flagship products, SETT (Smart Electric Torque Tool), was granted the Polish Smart Growth Award under the patronage of Alicja Adamczak, PhD, President of the Patent Office.

The tool was developed in collaboration with scientists from the AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków. This tightening tool is different from other solutions applied in industry in terms of its size and operation precision. It is also an innovative solution as compared to competitive products available on the market. The most notable difference is the application of direct torque measurement. It involves the measurement of the bolt tightening torque with a special sensor directly on the nut.

The application of such a type of sensor and appropriate control algorithms allows the tool to automatically tighten the bolt until the required torque value is reached.

OSSA has been successfully developing other state-of-the-art technologies. For example, the company developed a brushless electric torque tool in cooperation with the KOMEL Institute of Mechanical Drives and Machines, and AGH. Another achievement includes the design of a specialised testing





station for the measurement and calibration of electric high-torque tools and hydraulic torque wrenches, the prototype of an eccentric cycloidal gear, which is being developed together with the KOMAG institute in Gliwice, and high-pressure hydraulic pumps for hydraulic torque wrenches.





"We are the only manufacturer and leading service provider in Poland operating in the field of bolted joint technologies, including electric, pneumatic and battery-driven bolt tightening tools, hydraulic wrenches, planetary gears, and hydraulic tensioners," explained the owner and founder of the company.

He stressed that the wide range of devices allows the company to take part in work on bolted joints with the use of nearly all sizes of bolts.

"We have our own design office, where we create our original solutions from scratch. They are popular with clients both in Poland and abroad. Our client portfolio includes companies operating in the petrochemical, power-supply, shipyard, construction, refinery, machine production, and mining sectors," declared Jan Ossa. "We have been collaborating with the POWER TEAM company for many years. We are its exclusive representative on the Polish market. We have developed a wide distribution network for our devices. It is based on commercial dealerships in Russia and Ukraine, covering the entire eastern market, including Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Belarus. We also have a sales agency in Libya. Our products are also available in Middle-East countries, such as the United Arab Emirates, Pakistan, and China," he noted.

Ossa solutions are also available in Denmark (the renovation of STATOIL's heavy oil processing installation), in Bulgaria (the extension of the Maritza power plant), and in Belgium (unscrewing and pre-tensioning a boiler block for Hitachi and Siemens in Ghent).

The company has implemented numerous projects for major Polish companies. The most important include the extension of the infrastructure of the LOTOS SA Group – the "10+ Programme" (torquing /tensioning over 10 thousand joints), participation in the construction of the Silesian Stadium and the National Stadium, and long-term contracts with ArcelorMittal Poland SA and PKN Orlen.

The company holds ISO certificates and its products have CE Declarations of Conformity.

In previous years, the company was awarded many other distinctions, such as the Eagle of Polish Entrepreneurship, as the winner in the Innovation and Stateof-the-Art Technologies category, and was granted the Business of the Year certificates in 2015 and 2016. The company has also received a recommendation as a Reliable Partner. In addition, ZBM OSSA obtained the 2016 Business VIP Certificate for creating a company which had been successfully operating on the market for 22 years, and in recognition of its effective management based on the highest quality, reliability, business culture, and ethical rules, which altogether create a model image of a Polish enterprise in Poland and abroad.

THE CENTRE PROMOTES SMART GROWTH



Innovation and smart growth fuelled by specialisation are the driving forces of the Polish and global economies. Centrum Inteligentnego Rozwoju S.C. (The Smart Growth Centre) is a Polish organisation which has been supporting the promotion of, and appreciating, new technologies and innovative projects, from their onset and implementation to launching on the domestic market.

IR presents its corporate-image programme by organising an economic event called the SmartGrowth Forum, and via the highest-profile mass media. Each year, the Forum is a meeting place for scientists, entrepreneurs, and representatives of local and central authorities. During the third edition of the event, which was held between 18 and 20 October 2018, and which was the first edition with an international outreach, over 100 speakers discussed the issues of effective collaboration between scientific circles and local authorities. It was an opportunity to present their own experience related to the implementation of innovative projects, as well as a perfect occasion to showcase the existing achievements to potential investors.

Every edition of the event is held under the patronage of several Ministries, including, in the most-recent edition, the Ministry of Investment and Economic Development and the Ministry of Science and Higher Education. The highlight of the Forum is the Polish Smart Growth Award Gala. The winner of last year's award was Jerzy Kwieciński, Minister of Investment and Economic Development, who attended the Gala to collect it in person.

The second area of cooperation of the Smart Growth Centre with business, scientific circles and local authorities encompasses regular thematic sections entitled On innovation and Investments, and a short video series entitled "goPL" which can be viewed on major Polish information websites and the most prominent business web services.

The Centre has been expanding its cooperation opportunities since January, and consequently the Polish Market Englishlanguage economic magazine is joining the group of its media partners. The subject of the magazine's section deals with innovation projects on the Polish market, including those introduced by international enterprises. The Centre promotes the best examples of smart growth. The first issue presents The OSSA



Minister of Investment and Economic Development Jerzy Kwieciński receiving the Smart Development award from Polish Patent Office President Alicja Adamczak.

Machinery Works, based in Tychy, the winner of the 2018 Polish Smart Growth Award.

For more information on the initiatives undertaken by CIR, go to irforum.pl, rzeczo. pl, and gopl.pl.