

CANADIAN MACHINERY AND

# metalWORKING

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## Toughing it out

Mouldmakers show their mettle

When the force is with you  
High feed milling cutters





## Invest or die

While most departments in metal working companies spend countless hours justifying automation for labour savings, die and mould departments are typically left behind.

Amazingly, management has no trouble buying roughing machines like milling centres or lathes, but grinders—although they are the machine generating the precise mating surface—are only left for budgetary surpluses. In other words, a finishing operation isn't worthy of a budget.

As availability of skilled labour, particularly in grinding departments, dwindles, automating or simplifying this process would seem sensible.

Frequently, surface grinding sees little more than a retrofitted digital readout.

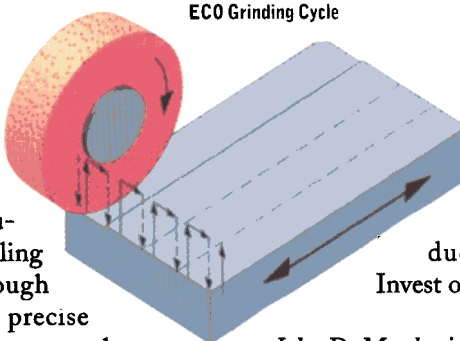
In lieu of archaic hydraulics, today's sophisticated grinders offer Programmable Logic Controllers to automate dressing and grinding cycles.

They often implement AC-driven ball-screw technology, allowing complex grinding cycles rather than traditional reciprocation, thus maximizing stock removal.

With full CNC controls, surface grinders are able to generate free spline profiles and index parts surfaces to allow the manufacturing of a punch or die insert in a single chucking.

Options that are readily available in the marketplace include:

- fully enclosed machines
- CNC indexers
- overhead single point diamonds
- overhead in-process form roll dressers
- articulated single point or disk dressers

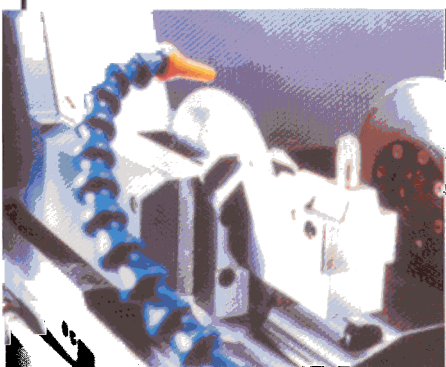


ECO Grinding Cycle

In short, sophisticated die and mould shops deserve the attention given the rest of the metal working departments. Given enough resources, they will be the productive backbone of the plant.

**Invest or Die!**

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Swivel Dressing System



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