



“We needed a more efficient operating concept for our new generation of machines. That’s when I called Elektrosil.”



New operating concepts for digital transformation: For the next generation of CNC machines, two rotary switches and an optical control were replaced by a new, innovative operating unit. The result: the Smart Knob.

**THE CHALLENGE**

With the predecessor model, the operator needed both hands for two rotary switches and also had to follow the operation processes visually.

The customer’s vision: A tool with new functionality that increases the operating speed. In addition to one-hand operation, multifunctionality and adaptability to different environmental conditions, the wish list also included maximum robustness for industrial applications.

**THE SOLUTION**

“When we presented our first ideas after a few weeks, our customers were already quite enthusiastic,” recalls product manager Gunter Wagschal. The Smart Knob enables the required one-handed operation. The basis for this is the combination of turning and pushing movements. This concept allows completely new sequences, combinations and speeds for machine control.

Each switching operation is accompanied by LED signals and vibrations that inform the machine’s operator of everything he or she needs to know according to the machine configuration for the current work process without the need for visual inspection. In this way, operations are faster and work becomes more efficient and productive.

“The really revolutionary new achievement about our Smart Knob is the dialogue of the rotary switch with the software of the operating control. This allows for a previously unavailable flexibility,” says Wagschal. The reason is because the signals from the Smart Knob give the software the impulses for the machine control; and in turn the software can be configured to control in which colour, with which vibration pattern and in which intensity the signals are to be output to the machine operator via the Smart Knob.

**OUR STRENGTHS**

- Many years of experience in the field of heavy-duty, industrial solutions, e.g. in the areas of connection technology and displays
- Trusting customer relationships based on a regular and honest exchange of information
- Development of reliable, fast and innovative solutions in cooperation with the customer’s company

**Are you also looking for a custom-fit solution for your system and a competent partner? Then give us a call: +49 40 840001-0.**

**Project information**

- Client: a large German industrial company
- Branch: Industry
- Product areas: Sensor technology, software, connection technology and drive technology
- Services: Development, design, construction, production and delivery

**Elektrosil’s services**

- Application consultation, development assistance, design-in support
- Quality assurance
- Engineering and production
- Completely customised applications