

## **High process reliability in tapping with the new BALIQ ANTOS coating from Oerlikon Balzers**

Balzers, Liechtenstein, 30 August 2022 – **Oerlikon Balzers, a world-leading Oerlikon technology brand for high-quality surface solutions, has launched the new BALIQ ANTOS coating for industrial taps, which considerably increases production output thanks to homogenous running-in behaviour. Customers benefit from high process reliability and longer tool service life.**

Tapping is often the last stage of a lengthy production process. When manufacturing expensive, high-quality components, poor-quality threads or damaged taps can interrupt production or even lead to components being scrapped.

Since its introduction, the S3p technology developed by Oerlikon Balzers has resulted in a whole series of innovative coatings under the brand name BALIQ. The new BALIQ ANTOS coating, specially developed for tapping in stainless steel, is a high-performance alternative to conventional TiN or TiCN coatings. When tested, the surface clearly showed the typical BALIQ properties: extremely hard, smooth and free from defects. And these properties are crucial in tapping in order to deliver considerably longer tool service life and higher process reliability.

BALIQ ANTOS has a multilayer structure: the AlCrN base layer ensures extremely high wear resistance, while the WC/C top coat gives the coating a very dense and smooth surface. This top coat has a low friction coefficient, which ensures even and gentle running in into the pilot hole without high torque peaks. These factors play a key role in reliable machining of steel, and in particular stainless steel.

You can find more information on the BALIQ ANTOS page on our website:  
<https://www.oerlikon.com/balzers/baliq-antos>



Image: Oerlikon Balzers

BALIQ ANTOS is an extremely hard, smooth and defect-free coating. These properties are necessary in tapping in order to deliver longer tool service life and high process reliability.



Image: AdobeStock

After a lengthy production process, the final stage needs to be reliable. Tests show that BALIQ ANTOS offers homogenous running-in behaviour without torque peaks for tapping in stainless steel.

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## About Oerlikon

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) is a global innovation powerhouse for surface engineering, polymer processing and additive manufacturing. The Group's solutions and comprehensive services, together with its advanced materials, improve and maximise the performance, functionality, design and sustainability of its customers' products and manufacturing processes in key industries. Having developed pioneering technology for decades, everything Oerlikon does is guided by its passion to help its customers achieve their goals and to foster a sustainable world. The Group is headquartered in Pfäffikon, Switzerland, and operates its business in two divisions: Surface Solutions and Polymer Processing Solutions. It has a global footprint of more than 11 800 employees at 207 locations in 38 countries. In 2021, Oerlikon generated CHF 2.6 billion in sales and invested CHF 105 million in R&D.

## About the Balzers technology brand

Oerlikon Balzers is worldwide recognised for its leading surface technologies that significantly improve the performance and durability of precision components as well as tools for the metal and plastics processing industries. Extremely thin and exceptionally hard coatings, marketed under the BALINIT and BALIQ product names, reduce friction and wear. BALITHERM opens up a broad range of heat treatment services, whereas BALTONE comprises coatings that are available in a full range of elegant colours, perfectly suited for decorative applications. BALIMED ThinFilm coatings, with wear-resistant, biocompatible, antimicrobial and chemically inert properties, have been developed especially for medical applications. Under the BALIFOR product family, Oerlikon Balzers has introduced technologies which provide tailor-made solutions for the automotive market, while ePD allows the metallisation of plastic parts with a chrome look.

Worldwide, more than 1'300 thin-film coating systems are in operation at Oerlikon facilities and its customers. Equipment engineering and assembly of Oerlikon Balzers coating systems are processed in Liechtenstein, in Langenthal (Switzerland) and in Bergisch Gladbach (Germany). Oerlikon operates a dynamically growing network of more than 110 thin-film coating centres in 35 countries in Europe, the Americas and Asia. Oerlikon Balzers is – together with Oerlikon Metco and Oerlikon AM – part of the Surface Solutions Division of the Switzerland-based Oerlikon Group (SIX: OERL).