

Editor's Corner

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Orthopaedic Cutting Tools —

In manufacturing industry parlance, the term *cutting tool* is generically used to describe tooling such as cutters, dies, end mills, saws, inserts, etc. that are used in the manufacturing process.

Within the orthopaedic industry, we also use the term to describe a category of orthopaedic surgical cutting instruments that includes bits, blades, burrs, broaches, reamers, rasps, planers, chisels, gouges, osteotomes, cutting blocks, jigs, and guides, etc.

Thus, for this issue we invited suppliers to contribute material relative to either the manufacture of surgical cutting instruments, or to issues relating to cutting tool processes and technologies that are employed to manufacture the finished product.

From new developments in machine tool technology, to design considerations in the manufacture of orthopaedic instruments, to material applicability—these contributions from your supply chain partners will hopefully provide some valuable insight into current thoughts, trends and considerations regarding the design, development, and manufacture of orthopaedic cutting tools.

The next issue of BONEZone will focus upon *implant manufacturing*—devices for internal/external fixation such as bone plates/crews, intramedullary nails/rods, cerclage cables/wires, hip screws, external fixators, spinal instrumentation, etc.

We have invited our suppliers to comment upon issues such as design considerations, manufacturing processes, and materials applicability. If you have interest in any particular subject matter relative to the manufacture of implants, let us know and we'll do our best to identify contributors who can effectively address those topics.

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