

NORTH STAR NEWS

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Fall/Winter 2019

KEEPING THE WHEELS OF INDUSTRY MOVING

Our new 5-axis Mazak milling machine

A new, 5-axis milling machine has recently been installed in North Star's shop. This machine allows for more efficient and accurate processing of complex parts than with traditional 3- and 4-axis milling machines.

The machine tool's three linear axes (X, Y and Z) and two rotational axes (A and B) all engage at the same time to process parts, with just one single setup. This results in increased productivity, less fixture preparation and higher part accuracy since the workpiece does not need to move across multiple work stations.

The new 5-axis machine also produces superior surface finishes and a higher overall part quality.

"Adding this new machine on our shop floor enables North Star to continue to improve the quality and efficiency of our work, for the overall benefit of our clients," says company business development manager Robert Pinelli.



SHOP
NEWS



Above: Machinist Kesete Berhane programs North Star's new 5-axis milling machine.

Left: The machine's Renishaw probe is used to indicate a workpiece.

Building parking spots for 1,300 bicycles

North Star Technical has spent the past few months constructing new metal hubs for the City of Hamilton's SoBi network.



Above: A new SoBi hub on Herkimer Street in front of Durand Park.

Right: Metal hub frames in the North Star shop, ready for installation.

The company won the contract to manufacture and install 130 hubs, each holding 10 bikes, to replace the existing hubs that had experienced surface paint discolouration and chipping. The existing hubs had been manufactured in the U.S. and brought to Hamilton for installation.

As the new hubs are installed, the old ones are being brought back to North Star's shop for refurbishment and used for the future expansion of the city's bike share network.

Separate from the SoBi hubs, North Star has also manufactured and installed hundreds of hammer hoops over the past few years for the City of Hamilton. These hoops are situated at various locations throughout the city to allow cyclists to park and lock up their own bikes.



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