

Caillau

Test Integration, Product Optimization

Specialized in the manufacturing of stainless steel clamps, Caillau gets an in-house integration of the design and validation of its components dedicated to the automotive industry. Considering the development of a new connecting clamp for exhaust lines, Cetim has developed a testing bench compatible with the company's pneumatic facilities.



OUR CUSTOMER

Corporate name
Caillau

Activity
Created in 1919, Caillau designs, manufactures and markets stainless steel clamps for the automotive and aeronautic industries. The company, which holds some 10% of the world clamps market, carries out 60% of its sales in export

Workforce
365 people

Sales turnover 2006:
45 million euro

Validating new products sometimes involves the development of original solutions. "We had to choose between two different solutions", explains Nicolas Rigollet, in charge of the advanced products studies: "subcontracting the tests to Cetim teams with which we had collaborated for several years, or asking them to develop a test bench and set it up within our unit in Romorantin."

A fatigue bench for hot testing

Integrated in laboratories, the second solution of course

offers the advantage of a greater flexibility and thus, a greater reactivity. For as much, since Caillau had no hydraulic power station able to operate the jacks required for fatigue testing, the cost of such a facility was quite significant. "Cetim then proposed us to carry out a pneumatic servo-controlled system which would be force-controlled and thus, compatible with our company's equipment", says Nicolas Rigollet.

After having collected the whole of the fatigue tests procedures and specific requirements of car manufacturers (level of efforts and temperature, flexion mode, etc), the Cetim team designed and lead the development of a fatigue test bench which was then installed in Caillau's workshop in Romorantin.

Optimizing new products

"This solution has many advantages, says Nicolas Rigollet. In addition to a better integration in our laboratories, having this type of test bench within our company enabled us to test new solutions, validate the geometrical design of clamps, optimize the materials selection, and show a better reactivity towards our customers."

Cetim's asset

Thanks to its network of experts which cover a wide range of technologies, Cetim gets the skills required for the making of innovative products and offers its know-how as an architect and project manager to companies.

