

INTRODUCTION

CARBIDE – PRODUCTION

Metal forming – pressing – machining

Metal forming

The objective of the forming process is to obtain a near net shape sample. Pressing is normally carried out at room temperature with pressures reaching up to several tons per square centimetre.

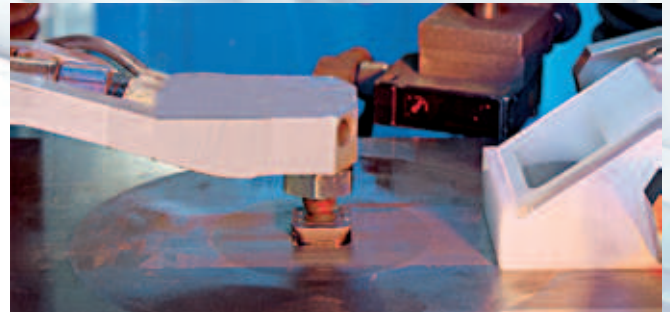
There are several ways of pressing blanks:

During isostatic cold pressing the powder is filled into an elastic flexible hose and pressed into a compacted form through high liquid pressure. The powder blocks which are produced in this way can then be processed mechanically. All common machining methods like milling, cutting, drilling or turning may be applied.

In uniaxial pressing the pressing tool consists of a die and an upper and a lower punch. The carbide powder is filled into the die and then compacted to create the so called green carbide, which is ejected from the pressing die.

Extrusion pressing is mainly used to produce rectangular bar or cylindrical rod, with or without axial hole(s). A plasticiser is added to the powder. The resulting paste is pressed through an extrusion nozzle. Before sintering, the plasticiser must be evaporated in special drying furnaces.

Metal Injection Moulding (MIM) is a process used to produce more complex forms which cannot be produced by direct pressing. The paste preparation is similar to the extrusion process.



Pressing

