An electron beam is a versatile tool whose effect is primarily based on a short-duration, localized input of heat into a substrate material. An important advantage of electron beam welding is the ability to be able to weld materials down to considerable depths: although strongly absorbed by the material, the electron beam is able to penetrate deep into the material due to the deep-weld effect. This makes this technique an ideal tool for joining combinations of materials.

Of all welding techniques, electron beam welding currently involves the lowest heat input for a given weld depth. Due to this minimum heat input, thermally sensitive sensors can, for example, be welded.

The electron beam can also be used to structure surfaces. Due to the minimum heat input on the workpiece, an electron beam is ideal for processing thermally sensitive materials such as metal layers on polymer substrates. Reactive materials can also be effectively processed because the process takes place in a high vacuum and the reactive metals are not in contact with reaction partners.

Our electron beam plant EFFI can be used to weld, structure and engrave small parts made of conducting materials having a height and diameter of up to 15 centimeters.

Typical tasks that can be carried out in the machine include the welding of medical products (such as implants) and the welding of sensors and devices used in electronics and measuring technology.

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Technical specifications

Electron beam generator
- Beam power up to 2 kW / acceleration voltage up to 60 kV
- Max. beam deviation angle $\alpha \leq 20^\circ$
- 1 axis of rotation (Z), chuck with clamping diameter of 3 ... 88 mm
- Rotation speed: continuous from 0 ... 32 min$^{-1}$

Workpiece insertion and handling
- Vertical translation (Y): 120 mm
- Vertical adjustment speed: 0 ... 3.5 mm/s
- Substrate (part) size up to 150 mm $\times$ 150 mm $\times$ 150 mm (L $\times$ W $\times$ H)

Vacuum system
- Working pressure (chamber) $\leq 5 \times 10^{-4}$ mbar

SEM imaging system
- Display in material and/or topographic contrast, max. scanned area ca. 100 $\times$ 150 mm$^2$
- Resolution down to 25 μm
- Scanning electron imaging mode (SEM) with a choice of two detectors

Process control
- Automatic standard welding processes / programmed deflection control
- Teach-in programming
- Alternating operating mode welding-scanning-welding
- Engraving of any grayscale images

Our offer
- Electron beam welding and micro-welding of parts
- Homogenous and heterogeneous
- Combinations of materials, e.g. steel-steel or copper-steel
- Welding of parts having very different geometries, e.g. membranes with parts of housings or corrugated hoses with connectors
- Local melting of surface layers
- Electron beam structuring of metallic and non-metallic materials, in particular layers and layer systems
- Inscribing and engraving of workpieces