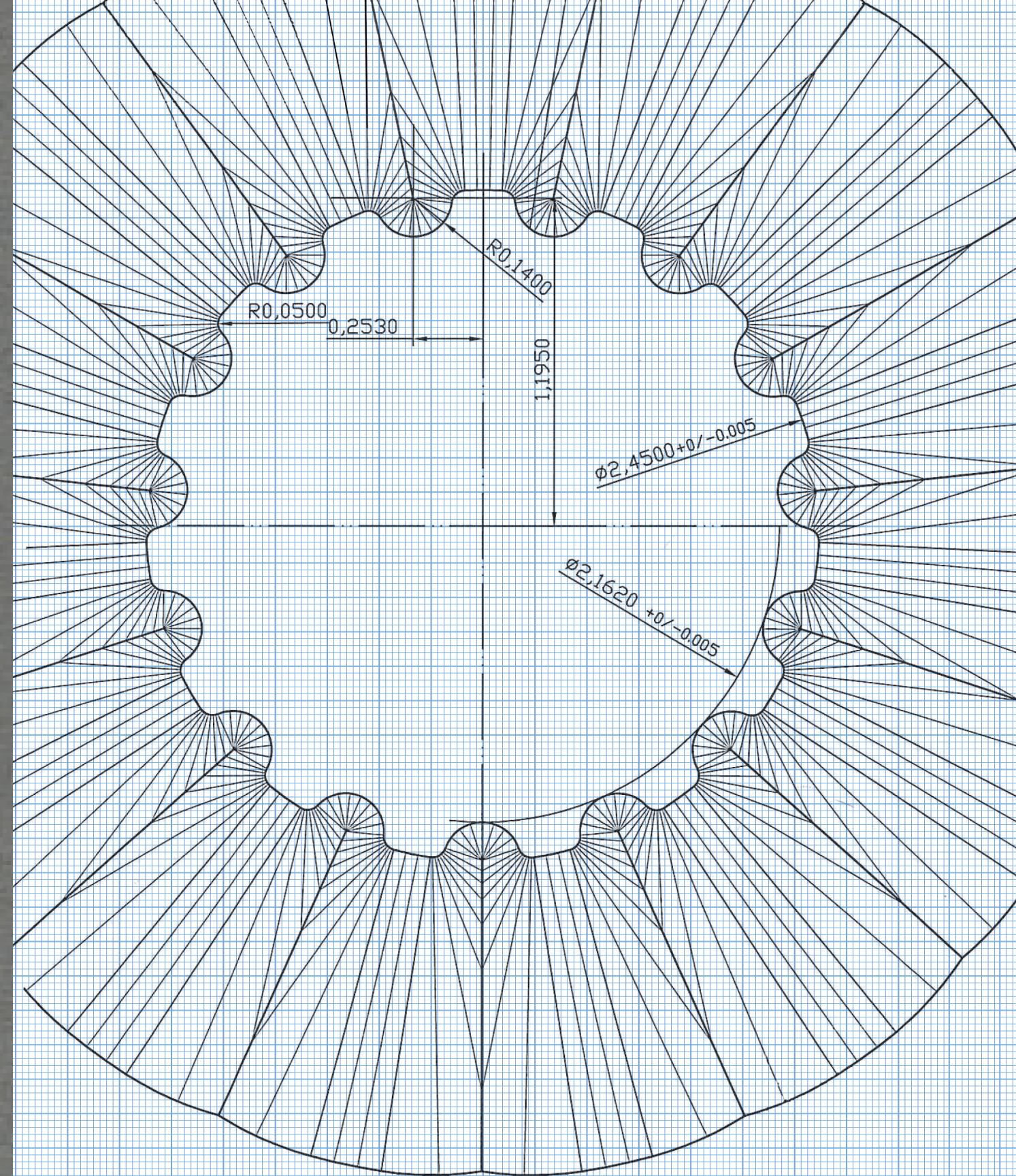


# Jacques Allemann SA: Tradition – Nothing Less

Innovative products  
with exceptional precision





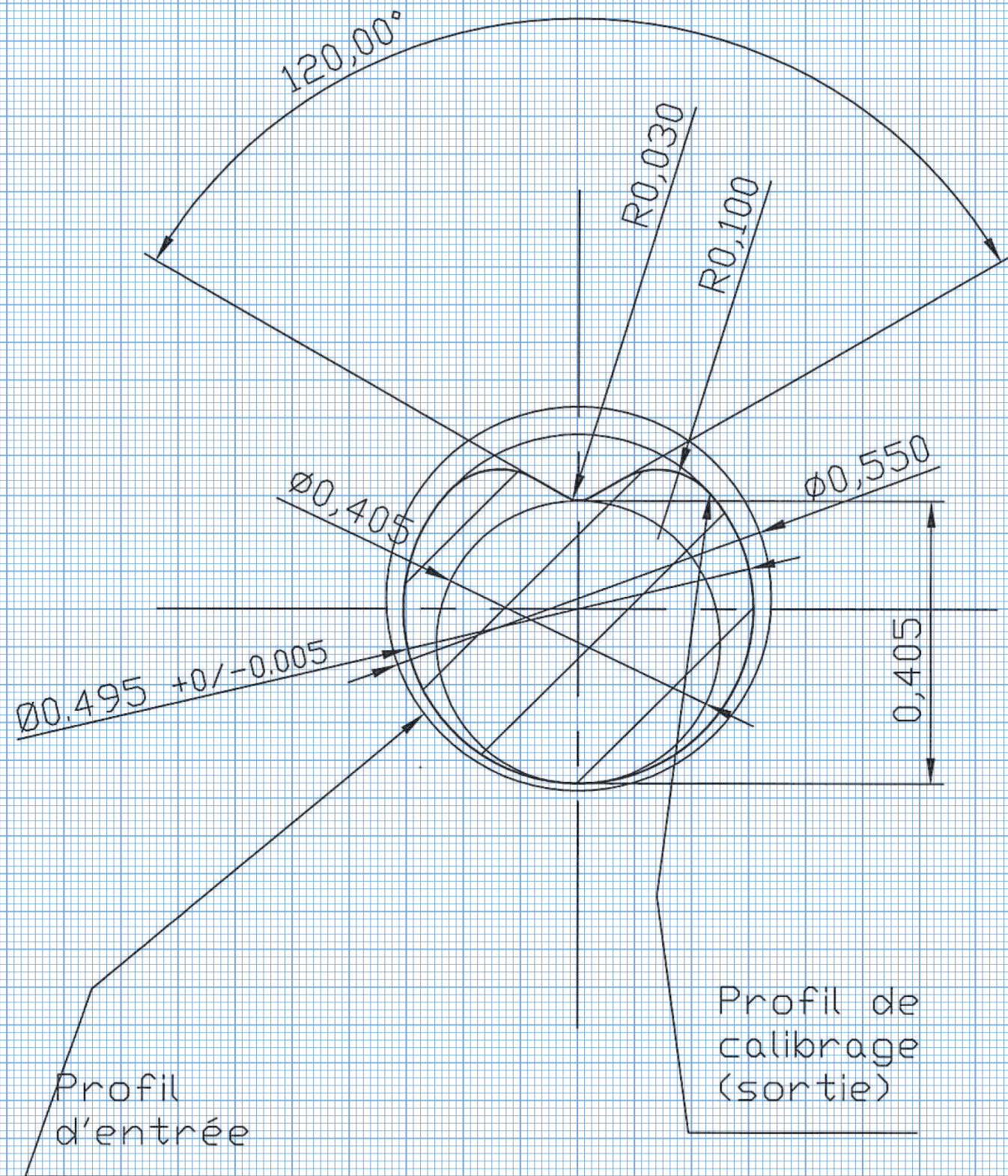
# Jacques Allemann SA: Tradition – Nothing Less

Since its beginnings Jacques Allemann SA has been supplying the needs of the Swiss watch industry and therefore has never had the luxury of allowing any compromises in the areas of quality and precision. As a result, the company quickly made a name for itself in a very competitive market shortly after its founding in 1974.

The Swiss watch industry boomed and reached its pinnacle in 1970, employing over 100,000 people. Hand in hand with this rapid growth, that seemed unstoppable, the demand for bar-turning steels as well as extremely fine wires increased.

When it came to raw materials, the watch industry had its own specific set of requirements in terms of tolerance and strength. Standard materials could not fulfill the need for fine wires with tolerances of only a micrometer and tensile strengths defined by the final product.

Jacques Allemann, who worked at a renowned watch company at the time, knew all this and put his knowledge to good use. In 1974 he decided to launch a small company located in Péry, in the Bernese Jura.



# Customer Benefit

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After Jacques Allemann SA was established in 1974, the Swiss watch industry began sinking into its greatest depression. With revenues dropping at a yearly rate, watch makers disappeared, taking ten thousands of jobs with them.

This detrimental development forced Jacques Allemann SA to seek out other business portfolios. New markets were found in the medicinal, aerospace, electrical and textile industries. Jacques Allemann SA quickly became the paragon of miniprofile manufacturing for many of its clients.

In a mutually beneficial endeavor Jacques Allemann SA became a subsidiary of the Notz group, located in Brugg, on January 1st, 2002. Notz was able to benefit through acquisition of the experienced manufacturer of precision wire, profile, axle and micro-flat wire. In turn, Jacques Allemann SA won the leading supplier in the bar-turning industry as a perfect partner. As a result, Jacques Allemann SA is able to benefit from the infrastructure and synergies present in Brugg, and can support clients' material choices with its own materials laboratory.

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For Jacques Allemann SA customer benefit means manufacturing in the quality needed by the client, at a price the client can and will pay. We consider the continuous optimization of this customer benefit as the most important task of our daily business. It is in this mindset that we see the basis for our long-standing success.

The best certificates, highest distinctions and flawless audit reports are meaningless for a client if there is no practical benefit on his side. Who wants to pay for services not made use of? Therefore, we see it as our personal mission to find out what exceptional quality means for our clients.

Since this perception is subject to the changing markets, it is rooted in an iterative process, closely monitored and continuously aligned with the desires of our clients.



Luc Wanner  
Head of Sales





Jacques Allmann SA

NDTZ

# COMPANY HEADQUARTERS

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Base of innovation

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All materials are manufactured and produced at  
the company's location in Brügg, Switzerland



# Our Mission Statement

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Jacques Alleman SA makes an effort to successfully complete projects in a healthy, comradely fashion. Out of this conviction longstanding relationships and friendships with clients, co-workers and suppliers were forged.

Every action and negotiation executed by the company is shaped and guided by the principles of long-term collaboration and the basis of partnership. Not only do our partners profit from our extensive and time-tested know-how, they are accompanied and advised by our competent and motivated sales staff. Through this close individual counsel many problems can be identified and eliminated before having any effect.

The same drive and motivation is applied for every project handled by Jacques Allemann SA. Competent and seasoned employees do their utmost to make the impossible possible. Therefore, each employee plays an important role in every project as solutions are built from the countless ideas gathered from every branch and subdivision of the company. Jacques Allemann SA is certain that open communication on all levels is crucial for the manufacturing and development of products on such a high level. That's why open dialogue and mutual respect are emphasized in the mission statement as much as the specific challenging and promotion of employees. We know that only highly motivated employees who enjoy their work are willing to give their best for all projects and clients.

Wire drawing is an old trade with a long standing tradition in Biel where the first wire plants were built in 1634. However, Jacques Allemann SA chooses not to orient itself by the past nor do we aim to uphold those standards. We are in a perpetual search for new technologies and developments with the constant goal of raising client benefit and increasing quality. In spite of holding optimization in high regard, the protection of the environment and careful use of resources are as much a matter of course for us as the ISO 9001 and ISO/TS 16949 norms certification.



Marco Wichtermann  
CEO



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Ø 5.5 mm / (300 m)  
Ø 4.5 mm / 0.40 h (472 m)  
Ø 3.2 mm / 0.77 h (932 m)  
Ø 2.7 mm / 1.09 h (1,310 m)  
Ø 1.3 mm / 4.71 h (5,650 m)  
Ø 0.9 mm / 9.84 h (11,789 m)  
Ø 0.8 mm / 12.45 h (14,921 m)  
Ø 0.45 mm / 39.37 h (47,157 m)  
Ø 0.25 mm / 127.57 h (152,789 m)  
Ø 0.09 mm / 984.40 h (1,178,927 m)  
Ø 0.08 mm / 1245.88 h (1,492,079 m)  
Ø 0.045 mm / 3937.61 h (4,715,706 m)  
Ø 0.025 mm / 12757.87 h (15,278,887 m)  
Ø 0.012 mm / 55372.70 h (66,314,615 m)  
Ø 0.010 mm / 79736.69 h (95,493,047 m)  
Ø 0.009 mm / 98440.36 h (117,892,650 m)  
Ø 0.005 mm / 318946.77 h (381,972,186 m)

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# PERFECTING FINE WIRE

## From the earth to the moon

It all starts with the so called parent wire which is 60 kg of 5.5 mm wire with a length of 300 m. To manufacture the smallest of our products, a round wire with a diameter of 0.005 mm, 50 individual operations summing up about 1,220,955 work hours are required. After these 50 steps or passes, as they are referred to by wire drawing manufacturers, the wire 's length would reach all the way from the earth to the moon. The material worth has been multiplied by a factor of 305,239. Looking at this whole process, it becomes evident why a single kilogram of wire is so precious to us, and why most of our clients order fine wire in grams.





# Machinery

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The machinery at Jacques Allemann SA is almost exclusively internally designed and drafted. Our clients have such high standards and demands that we cannot use standard, readily available machinery, prodding us to develop a unique and specially tailored group of machinery over the years.

Until just a few years ago, the workshop was a closely guarded secret, and only a few employees knew the intricacies of the manufacturing process. Even the composition of the drawing oil was a carefully kept secret that only the founder Jacques Allemann knew. Every Sunday, when nobody else was in the office or workshop, Jacques Allemann would bring the oil ingredients in and fill them into containers of different colors. He would then take the empty original oil bottles home to discreetly dispose of them. For the workers to mix the drawing oil, Allemann would give them color codes, so they knew what to mix, but none would be the wiser as to the actual ingredients.

The formula for the drawing oil is just as guarded today as it was in the past. Only today, a few more people know the formula, and there is a myriad of product-specific oils.

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# WIRE DRAWING

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An art form of its own

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Much like in painting, music and literature, wire drawing requires a specific set of talent and prowess which has been passed on within Jacques Allemann SA for decades.



# Product Enhancement

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Starting with the company's establishment in 1974, Jacques Allemann SA has continuously developed and expanded its production range. On top of the extraordinarily precise fine wires, the minutely straightened rod and tube materials, the axes and infinitely diverse range of profiles, our company has a massive array of product enhancement to offer.

On request and as specified by the client, axes can be deburred and barrel finished. Straightened bars and wire can be polished in a special procedural step, effectively removing remaining irregularities before the drawing is commenced so that the narrowest tolerances can be fulfilled.

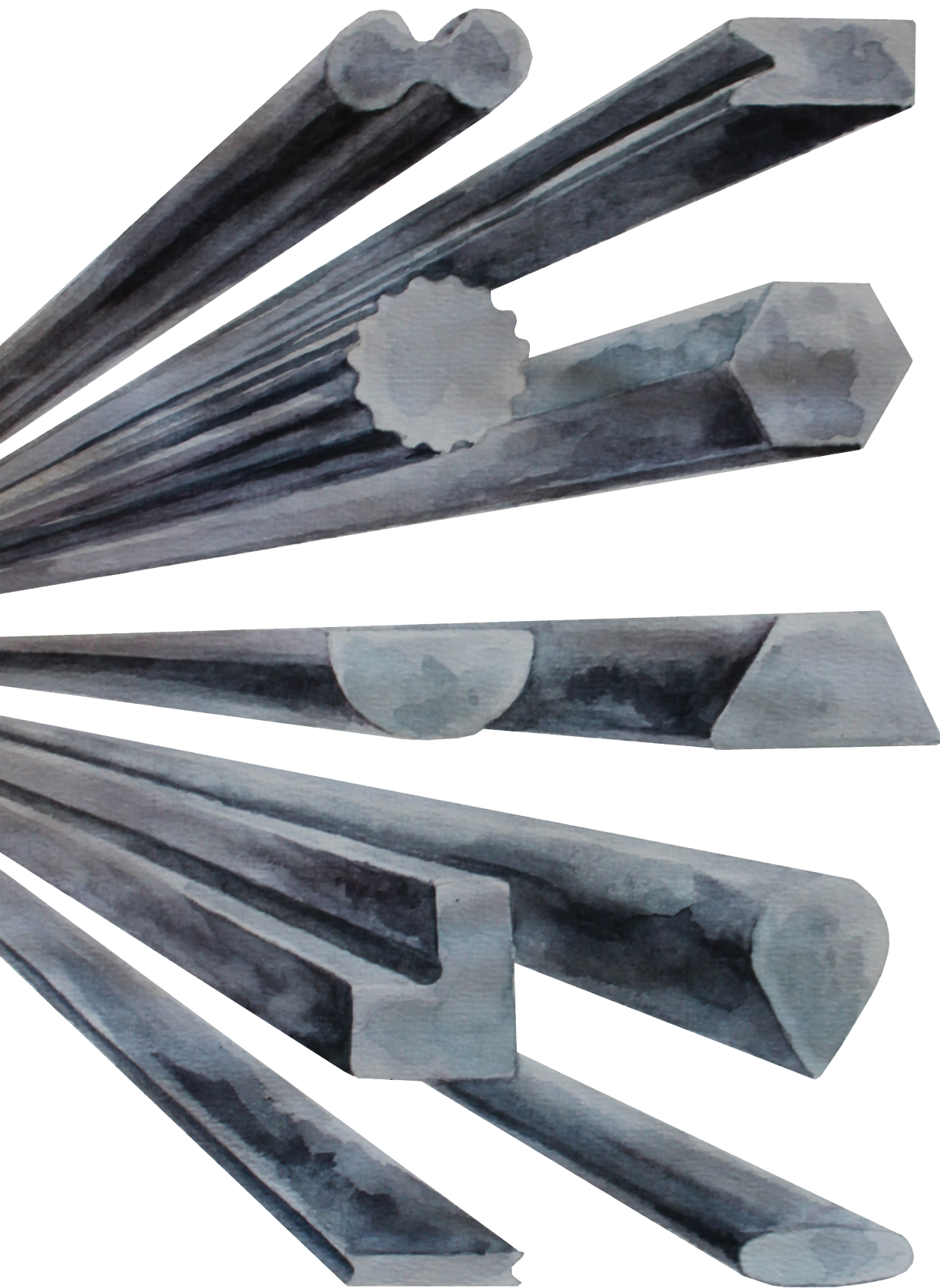
All surfaces can be galvanized in various fashions. Everything from a simple copper coating, over generous gilding, and up to complex platinum alloy is possible.

Special cleaning of the produced parts is as much a part of today's standard as customer-specific packaging and labeling is. For products designated for medicinal applications a clean room is used, where they can be tested and packaged in a controlled environment.

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# Exceptionally Precise Profiles

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“Impossible is not an option!” This maxim and a healthy portion of motivation is the attitude with which each new demand is met. The more challenging the profile and the narrower the tolerances the greater our excitement. Manufacturing products of this kind almost always requires the construction of customer-specific rollers and/or drawing dies. Such projects usually lead to immense process simplification, help optimize production cost and as a result, help to put you in a favorable competitive position.

It is also possible that an increase in quality or process reliability is required. In that case the products from Jacques Allemann SA are also the right choice.

Our special profiles are put to use in a very wide range of industrial uses, starting with simple polygon-shaped drive shafts, on to complex electronic components and ending in the micromechanical and human medicine sector.

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# Special Profiles

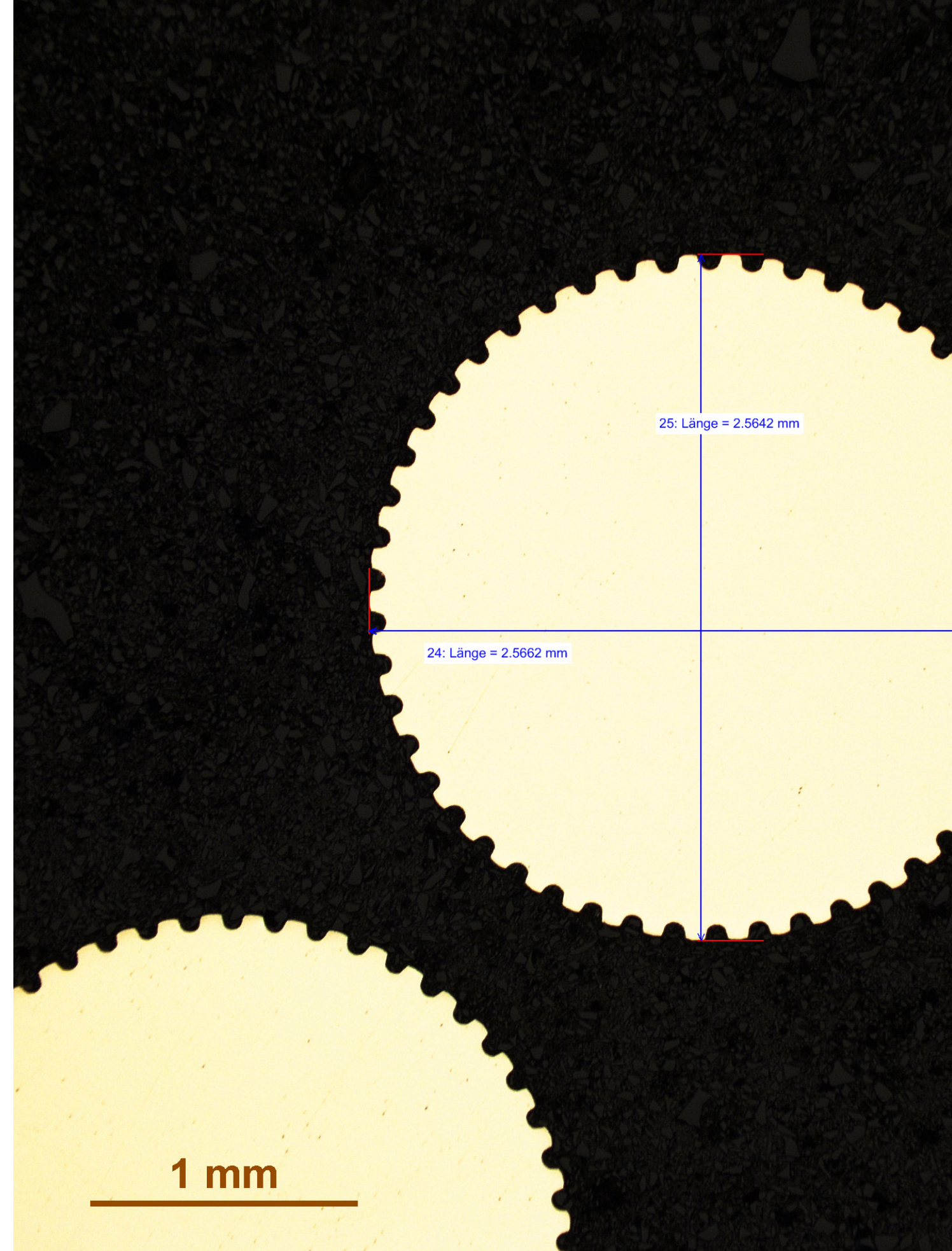
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The turning and milling of complex profiles often tests manufacturers to their limits. Required control systems and the measurement apparatus quickly cause efficiency to drop lower than a sustainable limit. So why not let the experts at Jacques Allemann SA take care of the production of your outer contours?

We can produce preliminary material on rings, as rods or even as finished axes. You focus on the subsequent processing since no process is more productive than drawing or rolling, provided the complexity or batch size exceeds a certain limit. We 'd be glad to show you the limit in a personal meeting.

Fulfilling the narrowest tolerance is entirely unproblematic when drawing. We deliver your raw material with a tolerance under a micrometer from beginning to end of the series. Furthermore, the variance outside of the tolerance is exceptionally small. This process stability with strict adherence to narrow tolerances is exclusive to the drawing procedure and as yet unequaled.

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# Material Storehouse

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Our store of raw material includes over 250 different alloys so we can guarantee our clients a maximum range of materials. Not only do we have a myriad of stainless steels, but a store of non-ferrous metals, light metals, precious metals, and special-grade metals for bar-turning complete the catalogue.

To shorten waiting times for clients and ensure favorable delivery times for customer-specific dimensions, many materials have been drawn to assorted diameters in advance. Naturally, blanket orders are always a possibility, as they guarantee maximum availability.

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# Applications

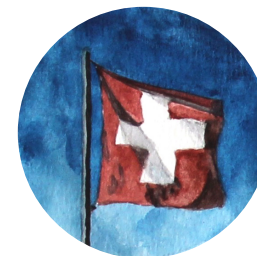
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Possible applications for our products are as diverse as our client base. They range from simple cutting tools for industrial cheese cutting all the way to complex instruments for eye surgery. Even in the musical-instrument sector Jacques Allemann SA is considered a specialist for wires, rods, and axles. We are pleased to say that our products have successfully been in use in the depths of the ocean and simultaneously outside of the earth's atmosphere.

Whenever the common standard is not enough for our clients, we are there to fulfill special wishes. You define your diameters with the needed tolerance. Often we fulfill tolerance requirements of less than a micrometer. Frequently the material tensile strength is equally narrowly specified. Combining these different requirements is our specialty and our passion!

The same is true for our customer-specific wire profiles. Be it polygons, rectangles, or highly complex geometric shapes, you define material, dimensions, tolerance, and tensile strength. We deliver your wire on spools, as rod material, or finished axles ready to be installed. Often our clients save up to 80% of their production costs through the change of the manufacturing process. For example, a polygon profile which previously was turned or milled, already pays off after 100 m of material. Consequently countless companies and industry sectors rely on solutions from Jacques Allemann SA.

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## Traditional

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Cheese-making  
Alphorn tools  
Swiss pocket knives  
Chocolate production  
Traditional dress  
Dulcimer strings



## Chemical

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Syringes  
Needles  
Agitator components  
Precision scales  
Centrifuges  
Homogenizers



## Watch Industry

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Springs  
Screws  
Axles  
Watch hands  
Watch faces  
Ruby processing



## Automobile Industry

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Speedometer display  
Safety belts  
Micromotors  
Seat heating  
Springs  
Connecting plugs



## Human Medicine

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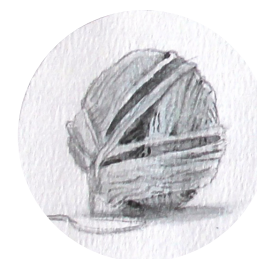
Guide wires  
Pace makers  
Ophthalmological tools  
Vertebral implants  
Gastric bands  
Bone screws



## Dental Medicine

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Sewing wires  
Dental drills  
Braces  
Screws  
Root files  
Nerve drills



## Textile Industry

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Needles  
Special weaving threads  
Special profiles  
Weaving looms  
Pneumatic cylinders  
Thread insertion



## Aerospace and Aviation

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Engine screws  
Engine-locking screws  
Smoke detectors  
Connector plugs  
Precision axles  
Gyroscopes



# MUSIC WIRE

## For optimal sound quality

Wire and tone quality are inseparably linked. The properties of music wires and their coating have been continuously developed over many years.





# Teamwork

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Those who seek contact with Jacques Allemann SA are searching for the exceptional and the unique.

Our highest goal and our creed of conduct is the pursuit of maximum client benefit. To ensure this is kept up, we invest heavily in the continued development of our facilities and processes. Our clients' high demands set the bar.

The everyday service of our company starts with support from our own metallographic laboratory and ends in the discussion of your manufacturing processes with specialists onsite with you.

We are convinced that outstanding products can only be manufactured when every individual in the team cooperates with the others. In Jacques Allemann SA, teamwork includes comradeship, absolute integrity, and open, honest discourse. We are convinced that only then are effectiveness and efficiency as distinguished as our products.

Let us join forces and pull together! Let us pull your wire through the dies! We look forward to hearing from you!

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