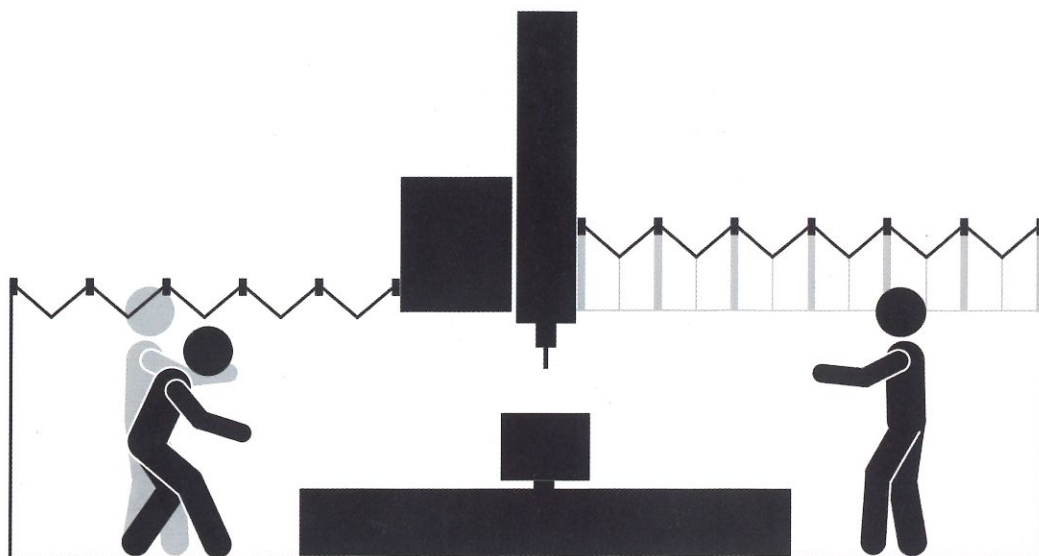


# A protective cover for all heights

Hall 07  
Stand B42

For some years now P.E.I. has a roof cover for portal milling machines in its range of products – Wave Sky. Wave Sky is manufactured using a special translucent fabric and limits the escape of fumes, dust and chips from the work area. Over the years the original idea has been developed further: a version with motor has been realised to facilitate the opening and closing of the machine roof, followed by an innovative modular construction with integrated low-voltage motor.

Now a new version has been presented - Wave Cover – which is not intended to replace the classic Wave Sky, but to complement it. The new version is no longer limited to the guideways being installed at the highest possible position. The initial Wave Sky was installed hanging below the guideways. In the case of small machines this means that the headroom is reduced. Assuming a height of approximately 2 m for example, the folds of the bellows considerably decrease the headroom for the machine operator inside the work area. For this reason P.E.I. has devised Wave Cover, says Michele Benedetti, managing director of the Bolognese Group: “For some time we have registered a market request for efficient protection covers for increasingly compact machines which manufacturers nowadays prefer to design. Our solution offers the possibility to completely cover from the top



even machines with a reduced Z-axis, while allowing the machine operator to access the machining chamber without opening the cover. Wave Cover is based on a modular system similar to Wave Sky. The shape, however, resembles more that of a gable roof, which provides for more headway and allows positioning the cover at every height of the guideways”.

Unlike Wave Sky, Wave Cover is portal-shaped with limbs and a roof. For applications with guideways below the gravity centre, our design engineers had to find a solution to prevent tilting and contemporaneously guaranteeing that the portal-shaped structure would stay upright on its own. A newly developed type of hinge made of synthetic material is integrated in the limbs.

This hinge is stiff enough to prevent tilting, but flexible enough to ensure the opening and closing movement of the mechanism. The system guarantees that the frames remain in a parallel and vertical position. This product is the result of an extraordinary synergy of resources within the P.E.I. group: “The shape was inspired by the solutions developed for the bellows used in articulated buses. Wave Sky contributes its know-how regarding the special oil- and abrasion resistant material composition. This solution is a completely innovative approach of this type on the market. The stiffening system between the frames is the actual innovation of the construction and therefore the part covered by patent”.

## Continuous Innovation

The P.E.I. – group globally disposes of competences in the design and elaboration of solutions for every type of protective cover available on the market. The machine manufacturer finds in P.E.I. a sole contact, a single supplier able to give definite and comprehensive responses, based on a real demand instead of standard products which are adapted accordingly. Over the past decades, the group has always considered continuous innovation as an important criterion and has thus developed many solutions which are unique on the market. There have been many attempts to imitate P.E.I. products but they are protected by numerous international patents.

