

Thompson friction welding machines Built by KUKA, in The Black Country, UK

KUKA offers a range of compact and modular Thompson friction welding machines with forge capacities up to 400 Tons for the flexible implementation of friction welding processes for a broad range of material combinations. This range covers even the most difficult applications including special machine configurations; such as double-ended machines, forge clamp options for long components and/or automated machines incorporating robotics for load/unload. More details are available on request.

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More than 800 Thompson friction welding machines are in production around the globe by world leading OEMs and Tier 1 manufacturers using models specifically designed for joining truck axles, drill pipes, rods, hydraulic cylinders and piston rods. The acclaimed Thompson machine range is designed and manufactured at the same facility at Halesowen in the United Kingdom.

Machine Configurator

| Machine Tonnage | Prefix No. | Configuration | Application Prefix | Configurated or Standard |
|-----------------|------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 15T | Thompson 1 | D | PR;AX;DP;DR;PS;TR;GP | С |
| 50T | Thompson 2 | | PR;AX;DP;DR;PS;TR;GP | С |
| 60T | Thompson 3 | D | PR;AX;DP;DR;PS;TR;GP | CS |
| 100T | Thompson 4 | | PR;AX;DP;DR;PS;TR;GP | С |
| 125T | Thompson 5 | D | PR;AX;DP;DR;PS;TR;GP | CS |
| 150T | Thompson 6 | | PR;AX;DP;DR;PS;TR;GP | С |
| 250T | Thompson 7 | | PR;AX;DP;DR;PS;TR;GP | С |
| 300T | Thompson 8 | | PR;AX;DP;DR;PS;TR;GP | С |
| 400T | Thompson 9 | | PR;AX;DP;DR;PS;TR;GP | С |

| Key | | Examples | | |
|-----|---|---|--|--|
| PR | Piston rod | THOMPSON 3 PR S | | |
| AX | Axle | 60T single ended piston rod application machine – standard option | | |
| DP | Drill pipe | THOMPSON 5 D AX S | | |
| DR | Drill rod | 125T double ended axle application machine - standard option | | |
| PS | Prop shaft | THOMPSON 5 D AX C | | |
| TR | Track roller | 125T double ended axle application machine - customer configured option | | |
| D | Double ended | | | |
| GP | General purpose or unclassified application | | | |
| C | Configurated | | | |
| S | Standard configuration available | | | |



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