

Ideas en Metal, Spain, produces metal tubular structures for buildings and sports installations with innovative and flexible laser tube systems.

From the anvil to the **laser**

Job shop



When talking about entrepreneurship, we often forget the basic principles: vision and risk taking. Ideas en Metal of Gijón in Spain, has the emblem of vision impressed in its corporate name **“to turn ideas into metal products”** and having the vision to take risks.

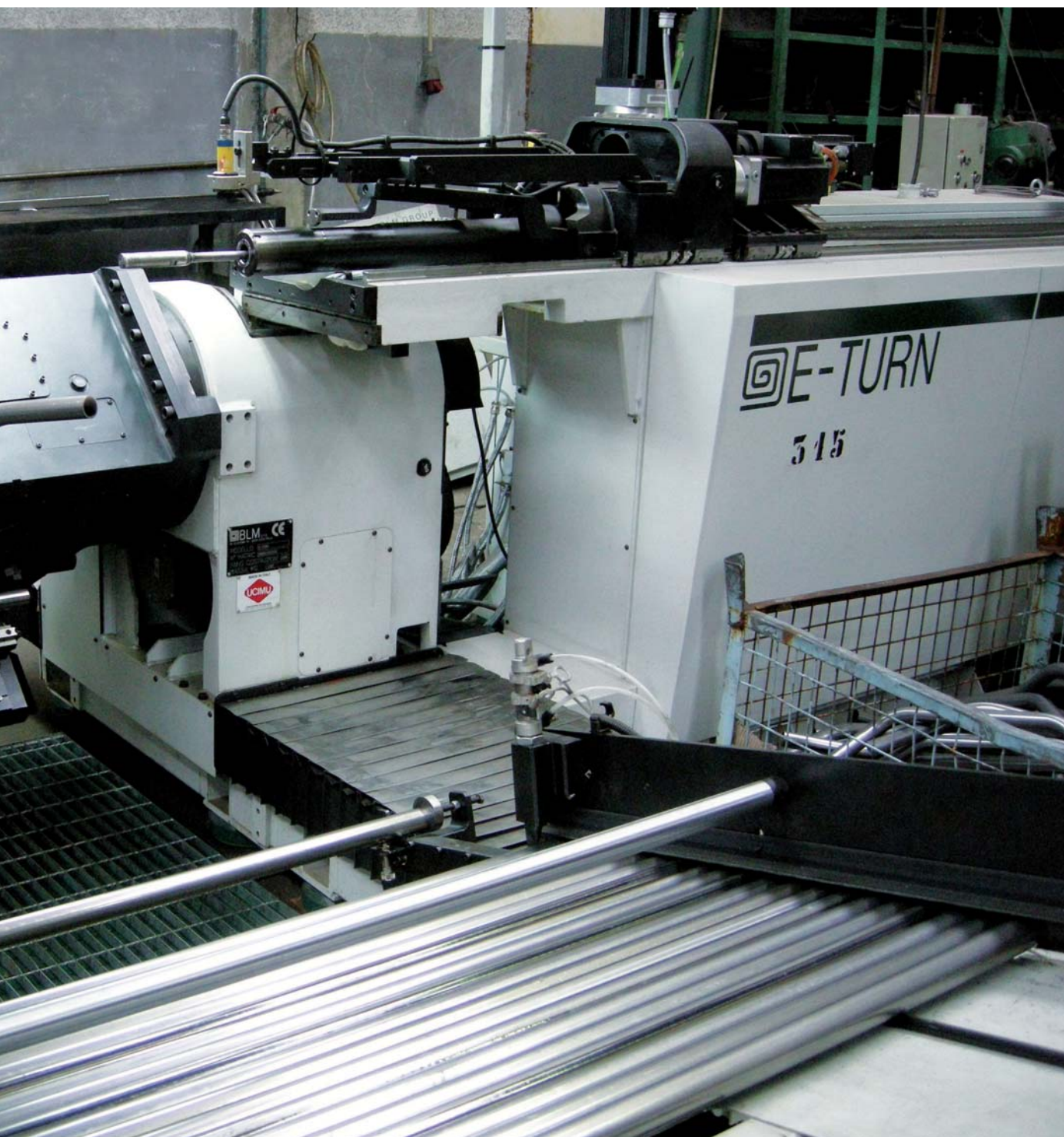
Ideas en Metal is the latest company founded by José Antonio Hevia Corte in 2000 to produce metal tubular structures for industrial buildings and

sports installations. Mr. Hevia has been an entrepreneur for many years, starting out with sheet metal working 61 years ago when anvils were still used to bend steel sheets and guillotine hand-operated shears to cut them. Today, Mr. Hevia smiles when he thinks about the **considerable changes** that he has witnessed throughout his life. But whenever he sees the laser tube cutting systems that have been installed in his workshops he is still amazed: “laser cutting has always been an eye-catcher, even if you already know what it is all about, it’s always like the first time. It has no tools; it is a universal machine that allows us to do whatever we want without being bound to a specific sector or application”.

From the idea to the product

“This is the industrial project around which our Ideas en Metal have been conceived” says Mr. Juan José del Campo Gorostidi, Board Member of the company. “We immediately decided to develop a range of completely new products: tubular structures for buildings. For this reason we chose innovative and flexible production systems like the laser tube and robotized welding”.

The machines we have are extremely flexible and **easily suit any market so that we can capture every opportunity** that arises without having to review the production process. This is what happened with solar panel supports. Today’s market does





“The need to own engineering and manufacturing know-how – explains Almeida – had forced us to become self-sufficient and proactive with customers.

For this reason we are able to industrialise products with our own means, design and implement all welding and control jigs and offer a certified product. Moreover, having robotised the welding process with 26 stations, long-term repeatability of the single pieces is absolutely nec-

essary. A guarantee that is provided by the production systems used upstream for cutting and bending”.

Extremely flexible and versatile

In fact, if you take a walk through the workshop you can see the recently installed ADIGE LT712 lasertube and TS72 sawing machines and a few E-TURN and DYNAMO tube benders by BLM, from which the production process starts and ends in the robot welding cells. “This fleet of ma-