

Tool Changer

Fully automatic **tool changer** for
Heron AM platforms (Printing and Finishing)

CARACOL

Heron AM – Automatic Tool Changer

Caracol's Heron AM robotic platform can be equipped with a fully automatic tool changing station - allowing to select end effectors for different operations.



Printing & Finishing

To combine **LFAM with CNC**, Caracol set up a fully automatic tool changing station that enables the **automated switching between extruder and milling tools**.

This ensures that the manufacturing process is continuous and doesn't require any human intervention, ultimately **reducing downtime and manual operations**. CNC machining can be employed for several operations following the part printing, such as: **trim contours, cutting, drilling, milling**.

DUAL EXTRUDER

Thanks to the automatic tool changer, Heron AM users can also employ multiple extruders to achieve different goals / finishes on the parts produced.

By **automatically switching between industrial line extruders** (such as HV and HF) the user can choose to work with high throughput / large nozzle sizes for **fast and efficient production**, and then switch to **fine detailing and smaller features** with a smaller extruder and nozzle.



Benefits

- **Printing & Finishing** - Minimize manual finishing and optimize investment with an all-in-one production cell.
- **Dual Extruder** - Enhances flexibility supporting high-mix production, with minimal downtime.

Applications

- Particularly well-suited for applications where robotic milling meets precision requirements - such as the marine, automotive or creative industries - for producing **finished components, aesthetic parts, and prototypes.**
- Ideal for industries requiring flexible, **automated manufacturing of small production runs**, minimizing post-processing and manual labor while ensuring high precision and efficiency.

With the Automatic Tool Changer, manufacturing your parts with Heron AM reaches new levels of automation and efficiency: seamlessly swapping extruders or integrating CNC milling for a fully adaptive, high-performance production workflow.

- **EFFICIENCY** - Optimized lead times and lower costs, without compromising quality.
- **FLEXIBILITY** - Freedom in customizing parts' design and geometries.
- **SUSTAINABILITY** - Of the production process, aiming for a zero-to-positive impact, by enabling circular economy, cutting waste, and using recycled materials.

Heron AM is the only LFAM platform that **integrates hardware, software, and automation**: providing clients with a **turnkey solution** to maximize flexibility, process control, and performance. As one provider, Caracol delivers quicker innovation, higher customization, and prompt and reliable support.

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