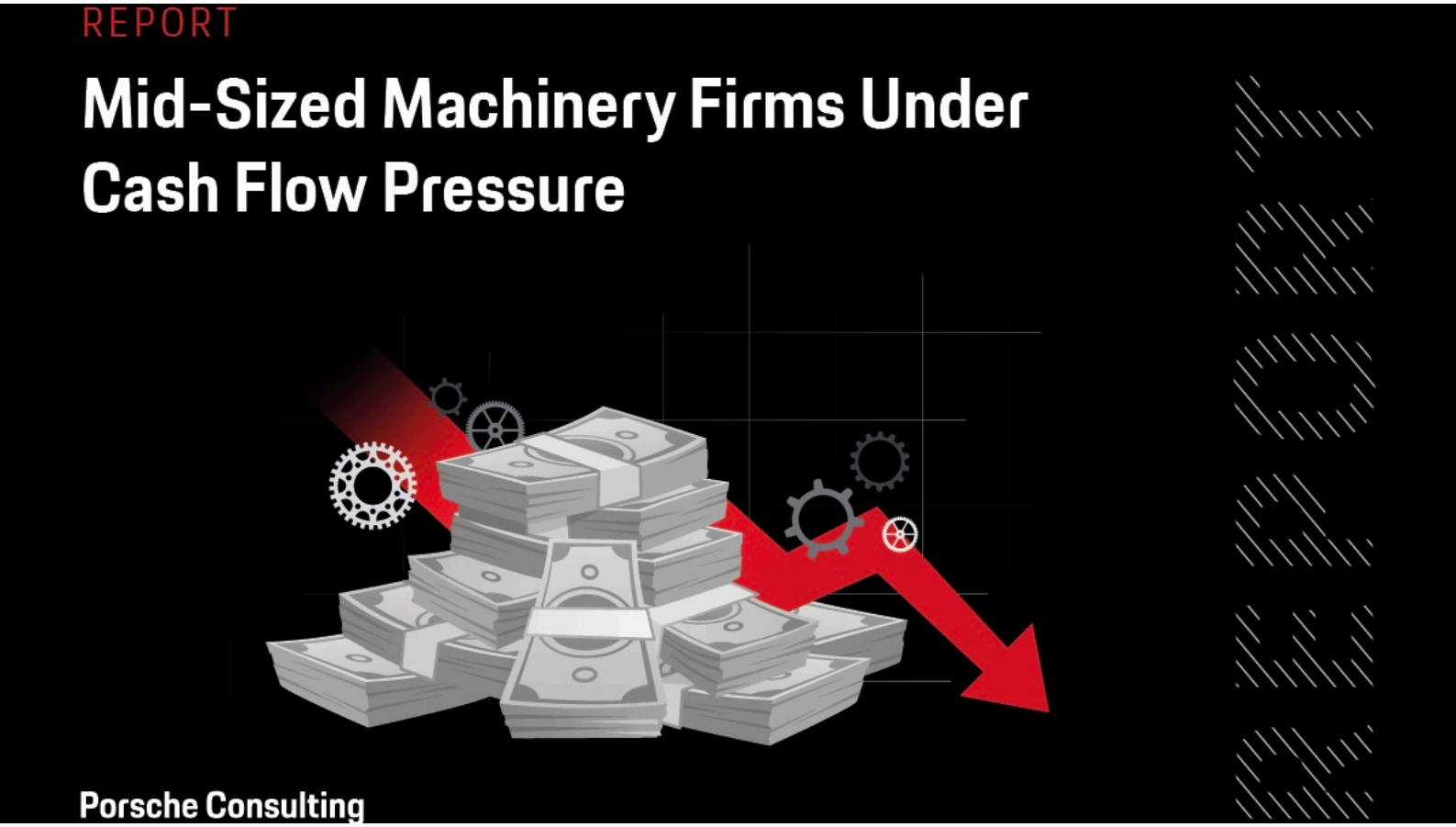
REPORT



Mid-Sized Machinery Firms Under Cash Flow Pressure

23/06/2026 The brewing crisis in the DACH region.

For much of the past decade, Europe's machinery sector has thrived on a predictable combination of export-led growth, engineering excellence, and long investment cycles. In the DACH region, mid-sized machinery companies – workforce of up to 10,000 fulltime equivalents, often family-owned, technologically specialized, and deeply embedded in European value chains – were the backbone of that success. Today, however, the rules have changed. Cash, not growth, has become a binding constraint.

A recent analysis from Porsche Consulting of around 100 publicly listed machinery companies headquartered in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland shows a divergence in financial performance since 2023. While large, globally diversified players have largely stabilized revenues and margins, small and mid-sized machinery companies are experiencing a pronounced deterioration in free cash flow. The issue is not a single shock, but the cumulative effect of declining revenues, rigid cost structures, swelling inventories, and shrinking balance-sheet headroom.

Read the whole article: Mid-Sized Machinery Firms Under Cash Flow Pressure.

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