



Packaging is fun

A very important aspect in the eyes of company Severin is the fact that packaging shall reflect professional appearance additionally to high quality.

➤ For generations, the name Severin has been a synonym for quality. The company has developed from a traditional handicraft enterprise to a sought-after supplier for the furniture and leisure industry. The company is one of the leading providers of table tops and components for indoor and outdoor areas with production focused in "working and processing of wooden and plastic material". Customers of the traditional company that was founded in 1955 are especially firms from the living, garden and leisure furniture sector. "For them we produce all around the table top - and this in top quality", says Marco Wiedemann, Managing Director of Severin Holz- und Kunststoff GmbH.

The company located in Ense Waltringen produces several 100,000 table tops per year with its approximately 30 employees. Due to the high automation a turnover of more than 8 million Euros could be made in 2014.

"In the past the packaging of table tops was rather a time consuming process, starting with procurement of pre-fabricated cardboards, via the carton handling, up to finally packaging at the packaging stations", states Marco Wiedemann.

Offcut is clearly reduced However, beside standard, special measures in often very small quantities require an individual packaging. So, storages with pre-fabricated cardboards in determined measures had been the rule. Despite this large variety, however, a lot of cardboards had manually to be cut to deviating dimensions. "The individual cutting and the lacking edge protection affected not only negatively the first impression of our high quality table tops", said Wiedemann, "but it also caused a lot of offcut".

The ecological responsibility is fix anchored in the company's general principle and is also actively practiced.

So one can understand that topics as a sustainable waste avoidance and recycling of raw material play an important role. Thus, the decision to invest in a cardboard cutting machine has been a logical step.

Like a tailored suit Since October 2014, HOMAG Automation's VKS 250 has assumed production of tailor-made packaging for table tops. The machine, equipped with a 3-fold endless cardboard changing system and "side-by-side" function, enables up to 35 percent less process costs. And this is not all. The cardboard-box cutting machine can cut needed carton for the table top as optimal as it was a tailored suit from six different web widths. In this, web width and cardboard quality can vary. A time consuming re-setting of the endless cardboard is not necessary. Furthermore, all endless cardboard stacks are equipped with an intelligent rest length management and



(right) Example of a cardboard cutting machine type VKS 250

(left) The hundredth VKS is owned by Severin Holz- und Kunststoff GmbH since 2014 (from left Jochen Fischer, Managing Director technology HOMAG Automation, Marco Wiedemann, Lutz Süßmuth, Sales HOMAG Automation, and Holger Blötscher, Managing Director Sales and Service HOMAG Automation)

this means that automatically the optimal stack for the cut to be processed is selected. Thus, the suitable packaging for each table top, whether big or small, round, oval, or angular is processed just in time. The specialty: The edge protection is processed simultaneously and has not to be purchased at high costs. The high quality table tops are well bolstered by means of edge protection and thus are protected against scratches, knocks, or breaks. At the same time the inner edged of the carton are additionally strengthened. Another advantage: Stacks of different sizes later are stabilized on pallets and the single carton is prevented against slipping.

Creativity is encouraged Additionally, it is fun to operate the packaging machine. The operating concept powerTouch and the VKS control intelliCut enable a very easy machine operation. "Our staff is excited. A time consuming training was not necessary",

tells Wiedemann. "A positive side effect: Our employees are bubbling with creativity in regard to new packaging possibilities. Another source of inspiration to further optimize packaging is the VKS shop with more than 200 possible cardboard cuttings."

The VKS shop is a modern service tool exclusively available for users. Packaging designs, spare parts, or individual service solutions can be ordered with only a few clicks. All packaging designs can easily be downloaded and directly assumed to the control intelliCut. In addition, the cutting programs are equipped with essential performance indications and are visualized in 2D and 3D in the shop as well as directly in the machine. This too, makes the operation of the machine enormously easier.

Saving in time guaranteed Software features such as the automatic capture of consumables and the determination of offcuts directly in the cardboard-box

cutting machine have a simplifying effect. This is an enormous saving of time for Severin. Clearly represented graphical evaluations show a view of possible savings over a period of three months. Among others are displayed web widths and top 10 cuttings with the highest offcut. Even the waste disposal is no problem, because cutting rests are automatically removed. This increases the process stability of the VKS 250 and, as a result, reduces downtimes.

"For us, high quality and the professional appearance of the packaging is very important, because the table tops are directly sold to end customers via the wholesale. For us, the confirmation to have invested in the right machine is to have received the hundredth HOMAG Automation VKS machine. This number speaks for experience and know how in the packaging sector", states Wiedemann enthusiastically.

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