

LIGMATECH VKS 250 at Froidevaux AG

Customized Packaging - for High-quality Bathroom Furniture

The trend towards Batch Size 1 has led to a strong increase of carton stocks in many furniture manufacturing companies. The reason: The multitude of different furniture requires packaging material in various sizes and shapes. However, it is often no fitting carton in stock so that a lot of filling material is necessary. This costs storage space, time for packaging and thus, money twice. Therefore, Froidevaux AG in Zwingen produce the packaging for their bathroom furniture themselves for a short time - using the LIGMATECH cardboard cutting machine VKS 250.

Today, especially owners of condominiums, single family homes, and investors who bank for exalted rental properties belong to the clientele of Froidevaux AG that was founded in 1907 as cabinet maker. "We fabricate individual bathroom furniture in top quality for these discerning customers. In the process we do everything in-house from design over development up to production", reports production manager Markus Froidevaux. With its 28 employees the old-established company annually produces between 7000 and 8000 individual pieces of furniture which are safely packed and delivered to customers throughout Switzerland.

The fitting carton for each furniture In the past packaging has often been a challenge since pre-assembled cardboards are only available in defined standard sizes. The dimensions of cartons and furniture fit only by chance - normally there is a lot of free space that has to be filled with filling material to assure a safe transport. This does not only waste time on tailoring but also costs money. Firstly, the company has to provide many different cardboards and filling material in large quantities and, secondly logistics cost raise because of unnecessary voluminous packages.

After extensive consultation with HOMAG Schweiz, Froidevaux AG decided to invest in a modern cardboard cutting machine by LIGMATECH At

the end of last year the time had come: The cardboard cutting machine VKS 250 jointly developed by LIGMATECH and PACKSIZE was put into operation. The high-flexible line



Packaging machine VKS 250 by LIGMATECH

automatically processes endless corrugated paper to exactly fitting folding cartons. In the process the machine does cutting, perforation and grooving in serial production as well efficient and reliable as in batch size 1 production. This is possible because the VKS 250 works according to the so called single point principle and resets automatically as needed within short time. Furthermore it is possible to execute grooving and cutting in running direction of corrugated paper feed, and also transversal to running direction.

Absolutely convincing Quality

"On the VKS 250 the price-performance

ratio is correct", confirms Froidevaux and justifies this, among others, with cutting quality: "We only use very sturdy cardboards with 6mm thickness for our high-quality bathroom furniture. The VKS 250 processes them in the throughput with an absolutely convincing cut quality". Additionally, the machine is on-line directly interlinked to LIGMATECH that brings quite a few more advantages in the daily work routine.

"So, we will be directly connected to the LIGMATECH support if any problems occurred during operation. Furthermore, we can directly order spare parts and have the possibility to easily download existing packaging designs."



Markus Froidevaux

This opens up new possibilities and improves the efficiency of overall operation.

Not at least the simple operation of the cardboard cutting machine provides for it. All entries may be done traditionally over keyboard or either per touch-screen. The control logic is self-explanatory and doesn't require a longer familiarization period - this also confirms Froidevaux. "After a brief instruction by HOMAG Schweiz our shipping employee was immediately able to handle the new machine and to operate it independently from the first day."

Perfectly integrated and expandable

The new cardboard cutting machine is at best integrated into the Froidevaux production process, provides exactly fitting packages on demand, and has freed considerable storage capacity that so far had been occupied by cardboards. The integration and start-up have been comparatively simple: "Our partners of HOMAG Schweiz have organized as reliably as usual the machines' assembly and commissioning.

LIGMATECH VKS 250 – Strengths and Advantages

- Fabrication of exactly fitting cartons for each product combination
- No additional filling material necessary
- Utilization of endless corrugated paper
- Optional linking to carton folding machine
- Single point principle: Cutting, perforating, and grooving at one point
- Degree of perforation freely programmable
- Best cut quality because of cutting on rubberized roller
- Automatic change of cutting tools, short resetting times
- Extension by up to six cardboard feeding magazines possible

The delivery date was exactly met, – and already three days later our new cardboard cutting machine was ready for operation", confirms Froidevaux.

Now, with the VKS 250 the company is best prepared for the future. For that does especially provide for the expandability of this solution: The LIGMATECH machine can be assembled as stand alone system as in Froidevaux or integrated as first unit in a complete packaging line. Furthermore, it can be extended by up to six additional cardboard feeding magazines at any time - and also the interlinking to a LIGMATECH carton folding machine.

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