



Casestudy

InterFocus invests in the 1000th WEEKE BHX 050/055 CNC from HOMAG UK

InterFocus is one of the country's leading manufacturers of laboratory furniture for the pharmaceutical, research, industrial, healthcare and education sectors. The company specialises in delivering complete turnkey laboratory construction projects for new build facilities, providing design, manufacture and installation of industrial lab furniture, school laboratory furniture, services and associated products including write up areas and office furniture.

Based just outside Cambridge, InterFocus prides itself on its fast response to clients' enquires. It aims to provide the smooth transition of new build laboratory construction or refurbishment projects, from the initial enquiry right through to the design, manufacture, installation and final handover of a facility.

"To achieve this we need to have machinery that we can rely on," explains Marcus Cannon, a director at InterFocus. He continues, "Laboratories are, by their very nature, tough environments for furniture and so it has to be robust and practical.

"Quality is vitally important which is why we invest in woodworking equipment we can trust. We have to know that it is reliable and easy to use. This is particularly important because some of the markets we serve have a peak in the summer months; this dictates we take on temporary staff to maintain our high customer service levels. These additional workers need to be able to be taught quickly how to operate the machinery which in turn means the equipment has to be simple to operate.

Software Tailored to HOMAG Group Machines

"The beauty about the HOMAG kit is that we run all of it with the MagiCut software which has been designed specifically to work with HOMAG Group machinery. MagiCut production software allows us to have intelligent furniture all pre-programmed. When a 'job' is issued to MagiCut the operator answers a series of questions about the job such as which material to use, handle and hinge types, edging required, number of shelves etc.

"The drilling table, board optimisation and panel list is then created and sent to the production server. The HOMAG machines use the files created without the need to reprogram. As the MagiCut files are all programmed with intelligence and formulas, the panels are automatically adjusted to suit with panel features turning on/off depending on the 'job' settings set at the beginning.

"MagiCut almost removes the need to use woodWOP; with MagiCut all you need to do on the Weeke BHX 055, Venture 3 or Holzma panel saw is load the correct the file from the production for the panel.



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Marcus Cannon
Director
InterFocus



The versatile, easy to use WEEKE BHX 055

Compact footprint – no safety cage required

Efficient, high quality production

The 1000th BHX 050/055 sold

“Its ease of use, small foot print, reliability and excellent quality ticked all the boxes.”

Marcus Cannon
Director
InterFocus

The 1000th WEEKE BHX 050/055 CNC Machine

“One of the challenges we face in the factory is the bottleneck that occurs with drilling, primarily in the summer months. Previously, the Venture 3 CNC has been used to process the work tops and do the drilling. In peak periods this has led to delays and so we decided to invest in a second big CNC machine.

“As part of our due diligence, we visited a number of manufacturers to evaluate their CNC machinery. When we went to HOMAG and explained our situation, they immediately recommended the smaller WEEKE BHX 055 machine because of its drilling capabilities and compact footprint.

“Once we’d had a demonstration of the machine it was obvious that the BHX 055 was an ideal solution for our needs. Its ease of use, small foot print, reliability and excellent quality ticked all the boxes. What’s more, it required a much lower investment.

“When we ordered the machine, unbeknown to us, it was the 1000th BHX machine WEEKE had sold. After it had been installed and commissioned WEEKE’s export manager, Volker Ruge, came over from Germany and, along with representatives from Homag UK - Simon Brooks and Charles Smith - presented us with a framed commemorative certificate, plus with a few other unexpected gifts. It was a really nice touch and much appreciated by the InterFocus team.”

Easy to Use and Compact

“We control the WEEKE BHX 055 by the same MagiCut software we use on all the other machinery and so it has been very easy for our guys to get to grips with it quickly. To maximise the output of the machine we sent three operators to HOMAG UK

for a day’s training and they also had half a day’s training on site from HOMAG’s installation engineer.

“As you would expect from a modern CNC machine, the WEEKE BHX 055 is fully equipped with a router, grooving saw, vertical and horizontal drills. The great thing too is that it takes up very little floor space which, in any manufacturing facility, is always at a premium. The BHX 055 has an extremely compact footprint and does not need a safety cage, so it was easy to fit it into our existing floor plan without having to re-arrange the whole site.”

Rapid Payback

“We expect the machine to have paid for itself within two years, but from an efficiency point, it will have paid for itself in six months because it will take all the stress out of my life in the peak periods.

“Now an operator will be able to set up a work top on the Venture 3 and then, whilst the top is being processed, do the drilling on the BHX 055. This will double our capacity during the seasonal peaks and yet maintain the quality of our finished products.

“Naturally, any machinery that is heavily used requires reliable service support and we have an annual service contract with HOMAG which gives us real peace of mind. They come out once a year to service all the machines, but if we have issues at any other time of the year HOMAG sort them immediately. Their technical team are excellent, very knowledgeable and always willing to go the extra mile.

“The BHX 055 is a truly versatile machine which comes at a very affordable price. It’s no wonder WEEKE has already sold 1000 of these machines in such a short space of time. I would recommend the BHX 055 to any small business as an entry level panel processing machine or as a really flexible ‘jobbing machine’ for a larger producer,” concludes Marcus.

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