

Pollmeier

Challenging veneer dryer rebuild and upgrade

INDUSTRY

Wood processing

PLACE

Creuzburg, Thuringia,
Germany

COMMISSIONING

January 2022 to May 2023

SOLUTION

Integrated complete solution
for drying beech veneer

CUSTOMER

Pollmeier Furnierwerkstoffe GmbH is a leading international group in the wood products sector. Its operations include Europe's three most modern and highest-capacity hardwood sawmills. As an innovative producer, Pollmeier opts for fully automated mass production and innovation, such as the world's only factory that processes hardwood into laminated veneer lumber.



INITIAL SITUATION

Among the equipment damaged in a major fire at Pollmeier's main factory in 2021 was an important dryer for beech veneer. To avoid costly production downtimes, the dryer was to be repaired as quickly as possible and upgraded simultaneously.

Pollmeier planned to add a suitable stacker system to the dryer to become independent of the second veneer dryer, the stacker system which had so far been used by both dryers. Pollmeier had already cooperated successfully with Grenzebach in earlier projects and thus chose Grenzebach as its partner for the rebuild and upgrade.

» Despite the limited space that was available, and even though, given the urgency of the situation, many equipment parameters could only be defined when the project was already well underway, Grenzebach has completed a highly flexible production line for us. «

Patrik Rodlberger

Managing Director Pollmeier Furnierwerkstoffe GmbH



CHALLENGES

The damaged veneer dryer had so far been operated together with the stacker system of another production line, making the project particularly demanding for the Grenzebach specialists. Using the same floor space as before, an additional stacker system with a scanner was to be integrated into the existing veneer mill. Moreover, because of the extremely tight schedule, several equipment parameters were not defined or finalized until well into

the project, which required the highest flexibility on the part of all those involved and regular planning adaptations.

IMPLEMENTATION

The experienced Grenzebach team gave impressive proof of its industry knowledge and expertise. Making optimum use of the available space, an integrated complete line was built that can be run as a full production line on its own, independently of the other stacker system used before.

The first step was to repair the belt dryer. A high-performance stacker system was also installed in the tightest of spaces. It features the latest scanner technology and four lift tables and allows precise and reliable classification and stacking of the veneers in accordance with the defined quality grades. The system detects defects in the veneers, such as knots, bark, cracks, holes, or rot, and measures the width and length of the sheets.

BENEFITS

Flexible

The integrated drying line can be run independently of the old stacker system.

Reliable

The high-performance Grenzebach veneer scanner reliably classifies the veneers into the specified quality grades.

Efficient

Flexible use of several drying lines and reduced waste thanks to reliable inspection make the production line particularly efficient.

CONCLUSION

Thanks to its in-depth knowledge of the industry and the highest level of flexibility, Grenzebach was successful, despite the most challenging circumstances, in providing the customer with an integrated veneer drying line that can dry, classify, and stack demanding beech veneer. The upgraded production line now allows Pollmeier to operate more flexibly and efficiently.

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