



# CASE STORY

## Recycling

**Mineralquellen Adelboden AG** Adelboden (Switzerland)

### Healthy air at 1350 meters above sea level

**Mineralquellen Adelboden AG cleans the air in two warehouses with the new HKA Hunkeler Kompakt Aircleaner. Measurements show that the dust content in the air can be reduced by a factor of five.**

In Adelboden, 1,350 meters above sea level, Mineralquellen Adelboden AG produces beverages for the entire Swiss market. In last January, the company completed an expansion of its storage capacity. Two new warehouses cover a space of 5,500 and 10,000 cubic meters respectively. In both halls, the air is circulated and cleaned by the new Hunkeler Kompakt Aircleaner HKA. An HKA 3000 model is installed in the smaller hall, and an HKA 10000 in the larger one.

#### HKA removes fine dust

The two small components have a huge effect. In both halls, the air volume is completely circulated once an hour. Quality class F8 filters remove from the air the smallest fine dust particles measuring up to 0.3 micrometers. The air quality achieved complies with the internationally applicable ISO 16890 standard. Measurement results confirm the high cleaning power of the HKA technology. Dust has been reduced by a factor of five, says Thomas Krebs. As head of projects, he is responsible for the new building at Mineralquellen Adelboden AG.

The Hunkeler Kompakt Aircleaner is installed quickly. It works economically, a 230-volt connection is sufficient for its oper-



It minimizes the cleaning effort and ensures healthy breathing air: The new Hunkeler Kompakt Aircleaner HKA in the new 10,000 cubic meter warehouse of Mineralquellen Adelboden AG.



A new PET baler with a Compactor module replaces a system from 2005.

ation. A light signal indicates saturated filters, which can be replaced in a few simple steps. The pre-filters are replaced on average every six months, the main filter every year.

### 90 percent PET bottles

The cooperation between Mineralquellen Adelboden AG and Hunkeler Systeme AG dates back to 2005. At that time, the beverage producer invested in a PET compaction plant with a Compactor module and a baler. The investment was a consequence of the company's entry into the PET market the year before. Since then, PET's share of the pack volume has grown continuously. Today, it accounts for around 90 percent compared to ten percent of glass.

The soon to be 16-year-old baling press has now been replaced, in parallel with the purchase of the HKA air cleaning technology. The new system compresses up to 18,000 PET bottles per hour. Like its predecessor, it is also equipped with a Compactor module. In this, the PET bottles are slit open so that the air can escape. Only this first processing stage makes it possible to compact the material into compact bales.

### Container press saves costs

The company also works with a container compactor. Waste disposed of in containers is compacted to such an extent that the volume of waste can be reduced from five containers per



Thanks to a container press, the waste volume has been reduced from the previous five containers per week to two.

week in the past to just two today. Waste costs are charged to the company not by weight, but by the number of containers. This is a comparatively economical way to go, says Thomas Krebsler.

### One of the large beverage producers

Mineralquellen Adelboden AG was founded in 1948, at that time as Adelbodner Mineral- und Heilquellen AG. Today, the company employs around 45 people and is one of the largest beverage producers in the canton of Berne. Its customers include beverage distributors, catering establishments, hospitals, retirement and nursing homes, and all the well-known retailers in Switzerland.

On its way to the source, the mineral water covers a journey of several years through the rock strata of the pristine mountain world in the Engstlig Valley. The company's founders realised that the pure, fresh mineral water springs were hundred percent natural and must therefore be protected, notes the company profile. Adelbodner Mineralquellen AG says that its production is climate-neutral. The company obtains the energy for its production operations from the sun, wind and water. One hundred percent of the PET bottles are made of recycled material, and more than 95 percent of the glass is returnable.

### Many years of trustful cooperation

"We have enjoyed a close and collaborative relationship with Hunkeler Systeme AG for many years. This partner has always had the right solution ready for us in disposal technology. A visit to Wikon last September showed us how broadly the company is positioned and how far its competencies extend. The Aircleaner was presented to us, and we were immediately convinced of the great benefits of this new component."

Thomas Krebsler  
Head of Projects, Mineralquellen Adelboden AG

