

CASE STORY

Packaging

Model Group

Weinfelden (Switzerland)

What holds a 35-year partnership together

The cooperation between the Model Group and Hunkeler Systeme AG has lasted 35 years. The partnership is characterized by mutual trust, high quality awareness and shared values.

Almost two years ago, Model AG in Weinfelden put a new baler into operation. It was another milestone in what has now been three and a half decades of successful cooperation with Hunkeler Systeme AG.

Largest press of its kind

The baler is the final element of a large-scale disposal system that ensures a continuous process in corrugated cardboard

production in 24/7 operation. With 120 tons of press force, it is the largest of its kind to date in a production plant in Switzerland. The force is built up via two powerful electric motors. For each motor, a frequency converter activates the drive as soon as a defined filling level is reached in the shaft. The energy savings compared to the predecessor press, whose motors were always active, are significant, says Thomas Weibel, who manages investment projects at Model.

165 million square meters

Model AG produces 165 million square meters of corrugated cardboard a year at its Weinfelden site. In the medium term, an increase to 200 million square meters is planned. On six



Between 60 and 80 bales, each weighing 1.1 tons and measuring 110×110×140 centimeters, are ejected by the baler every day. Two frequency-modulated electric motors provide 120 tons of pressing force.



A large-scale disposal system ensures a continuous process in corrugated cardboard production in 24/7 operation.



The plant processes the material on six flatbed die cutters and five inliner rotary die cutters.



The edge trim, intermediate trim and die cut grids that accumulate during the processing operation are removed from the production area via extraction technology and conveyor belts and fed to the baling press.

flatbed die cutters and five inliner rotary die cutters, the plant processes the material into box blanks in customized designs. The edge trim, intermediate trim and punching grids that accumulate during the processing operation are removed from the production area via extraction technology and conveyor belts and fed to the baling press. Every day, up to 80 1.1-ton bales leave the baler. The waste goes back into the company's own cardboard production, the recyclable material cycle is closed.

Easier operation thanks to new control concept

Parallel to the installation of the baler, Hunkeler Systeme AG was commissioned to renew the control system for the conveyor technology. Whereas the controls of the baler and the conveyor belts used to be combined, they are now housed separately in one control cabinet each. "This makes operation much easier for us and helps us to locate the causes quickly in the event of a malfunction," says Thomas Weibel.

Negative pressure guarantees dust-free production environment

Thomas Weibel appreciates the fact that he can rely on reliable technology and expert support. A few years ago, Hunkeler Systeme AG received an order to equip a Mastercut flatbed die cutter from Bobst and a rotary die cutter from Martin with a dust extraction system each. Paper dust generated during corrugated board processing is extracted under negative pressure, the air is cleaned in jet filters and returned to the production hall. The staff work in an environment that is largely free of dust.



"Each of our investments is the result of a thorough evaluation of the market offering. In its 35 years of cooperation with Model AG, Hunkeler Systeme AG has proven time and again that its system solutions can meet the extremely high requirements of a demanding 24/7 production operation."

*Thomas Weibel
Project Manager, Model AG, Weinfelden*