

# Recycling CASE STORY

Scintilla AG, St. Niklaus (Switzerland)

## Highly reliable in tough 24/7 operation

For almost 25,000 hours, a press compacted grinding sludge into briquettes. Now it has been replaced by a new system. Technology and service from Hunkeler Systeme AG were convincing.

In February, Scintilla AG replaced an older briquette press with a new model. Hunkeler Systeme AG was again chosen as the supplying partner. The reliable service provided by the company over the years was the key factor in Scintilla AG's decision to continue the partnership.

*If the press is at a standstill,  
it soon becomes critical for production.*

The press is the heart of the production plant. Fifteen grinding machines are connected to it. "If the press stops, it will soon become critical for production," says Samuel Truffer. He is the company's head of buildings and infrastructure.

There is no backup because there is not enough space. So the production plant has to be able to rely on the briquette press working stably, always in four shifts, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Samuel Truffer knows from years of experience and good cooperation, that Hunkeler Systeme AG can guarantee this security.

The number is impressive: Up to 1.5 tonnes of grinding sludge are pressed into briquettes every day at Scintilla AG. The pressing process separates the cooling lubricant from the metallic grinding residues. The expensive oil contained in the coolant is returned to the process cycle and is ready for reuse on the grinding machines. Samuel Truffer puts the amount of cooling lubricant recycled at around 7000 litres per day.



The production must be able to rely on the briquette press working reliable, always in four shifts, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.





More than one million saw blades leave the Scintilla factory in St. Niklaus every day.

The grinding residues leave the press as highly compressed briquettes. Compared to non-compacted material, the volume can be significantly reduced. This leads to comparatively low costs for transport and disposal. Since its commissioning in February 2023, nearly 200,000 briquettes have left the new press.

*7000 litres of cooling lubricant are recycled every day.*

Scintilla AG, a subsidiary of the Bosch Group, has been established in the municipality of St. Niklaus in the canton of Valais

since 1947. The company is growing. In June 2019, an extension was opened and space for new production technologies was created.

Scintilla AG, with its approximately 800 employees, leads the world market as a manufacturer of saw blades. As Samuel Truffer says, more than a million saw blades for the most diverse applications leave the production plant – every day. They are stamped out of sheet steel, sharpened, labeled, finished and packaged at the site in St. Niklaus and carry the name of a quality product all over the world.



The Scintilla AG plant is located in St. Niklaus in the Mattertal valley at 1120 metres above sea level.

“We have maintained a very uncomplicated collaboration with Hunkeler Systeme AG for many years. The service technicians are always there when we need support. For an intensive production operation like at Scintilla AG, this reliable support is essential.”



*Samuel Truffer,  
Head of Buildings and Infrastructure  
Scintilla AG, St. Niklaus*