

Recycling CASE STORY

FELCO SA, Les Geneveys-sur-Coffrane (Switzerland)

Thirty years of reliability - a strong argument

For thirty years, a briquette press from Hunkeler Systeme AG ensured production operations at FELCO SA. Now it has been replaced by a new press. The reliable technology and excellent service were clear arguments in favour of continuing the cooperation with the partner from Wikon.

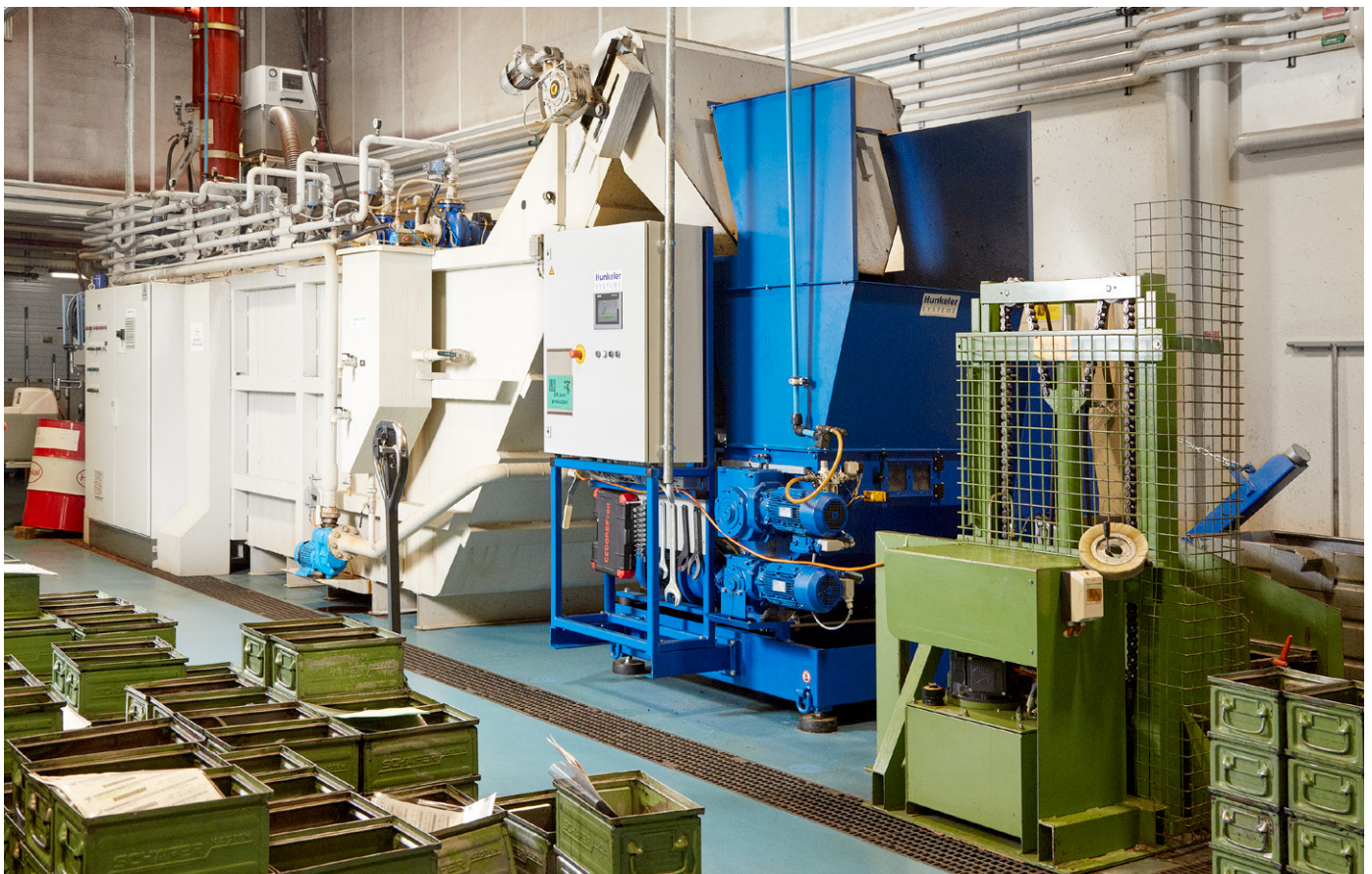
Production at FELCO SA runs 20 hours per day. The 140-strong company in Les Geneveys-sur-Coffrane in the Neuchâtel Jura produces between 8,000 and 10,000 blades for the world-famous pruning shears and secateurs every day. The processes are largely automated, with twenty robots tirelessly carrying out their tasks.

Production depends on the briquette press

Grinding sludge is produced wherever scissor blades are manufactured and ground. At FELCO, this amounts to around 400 kilograms every day. A hydraulic briquette

press from Hunkeler Systeme AG separates the chips from the liquid cooling lubricant and compresses them into compact briquettes.

The press is the final link in the production process. It is essential for safe operation that it functions reliably. „If the press were to stop, we would have to remove the grinding sludge manually,” says Stéphane Gein, Maintenance Manager. The result would be delayed production, which in turn would jeopardise the timely delivery of FELCO quality products to the rest of the world.



The reliable 20-hour operation was a decisive reason why FELCO decided in favour of a briquette press from Hunkeler Systeme AG.



Our old briquette press has worked tirelessly for thirty years. We have always been able to rely on the support of Hunkeler Systeme AG.

So why change a product and a supplier when everything works perfectly?

When investing in a new briquette press, we once again opted for a good product and a reliable partner.

Stéphane Gein,
Maintenance Manager, FELCO SA

FELCO focuses on secure value

FELCO SA does not want to take this risk and has therefore once again decided in favour of a press from Hunkeler Systeme AG. The old press had been in reliable use for thirty years. For Stéphane Gein, it was clear that he wanted to continue the good co-operation with the company from Wikon.

Clean disposal, increased revenue

As FELCO SA disposes of the grinding sludge via the briquette press, the cooling lubricant remains trapped in the system. At the end, the grinding chips, freed from the liquid, are output as compact briquettes. The cool-

ing lubricant is fed back into the production process and the expensive oils it contains can be reused. This maintains a cycle that pays off both from an economic and ecological point of view.

The compaction of the abrasive chips and the removal of the liquid reduce the volume and minimise the weight to be disposed of. This significantly reduces storage and transport costs. The briquetting of the grinding chips for recycling also increases the proceeds, which is also an important argument from FELCO's point of view. This is because the alloy used for the blades is particularly valuable.



Since its foundation in 1945, FELCO SA has been based in Les Geneveys-sur-Coffrane in the Neuchâtel Jura. The whole world is supplied from here. In 1989, sales companies were opened in Belgium, France, Australia, Germany, Africa, Canada and the USA. Today, the company is represented in all major markets. The most important sales region is the USA, followed by Germany, Switzerland, France and Italy.

FELCO SA achieved world fame with the FELCO 2. The company launched the scissors on the market in 1948 and they were to be the model for the other FELCO products that followed over the next few decades. Even today, four out of ten of the scissors delivered bear the name FELCO 2, and spare parts are available without restriction.