

Four mini doors for KATE

Robert Bosch Elektronik GmbH Salzgitter installs EFAFLEX doors as a side entrance for small autonomous transport units (KATE)

KATE slowly drives along the long corridor, from which multiple short corridors branch. It is loaded with two closed transport boxes and stubbornly follows the black line on the floor that leads from a loading dock in the high-bay warehouse to the assembly line. The KATEs are a whole squadron of small autonomous transport units which bring material to the production areas at the Robert Bosch Elektronik GmbH Salzgitter plant.

Another KATE without a load comes from the opposite direction and disappears into the high-bay warehouse through an almost cute little door. "Doggy doors" is what these mini doors from door specialist EFAFLEX are affectionately called by employees.

The EFAFLEX doors may be very small, but they are just as fast and reliable as their adjacent big sisters. "In the past, the parts were transported to the halls by the Milkrun, a vehicle with many trailers," reports Veronique Treuheit, Head of the Construction Department at Robert Bosch Elektronik GmbH Salzgitter. "Since the Milkrun brought a lot of material into the halls at once, a large area was needed for storage." The KATEs were established at the plant in order to use this space for other things, to ensure high precision in load transport and to achieve a reduction in the staff requirements, particularly at night. Integrated into the existing infrastructure, the small self-driving vehicles handle material transport very efficiently. The "mini fleet" is omnipresent. It delivers the required parts to the production lines with pinpoint accuracy. "This would have meant that our large high-speed doors would no longer be used every thirty minutes, but rather every five minutes," says Veronique Treuheit. "However, they were not designed for this load. In addition, our halls are kept at a constant temperature and humidity. The room climate would have had to be constantly readjusted. As a result, there was an urgent need for action on our part. With the four small format EFA-SRT ECO® high-speed doors, EFAFLEX has provided us with an optimal solution to this problem."

From dwarf to giant: EFA-SRT® ECO product information

However, the EFA-SRT®-ECO is available in more than just small format. It is available in standard sizes up to a width of 6,000 mm and a height of 7,000 mm. The roll-up door impresses with excellent value for money. Special structural preparations are not necessary due to the space-saving design, for example the roll-up door's very slim side door cases. This makes this door more versatile than any other roll-up door. It is also perfect for automatic roller conveyors or transport systems. The EFAFLEX roll-up door ensures a reliable and rapid material flow. EFAFLEX roll-up doors are used in airports, in the food industry and even in deep-freeze areas.

Elaborate guides on the sides of the door leaf prevent any undesired air exchange in the event of pressure differences and drafts. The EFAFLEX roll-up door's standard door leaf is fully transparent and equipped with warning strips. Coloured curtains are also available. The sendzimir galvanised steel guide profiles on the doors are also available in stainless steel.

Primary plant: Bosch Salzgitter company information

For more than 130 years, the name "Bosch" has been associated with pioneering technology and ground-breaking inventions that have made history. Bosch is a global company which operates in a wide variety of fields.

The primary plant for engine control units uses state-of-the-art technology for production in Salzgitter and also coordinates the production of all control units within the Bosch Group.

The site has existed for more than 50 years. Electronic control units have been built there for 30 years. The plant combines tradition and modernity, which is evident in more than just the buildings on the site.

Bosch Salzgitter fulfils five functions which are as diverse and mesh together as well as its 1,400 employees: production, control centre, centre of competence, prototyping and warranty analysis.