

DOORS PREVENT CROSS-CONTAMINATION

GLATT GMBH BINZEN RELIES ON CUSTOMER-SPECIFIC DOOR SYSTEMS FROM EFAFLEX

Two family businesses, pioneers in their respective industries, same way of working: Glatt GmbH in Binzen, southern Baden, is the market leader in life science plant construction for the finishing and processing of powders for the pharmaceutical industry. The company also offers services for pharmaceutical companies. EFAFLEX GmbH & Co.KG is a pioneer in the field of high-speed industrial doors and has provided Glatt GmbH with a wide range of application and adaptation options for their door systems.

Incoming goods, cleanrooms for production and process development, warehouses, weighing booths, clean corridors: not only are the functions of the rooms very different, the gates and doors to close these areas at the Glatt GmbH plant in Binzen need to be just as versatile. Glatt GmbH works according to the clean corridor principle, a protective concept for avoiding cross-contamination. In this concept, the rooms are arranged in such a manner that there is a central corridor located in front of the process rooms. This corridor is pressurised so it has the highest pressure. When a door is opened into a room, the air flows into the respective production room, which prevents a substance escaping from this area.

Richard Brenneisen, a Chemical Technology Engineer, is jointly responsible for the buildings and plants on the factory premises. He explained the functions fulfilled by the EFA-SRT® CR cleanroom doors by EFAFLEX within the pressure zone concept at Glatt. "The EFAFLEX cleanroom doors are perfectly adapted to the requirements of controlled production areas," Mr Brenneisen emphasises, and adds: "They ensure the access points are extremely airtight. This saves energy and costs."

The Process Engineer, who after more than 25 years with the company knows the production processes and procedures in the factory inside out, opens the door to a weighing

booth. “Even though it looks unusual, the door here had to be installed for us so that the entire clean room door is on the inside of the booth,” explains Richard Brenneisen. “For certain operations we have to place a decontamination gate to door of the room. It must be attached directly to the wall in an air-tight manner.” He then pointed out the hand sensors for contactless opening next to the doors: “They were installed at our request.”

The safety viewing windows in the door curtain are very small – also custom-made for us by EFAFLEX. “Some of the work in this room is done with photosensitive substances. In order to prevent daylight or mixed light from entering the cabins during these processes, yellow light can also be used in front of and in the cabins.”

On the way through the warehouses, it is sometimes warm in some areas, but rather cold in others. “Depending on which substances are stored here, we have temperatures between +20 and $\pm 5^\circ$ Celsius in these areas,” the engineer says. “These sections are also effectively separated from each other by EFAFLEX doors.” Finally, he points out the largest door. It is 4500 mm high. This is the part of our factory where the products are loaded. Tall vehicles, such as large forklift trucks and medium-sized lorries, can drive into the hall there.

Other parts of the factory are also expanding. Richard Brenneisen presented two doors in the installation phase. “They are brand new and are still being installed.” Richard Brenneisen cannot say with certainty when the very first EFAFLEX high-speed doors were installed in the Glatt GmbH buildings in Binzen. He summarised: “We kept getting more and more of them over time, because the doors are very reliable. We are very pleased with them.”

NEW POWDER SYNTHESIS TECHNOLOGY EXPANDS COMPANY COMPETENCE: GLATT GMBH COMPANY INFORMATION

Glatt GmbH is one of the world’s leading suppliers of fluidised bed systems, which are used for finishing and processing powders. Glatt has its head office in Binzen. The location also serves as the head office for Sales and Services for pharmaceutical industry plants. Glatt’s original area of expertise was pharmaceutical process technology. The European section of the pharmaceutical services area of expertise is also located in Binzen. It develops and produces solid pharmaceutical dosage forms. In addition, feasibility studies in product development and process optimisation are carried out at the company head office.

With the introduction of the new powder synthesis technology, the company has expanded its competency to include innovative particle design as an upstream process since 2015. The results are integrated solutions along the entire value chain: from primary particle production, to finishing and the finished tablet. With 15 branch offices and subsidiaries worldwide, Glatt GmbH supports customers from the pharmaceutical, food/feed and fine chemistry sectors with innovative process solutions.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION EFA-SRT® CR HIGH-SPEED ROLL-UP DOOR

The high-performance high-speed doors have a smooth surface structure and no protruding edges. They can be easily cleaned and the depositing of particles is largely excluded. The GMP-compatible door types in the CR series are mainly made of V2A steel. Like all EFAFLEX high-speed doors, the cleanroom doors are also extremely robust and require little maintenance.

The door for GMP-compatible cleanrooms is, among other things, suitable for installation in Class 8 cleanrooms according to EN ISO 14644 and for sealing off Class 7 cleanrooms. Of course, the EFA-SRT® CR Premium is also suitable for installation in other class cleanrooms.

The EFA-SRT® CR Premium is ideal for closing rooms with different pressure conditions. Quick opening and closing increases the economic efficiency in the cleanroom. This keeps the filter load low and reduces air loss.