

From Deep Freeze to Easy Clean: EFAFLEX equips an entire food processing plant

Dolceria Alba appreciates versatile premium products from German door specialist

"La fabbrica del dolce", the cake factory, it's called. But the Dolceria Alba in Piedmont, Italy, is not as romantic as the name sounds in its mother tongue. On the contrary: production rooms, test laboratories and deep-freeze warehouses meet the very latest standards. They are bright and virtually sterile, appropriate to food production. EFAFLEX high-speed doors ensure that the departments in which food is openly processed are safely and hygienically separated from the logistics routes and warehouses between the areas. Warehouses at -25°C are secured by EFA SST-TK 100 deep-freeze doors from EFAFLEX.

The German specialist for high-speed industrial doors has supplied almost 70 doors for Dolceria Alba. Two old production sites were completely gutted and converted into a new factory with a floor area of 15,000 square metres. The company took over and managed all the planning itself. The operating equipment, which had previously proved its worth in other Dolceria Alba plants, was also selected for the new plant. The planners have already had great experiences with the efficiency and reliability of EFAFLEX's doors at two other locations. Reason enough to opt for a whole range of premium products for this project as well.

A wide variety of requirements had to be met before the plant was built cold storage rooms, deep freeze zones, warehouses and workshops were set up.

Each of these departments was equipped with doors that meet the respective requirements perfectly. Various parameters such as thermal insulation, opening and closing speed and the number of opening cycles had to be considered. Several doors have to open and close up to 800 times a day.

For other applications, fully transparent doors were used to allow eye contact between different production units. Easy to clean stainless steel doors, EFA SRT-EC (Easy Clean), were installed in hygienic areas.

Particular attention was paid to the best possible insulation of the door laths for the doors in front of the deep freeze areas because a constant temperature of -25°C has to prevail there at all times. EFAFLEX sealed this warehouse tightly with EFA SST-TK 100 deep freeze doors.

Hermetic sealing of deep freeze rooms

The design of the EFA-SST-TK-100 deep freeze door follows the trend towards products and operational equipment which have a positive impact on companies' energy balances. The high-speed door is extremely heavy duty and can therefore also be used efficiently in deep freeze facilities with frequent storage and removal processes. A dynamic door leaf and AFM spiral track (Active Framework Mechanism) ensures the door leaf remains pushed against a seal around the door frame when closed, and thereby seals off the cold storage areas practically hermetically. Unlike other door designs, the door leaf attachment is mounted in a spiral mechanism. EFAFLEX deep freeze doors are fitted with heating in the bottom section, in the seal around the frame and in the door leaf to keep the seals' contact surfaces to the door leaf, the floor and the individual door leaf laths free of ice. With a heat transfer coefficient of 0.62 W/m²K and dimensions of 4000 x 4500 mm, EFAFLEX offers an especially air tight and well insulated low energy cold storage door.

In addition to other factors, the excellent insulation of the EFA-SST-TK-100 featuring EFA-AFM is achieved due to the use of 100 mm-thick, thermally separated and insulated EFA-THERM laths. The laths are individually fastened

to the hinge chains. This guarantees great smooth running, unrivalled durability and supreme functionality. In addition, the laths can be changed quickly and easily at any time, as required. This is very important for Dolceria Alba in order to not have to question the quality of the goods at any time.

Customer service ensures trouble free operation

In addition to the technical requirements for the doors, Dolceria Alba chose different colours for the door curtains to suit the application and the employees' access permit. The company cannot afford for the doors not to work as it would either block access to a deep freeze warehouse or allow hot air to enter.

This would have consequences for the equilibrium of the temperature and pressure values with other doors in the building. If the closure between the service corridors and production rooms were not to work, this would impair the quality or hygiene of the products. In this context, the company expressed its satisfaction with the fast and conscientious maintenance carried out by EFAFLEX's Italian partner – Becpor Chiusure.

Becpor is the supplier of EFAFLEX brand high-speed doors in north western Italy and is responsible for sales, service and installation. The company has been offering tailor-made solutions in the field of doors and gates for industrial and plant construction as well as for residential buildings for 35 years. Becpor has been a totally reliable partner to EFAFLEX since 2002, offering a 24-hour emergency call service for the provinces of Piedmont, Liguria and Valle d'Aosta.

Efaflex company information

EFAFLEX design, manufacturer, install and service high-speed doors for industrial and commercial applications. Founded in 1974, the company supplies to clients including food processing, manufacturing, clean room, cold store and the chemical, pharmaceutical sectors. As the only manufacturer of high-speed industrial doors, EFAFLEX has been entered into the world market leader index and is one of the 461 top companies in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.



The privately-owned company has more than 1,200 employees worldwide. With its headquarters in Bruckberg, Bavaria, EFAFLEX is firmly established as the largest employer in the region. Furthermore, with ten subsidiaries on five continents, the company is developing international markets with more than 50 percent of their revenue now being generated outside of Germany.