

High-speed doors improve logistics for Budweiser

EFAFLEX equips the new logistics centre of the traditional brewery with 32 industrial doors

Bavarian door manufacturer EFAFLEX has fitted the new logistics centre of the Budweiser brewery in České Budějovice, Czech Republic, with 32 high-speed industrial doors. The doors perform various functions including acting as a separator for conveyor belts, between the storage rooms and exits, as well as helping to insulate the hall closures.

The new logistics centre was completed in Spring 2018 and utilises 23 high-speed doors during the loading of the manufactured goods. Nine further doors have been integrated into the conveyor systems in the fully automated production process. The roots of brewing in Budweis date back to the 13th century where Budweiser brewery has been continuing the old brewing tradition for over 700 years.

‘For us, the flawless operation of the doors is particularly important’, explains Dalibor Čáp, Head of Technology at the Budweiser brewery. “Only if the machinery runs without a hitch is it ensured that production and the logistics processes in the factory can work without costly down-time.” Because some of the products are cooled, a door malfunction would result in an enormous financial loss. In some areas of the logistics centre, there are particularly high levels of traffic with doors required to complete more than 250,000 opening cycles per year.

EFAFLEX who have been working with Budweiser since 2005 and manage the planning and installation of the doors as well as their connection with the central

management system of the logistics centre. In addition, the Bavarian manufacturer will supply the brewery with replacement parts when required.

Seven-aisle logistics centre

The logistics centre was built in 2009, with seven aisles added to the existing building which covers approximately 20,000 pallet sites. More than 160 pallet deposits and 280 pallet removals are recorded here every hour. The existing and the new warehouse were incorporated in coordinated material flows with reactionless product transport.

The production building and the new distribution centre are connected via a 164-metre-long overhead bridge. It uses an electric monorail conveyor positioned 12 metres above the ground to transport more than 2,000 bottles per minute. Flowing in the opposite direction, pallets with empty bottles are guided into the bottle-filling plant.

The new bridge reduces road traffic between both company sites as previously, the filled beer and the packaging material were transported by lorry between the two brewery sites. In the new distribution centre, a further electric monorail conveyor with 21 cars manages the transportation of pallets between the pre-storage high bay area and the shipping area.

EFAFLEX company information

Established in Germany in 1974, EFAFLEX is a privately-owned business employing over 1,400 staff and the only company worldwide to focus exclusively on the design, manufacture and installation of high-speed doors. Today the company offers unchallenged technological innovation, and continually assesses the needs of their users to produce exceptional class leading products that deliver unparalleled cost and safety benefits.

As of January 2018, EFAFLEX, the specialist for high-speed door systems, has entered the world market leader index, making it one of the top 461 companies in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Their high-speed door solutions are fast becoming the door of choice for many industries and applications including car parks, food manufacturing, warehouse and logistics, automotive and the chemical and pharmaceutical sectors.

With their Head Quarters in Bruckberg, Bavaria EFAFLEX is firmly established as the largest employer in the region. With a sales network across 50 countries and ten subsidiaries on five continents, the company is opening up international markets with more than 50 per cent of its sales being generated abroad.