

Doors that helped create a work oasis

Werkzeugbau Siegfried Hofmann GmbH improves employee working conditions by installing EFAFLEX high-speed industrial doors

Creating temperature-controlled rooms for their production areas is one of the key factors for the manufacture of precision products in toolmaking. Werkzeugbau Siegfried Hofmann GmbH (Hofmann – Your idea creator) has switched its old hall closing doors in the existing buildings for modern high-speed doors from global specialists EFAFLEX.

"For us, the key reason for selecting these doors is the speed with which they open and close," explains Dietmar Dierauf who is in charge of maintenance and current construction projects at Werkzeugbau Siegfried Hofmann GmbH. "We are a metalworking company where products need to be precision machined in the two thousandth range, which is why we maintain a 22°C in all our production areas. If the doors were to open or close too slowly, we would need considerably more energy to heat or cool our halls, or we'd suffer a dip in quality, and no company can afford that." The ten high-speed industrial doors are therefore partly arranged as airlock doors. When the doors are opened, only the relatively small space in the airlock door can cool down because only one door is opened at a time. All doors can be operated by forklift drivers using a remote control, on which the respective door numbers are stored. "In addition to the high opening and closing speed of the doors, noise protection is also an issue for us," explains Dietmar Dierauf. "We want our employees to have a pleasant working environment, even if the doors open and close about 27,000 times a year. They're writing and measuring and so have to be able to concentrate on their work. They need quiet for that."

High load capacity and durability

This is one of the reasons why EFA-STR doors are used as internal doors for the airlocks. With an opening speed of up to 4 metres per second, the high-speed turbo roll-up door is not only incredibly fast but also super quiet, requires minimal maintenance, and is extremely heavy-duty and stable. It is designed for up to 200,000 load cycles per year. The flexible door leaf is led laterally and is moved upwards and downwards in a force-closed manner: Linear expansions are ruled out. It consists of four-field module segments, which can also be individually replaced, reducing repair costs and downtime in the event of damage. The door leaf itself is made of PVC-coated polyester fabric. Aluminium profiles reinforce the curtains with a distance of 225 mm. The door leaf is not wound onto a shaft but kept at a distance in the EFAFLEX spiral to save space. This design guarantees a number of unique advantages: it perfectly combines the fastest opening speeds, maximum durability and performance. Thanks to the spiral, the industrial doors run quietly with no wear and so look pristine for years to come.

Fast, safe: EFA-ACS® Active Crash System

The EFA-STR can be fitted with the Active Crash System; an intelligent, fully automatic, electronically monitored retraction of the door curtain following a crash or collision. In the event of an incident, the detachable, connected laths are pushed out of the guide without causing damage with an inductive sensor which registers this and reassembles the door leaf and frame safely and correctly during the slowed upward movement.

Werkzeugbau Siegfried Hofmann GmbH company information

Hofmann is a renowned specialist in toolmaking and mechanical engineering. Founded in 1958 by Siegfried Hofmann in a garden house in Lichtenfels, the family-run company, now in its third generation, employs more than 400 people. The development and manufacture of complex injection moulding tools has been the company's core expertise since the early years. Hofmann offers everything from a single source, from the design to the production of tools, and can draw on a large repertoire of injection moulding technologies.

The Mechanical Engineering division has also grown strongly in recent years, offering solutions for series and special machine construction. The Toolmaking and Mechanical Engineering divisions also combine their expertise for complete projects involving the full automation of the injection moulding process.

Research and development work also play an important part in driving innovation within the company. Hofmann is constantly working on new processes and the further development of existing technologies together with partners from science and industry.

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.