

“MANUFACTURING HYGIENE” FOR IDEALISTS

Materialise GmbH uses EFAFLEX high-speed doors to separate areas for unmixed production in the new metal competence centre.

Making the world a better and healthier place is part of Materialise’s day-to-day business. For more than three decades, the company has been opening up new areas of application for the highly innovative potential of 3D printing. Numerous software solutions and design and printing services reflect the creativity and scientific skills of Materialise’s employees. They provide an open and flexible platform for markets with high quality standards, such as medical technology, the automotive industry, aerospace, art and design, and consumer goods. Companies in these industries are creating breakthrough 3D printing applications with Materialise’s expertise. Prototypes and small series are created in a 1,700 square metre production area in the new metal competence centre in Bremen. Nine high-speed doors from EFAFLEX separate the different areas from one another in order to guarantee unmixed production.

“THIS TIGHT CONTAINMENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL PRODUCTION ZONES IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US,” SAYS TECHNICAL MANAGER SASCHA SCHMIDT, DESCRIBING AN IMPORTANT UNIQUE SELLING POINT OF MATERIALISE GMBH: “WE ALWAYS USE THE SAME METAL ON A MACHINE. MIXING, NO MATTER HOW MINOR, CANNOT BE ALLOWED IN THE PRODUCTS FOR OUR CUSTOMERS.” HE EXPLAINS THAT MATERIALISE WORKS FOR LARGE AEROSPACE MANUFACTURERS, FOR THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY AS WELL AS FOR END CUSTOMERS. PURE MATERIALS ARE THE PREREQUISITE FOR THIS. THE NINE EFA-SRT® ECO HIGH-SPEED ROLL-UP DOORS FROM EFAFLEX ARE THEREFORE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE BUILDING EQUIPMENT. “THE SAME APPLIES FOR OUR SUPPLIERS AS FOR OUR PRODUCTS: QUALITY ALWAYS COMES FIRST,” EXPLAINS SASCHA SCHMIDT. “WE ALSO LOOK AT AFTER SALES SERVICE. IT’S GOING GREAT WITH EFAFLEX.”

“EVERYTHING IS AS USUAL: GREAT.”

Sascha Schmidt reports that he has seen many different doors during his professional career at various companies. Of course, there are budgets that have to be adhered to. “But if you buy cheap, you buy twice.” He is convinced that the EFA-SRT® ECO high-speed roll-up doors impress with excellent value for money. Special structural preparations are not necessary due to the space-saving design, for example the very slim side door cases. Thus, the EFA-SRT®ECO can be applied in more situations than any other roll-up door. 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 for EFAFLEX roll-up doors. The door frames were supplied in stainless steel for Materialise and therefore fit into the metal competence centre with state-of-the-art equipment. All of the doors are wide enough to comfortably allow transportation of large plants into the individual rooms. In the case of the EFA-SST® Essential exterior door, which is used for the delivery of materials and machines, other properties are important in addition to speed, says the Technical Manager. “For us, it is important that the doors are tight to guarantee the air pressure in the room. We also have climate-controlled rooms at temperatures between 20 and 25 degrees Celsius.” The air conditioning is combined with ventilation and the extraction of protective gases such as argon and nitrogen. “So it's a complex issue,” Sascha Schmidt emphasises. “The EFAFLEX sales representative responsible for us knows what he is talking about and pointed out important facts to me. He really catered to our very specific needs. And there was nothing that was not taken into account during installation. For me, everything was perfect, so it was business as usual from EFAFLEX.”

MATERIALISE GMBH COMPANY INFORMATION: ELEVATED STRUCTURES

Materialise is a dynamic high-tech company with more than 2,000 employees worldwide. The company's head office is in Belgium. The German branches are located in Gilching near Munich and in Bremen. The subsidiary ACTech GmbH maintains a German branch office in Freiberg. Materialise is a global leader in additive manufacturing and the development of software solutions for additive manufacturing (AM). With Europe’s largest machine park of its own 3D printers, Materialise primarily serves customers from the automotive industry, the aerospace sector and the medical technology sector. More than 30 years of experience in this industry have gone into the company's many software solutions and design and printing services: into products that make people's lives better,

into products that help to shape science and into structures that, among other things, literally take off and help to study the earth from space.

EFAFLEX company information

EFAFLEX produces high-speed doors for industrial applications. Founded in 1974, the company works for clients from industry, trade, food production and the chemical and pharmaceutical sectors, among others. As the only manufacturer in the field of high-speed industrial doors, EFAFLEX is listed in the world market leader index and is therefore one of the 461 top companies in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. The family company employs more than 1,200 people worldwide. With its headquarters in Bruckberg, Bavaria, EFAFLEX is firmly anchored as the largest employer in the region. In addition, the company opens up international markets with ten subsidiaries on five continents. EFAFLEX generates more than 40 percent of its sales abroad

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