

## High door for yellow tubers

Friweika eG ensures the quality of its potato products with doors from EFAFLEX.

**Isodia, Gala, Belana and Melody: they are stored in huge wooden crates lit only with green light in cooled halls. The coloured light prevents the potatoes from turning green and forming solanine, because they are destined for consumption and will be automatically packed and delivered to supermarkets and the wholesale trade after cleaning. At the Friweika eG factory, everything revolves around the Solanum tuberosum with its fine variety names. 140,000 tonnes of potatoes and onions are produced here every year, with convenience products like potato bakes, gratins or baked potatoes also produced alongside the raw packaged tubers. All products make their way into deep-freeze storage or the halls through high-speed doors from EFAFLEX.**

Once the old logistics centre was bursting at the seams, the cooperative built a new logistics centre in 2017/2018 and fitted it out with state-of-the-art technology and a new deep-freeze storage. Among other things, two high-speed doors from EFAFLEX; EFA-SST® TK 100, which ensures that the products remain frozen. Entry to and exit from the -20 degrees Celsius area is controlled as a one-way street. "That is important because it allows us to avoid accidents and thus damage to the door," explains Lutz Reichenbach. The qualified engineer heads up the technology department at Friweika. "Ice can form very rapidly in damaged areas, which would then affect the functioning of the doors. If temperatures in the warehouse were to climb to above -18 degrees Celsius, it would also no longer be possible to ensure product safety." In the rare event of damage, EFAFLEX in-house customer service is on site immediately. "We have no problems with EFAFLEX," says Lutz Reichenbach. "If something happens, we don't have to wait long. It works so well that we only install these doors now."

## **"EFAFLEX offers us the best solutions to our problems"**

In total, Friweika eG has installed twenty-two EFAFLEX high-speed doors in the factory. Two more are to come. The requirements for the doors depend on the application in each case, the head of technology explains. They fit their respective requirements. "The sales representative knows the challenges we have and offers us the best solutions for them. And that's money well spent." He points out a very high door to a warehouse. The EFA-STR® S is 5.25 metres wide and 5 metres tall. He describes the situation: this door must be very quick. The forklift drivers have a rather restricted view behind the huge potato crates and would transport the potatoes from cool area to cool area very quickly. The EFA-STR®S is half a metre higher than necessary for this reason. As a result, the braking area for the door is above the entrance height that is required and the space for driving through is clear in a few seconds.

## **The fastest in the factory**

Thanks to its spiral technology, the high-speed turbo roll-up door EFA-STR® opens at an incredible speed of up to 4 m/s, making it the fastest industrial door in the factory. With the EFA-STR®, logistic processes become faster and more efficient. The combination of a spiral door leaf support and a flexible curtain, ensures an optimal traffic flow.

The door leaf of the EFA-STR® consists of several segments that can be replaced individually in the event of damage. This minimises repair costs and downtime. The door leaf itself is made of PVC-coated polyester fabric. Aluminium profiles reinforce the individual segments at a distance of 225 millimetres and thus ensure the appropriate stability. Even doors with standard sizes of 7 metres in width and 6 metres in height are still extraordinarily robust as a result.

## **Weidensdorf potato experts: Friweika eG company information**

Reliable doors are essential in the Friweika factory. The company works 365 days a year. There is a rush of activity before the holidays in particular. "Everyone wants to eat potato dumplings then," Lutz Reichenbach says. A total of 350 employees ensure that the fresh potatoes and products made from the delicious tubers leave the factory on schedule.

Founded in 1970, today Friweika eG covers the full range of fresh potato products as a potato expert. Farmers in the region are shareholders in the cooperative. The company stands for use of the entire potato in production as a sustainable, environmentally friendly, and modern company in the food production sector. The name FRIWEIKA itself stands for Frische Weidensdorfer Kartoffelprodukte (fresh Weidensdorf potato products) and has been living up to this with its high quality throughout the production process for more than 50 years.

### **EFAFLEX company information**

*EFAFLEX manufactures high-speed doors for industrial applications. Founded in 1974, the company is used by customers from the world of industry, trades, food manufacturing and the chemical and pharmaceutical sectors. EFAFLEX is the only manufacturer of high-speed industrial doors to have been registered in the world market leader index and is therefore one of the 461 top companies in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The family-owned business has more than 1,400 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 opening up international markets. More than 60 percent of EFAFLEX's revenue is generated abroad.*

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