



LIGNA+ 2007: Part Two

Trends and novelties in world's wood industry



By Eberhard Reyer with support from his project engineers: Olaf Boehm, Bernhard Henneken, Bernhard Voelker, Boris Volland and Selina Maas

In the July issue we reported on some novelties and innovations presented at the LIGNA+ 2007 in Hannover, Germany. Although it is impossible to cover everything, we tried to give you a general overview of the LIGNA+ trade show, including innovations in the area of "just-in-time" production and production "on-demand." The article also featured new technologies pertaining to the handling and construction of lightweight panels. This article features interesting innovations for finishing processes and includes a few examples of small machines for craftsmen.

Both **Bürkle GmbH** and **Barberán S.A.** presented a single-pass inkjet printing line for the first time at the LIGNA+ 2007. In cooperation with its partner **Durst**, Bürkle showed the digital printing technique that allows a maximum of upgrading surfaces individually for all types of boards that are made of veneered or pre-coated MDF, HDF and chipboards. This new inkjet printing line combines the roller coating machines, air-jet drying tunnels, UV lines and handling equipment made by Bürkle with the inkjet printing machine **Rho SP 60** from Durst. The result is a production line that allows the user a customer-oriented surface design of a variety unknown so far and at the same time, meets the requirements of an indus-

trial production. Boards of a maximum width of 560mm (22 in.) can be printed photographically at feed speeds of up to 30 m/min. (100 fpm) and with a resolution of 460 dpi. Other advantages of the digital printing process are the reduced costs of production for printing small lot sizes. In addition, material storage and intermediate storage is no longer required any more due to "printing on demand." Also, the change of pat-

The KUPER GmbH ACR-CrossRunner is the company's new crossfeed veneer splicer and features shorter working widths.

terns and project-oriented designs can be made in a short time with repeat accuracy.

Kleiberit has developed an innovative surface technology based on many years of experience in the PUR hotmelt field. This development is a more effective technology for the coating of smooth surfaces with high process stability. **HotCoating®** is a reactive, UV stable PUR system that is applied like a PUR hotmelt. The surface is sealed in a simple in-line production process. Sanding and



the application of several layers of lacquer are no longer required. It also boasts a highly scratch-resistant and UV stable surface. This application technology can be used to coat basically all flat materials (furniture parts, ready-to-use flooring, doors, etc.) as well as rolled materials. For the coating of veneer and paper, for example, due to an extremely high flexibility, it allows the smallest radii to be wrapped without any problems. The resistance and elasticity is significant; this system is currently being tested by customers for exterior use (window and façade wrapping).

Cefla introduced its **Cold-UV-Technology**, at LIGNA+ 2007. Thanks to this new technology, the part is not heated up during the curing process under the UV lamps. This implies some advantages compared to the "old" UV curing: Since there is no cooling time required in the production, the parts can go directly to the packaging line. The risk of grain arising is

eliminated, and there is less color change of the wood under UV light. To operate the curing machine with this new technology saves around 30 percent of energy compared to the prior UV-curing process.

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Cefla also presented **i-Botic** for the first time, an innovation in the finishing market. The new spraying robot is equipped with double arms featuring an independent electronic control. Each of these two spraying arms can cover the spraying bed both partially and totally, so that two arms can work on one pack of panels, each handling a portion of it. Another possibility is to have one single arm that sprays

the whole bed, while the second is available to make all color change operations or nozzle/gun replacements. Special devices can be added to ensure high flexibility and productivity both in robot and oscillating mode operation. It can be used for the finishing application as well as for the application of glue in the membrane press technology for foiled doors. i-Botic runs in continuous mode and also in batch mode.

KUPER GmbH exhibited its new crossfeed veneer splicer **ACR-CrossRunner**. The novelty is the shorter working widths (800mm, 1,200mm and 1,600mm are offered) so that it represents an economical alternative when it comes to the production of small furniture faces or cross-veneered boards or doors, respectively. A special focus was to create a preferably simple machine easy to operate and with little service requirements. The compact and space-saving design with its low machine stand is another plus of this series. The new KUPER ACR-CrossRunner

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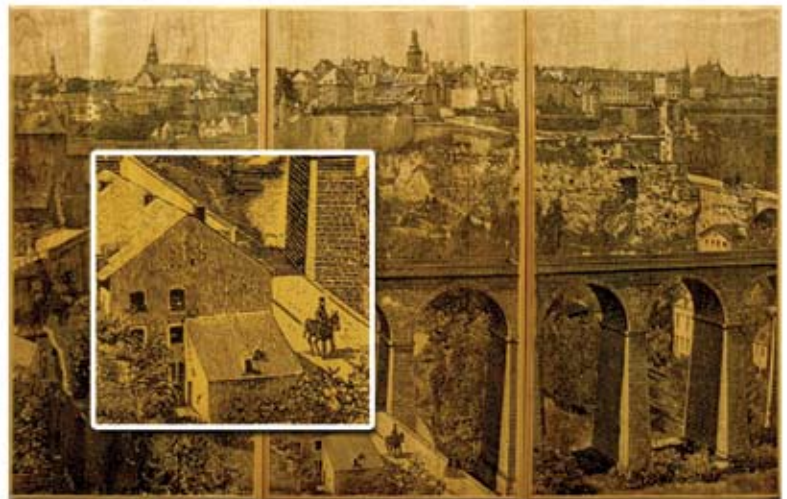
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features simple pneumatic elements and a very small heating zone. The stacking of the veneer sheets is done automatically, and there are different stacking systems available.

Another patent-pending world first that affects the quality of surfaces indirectly is the **camera-controlled scoring saw adjustment** by **HOLZMA**. With that technology, alignment of the main and scoring saws now simply entails inserting a test panel and starting the program. Everything else is done automatically. First, the main and scoring saw blades each successively cut a groove in a test panel. Then, a camera mounted on the saw carriage traces the grooves, stops at predefined points and takes test pictures. On the basis of the results, a high-resolution linear measuring system automatically positions the adjustable scoring saw. All the changes can be followed on the CADmatic control display.

At the LIGNA+ 2007 some innovations were

shown primarily for small shops or custom areas. On the new **T60 PreXision** by **MARTIN** for example, the saw blade can be tilted by 46 degrees to the right as well as to the left, resulting in a unique total cutting-angle range of 92 degrees. The doubling of the cutting-angle range provides a boundless variety of new possibilities. For example, cuts that used to be impossible or difficult to realize with circular saws can now be made easily. Thanks to this patented innovation, the crosscut fence and the rip fence on the T60 PreXision can now be used to execute every mitre cut in the ideal way for the processed workpiece.

Lamello presented its novelty **Fixo**. This self-clamping biscuit allows users to create face-frame joints with a biscuit joiner. Made from durable glass fiber, reinforced plastic, Fixo Biscuits connect and clamp with one strike. Setup is fast and easy because grooves are cut in both workpieces simultaneously, and no clamp-

ing is required. A pattern of barbs and curved ridges hold the joint extremely tight. The flute can be made with every conventional grooving machine, so that it can be used at the construction site and needs no further investments. Fixo Clamping Biscuits are distributed exclusively in the United States by Colonial Saw. They are available in two sizes and are sold in 80-piece blister packs. **Wd**

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