

CNUD EFCO GFT



JOINING FORCES; CHANGING THE GLASS INDUSTRY



JOINING FORCES: CHANGING THE GLASS INDUSTRY

Belgium based CNUD EFCO and German GFT have joined forces to introduce a groundbreaking innovation in the glass industry. CNUD EFCO has a long-standing reputation in annealing all types of glass, while GFT is a young and ingenious tin-bath design company. Today, their joint knowhow and expertise introduces a new and cutting-edge technology that's set to be

a game-changer. Industry 4.0 needs no introduction, with times and challenges rapidly evolving. Tools for transparent processing, increased efficiency and better benchmarking are the industry's holy grail.

AUTOMATION SOFTWARE

That's why CNUD EFCO GFT decided to collaborate with Siemens on the development of automation software that stabilizes and optimizes the forming and annealing process. The idea is growing out to be the



long-awaited, fully automated solution for tin-bath and Lehr. CEO Géraldine Seynaeve: "By combining our expertise with the skills

of the people at Siemens, we've put the right team in place. They're working hard on the realization of this project. An additional



Joining forces also means joining and combining knowledge and expertise, a benefit for the companies involved, but also for the sector they are involved in. The companies in this article — CNUD EFCO and GFT — have done just that, with results that are defined by the same companies as 'groundbreaking'.

CNUD EFCO

Since 1957 CNUD EFCO has built over 900 glass production lines for all of the leading glass manufacturers, and is the world's number one annealing lehr and tin bath solutions provider. The company's know-how is applied to different types of float glass such as clear glass, coloured glass, reflective glass and aviation glass.

CNUD EFCO also produces the most energy efficient hollow-glass annealing and decorating lehrs. Through years of experience we have developed engineering insights and application knowledge.

CNUD EFCO's keys to success for energy efficient cellular glass production are its unique annealing lehr engineering expertise, construction and commissioning engineering approach and turnkey production line delivery.

partner is being identified as we speak, to test the automation at a real Float-plant without negatively impacting the process."

Once fully operational, what impact does it have on the industry? "Look at it like an autopilot on an airplane. Over 90 percent of the work is done by automated systems. But for the essential part, human

input is indispensable. Our automation does the same. It will support people and notably help to increase efficiency."

It's the result of an extensive R&D project that's driven by an impressive knowhow of forming, annealing and automation.

"It's all about maximizing benefits and transparency," the Head of R&D adds. "It increases the yield, reduces change-over-times and stabilizes the

process. It will be easier to benchmark and implement best practices. A huge plus, especially for clients with more than one float-line."

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