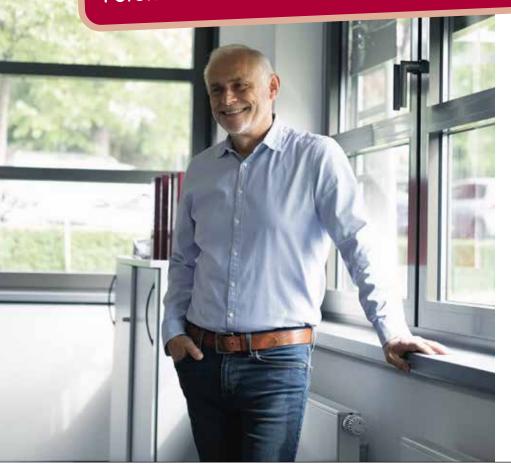


Jürgen Grössler retires as SORG Glass Conditioning Manager

After having helped develop various solutions that shaped the glass industry for more than 40 years, SORG's Jürgen Grössler is now retiring from the business as Head of Forehearth and Glass Conditioning.



ver his time at SORG, Jürgen Grössler has seen the company rise to claim its own as world leader in both glass melting and conditioning technology - able to remotely analyse, advise and optimise a glass plant operation from thousands of kilometres away.

He commenced his journey with the company in June 1982 when the glass industry was very different. Says Grössler: "In the past we hadn't the speed nor the necessity to be available 24/7. Neither was anyone expecting a solution to their problem on the same day, given that plants have their specialists."

INDUSTRY INNOVATIONS

He adds that electronic systems and controls - or automation - have greatly increased the available data per system.



On top of this, a lot of value is also invested today in using less energy and far fewer staff in the glassworks. Grössler notes that problems can now be solved immediately: "It used to take a little longer when travelling wasn't as easy and communication tools were less advanced."

Joining the glass industry after having worked in mechanical engineering, Grössler's entry into SORG afforded him the opportunity to apply his knowledge and experience to an interesting new field as part of the Glass Conditioning team. Indeed he worked on more than 2000 projects globally over his time with the company - spanning a career which saw him travelling to around 50 countries.

A TRAJECTORY OF SUCCESS

Managing Partner Alexander Sorg spoke of Grössler's professionalism and commitment, for which he said he'll always be remembered: "He's worked on some challenging projects and excelled in all of them. One example here was his dedication during the Emhart takeover in 2006. Grössler and his team had to organise the transfer of technical and commercial knowledge from the USA to Germany in record time. He did it in just a couple of weeks."

A GLANCE BACK, A GLANCE AHEAD

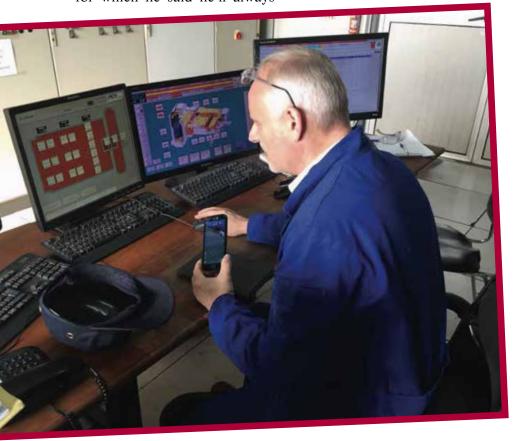
When asked what he'd miss the most, Grössler immediately answered "my colleagues, customers and suppliers." He expressed confidence, however, that the team he leaves behind will continue now to strengthen those relationships still further especially since the training and education of young and new employees was always among his priorities over the years.

Aware that he leaves the com-



pany with a sense of 'mission accomplished', Grössler was satisfied to express his pride over "everything we did together" - also speaking of his particular pride "to now hand over a motivated, well-trained and well-structured specialist department."

In closing, he spoke of his plans "to visit some cities of which I alone know the airports so far - and to teach my grandson proper football!"



SORG

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