

SYSTRON chosen by GLAS BERGER for glass storage excellence

Lower Austrian glass refiner GLAS BERGER offers a low maintenance, fully-automatic grinding and processing centre that's easy to operate and provides top service. Thanks to SYSTRON proHD and its 20-slot storage system, the company has been able to advance its vision still further to deliver even quicker and more professional support to its customers.

For over 60 years and now in its third generation, Glas Berger GmbH from Viehdorf near Amstetten has been a recognized specialist for interior glass and curved safety glass. With 30 employees, diverse glass projects are implemented over a production area that spans 4,000m². The company handles everything from construction to assembly. The B|SAFE brand, registered almost 20 years ago, stands for Berger safety glass - but also for BENT (curved) glass, which underlines the pioneering role in this area. Says Managing



With the systron 3525proHD including 20-slot buffer, Glas Berger produces around 150 glasses with a wide variety of shapes and cut-outs per shift.

director Erwin Berger: “Our company is designed as a single-shift production and we process around 40,000 m² of glass per year. Our main focus is on high-quality glass for interiors, but canopies, parapets and outdoor garden fences are also becoming

increasingly important. We have already implemented numerous special projects, in Austria and abroad. Here we benefit from our extensive know-how in glass finishing, our willingness to experiment and our wide range of machinery.”



SHORT PROCESSING TIMES FOR JUST-IN-TIME DELIVERY

Erwin Berger started with CIP about 15 years ago and designed the production for just-in-time delivery. “The average time it takes for an order to be processed is 24 hours to three days. Implemented with any processing including milling, as well as lasered, painted, printed, foiled, glued, thermally toughened or laminated.”

Until 2020, a horizontal grinding machine with four processing heads and a subsequent drilling and milling centre was used for grinding, polishing and cutouts. “This machine was able to grind four sides in par-

allel and therefore very quickly, but the bottleneck was the drilling and milling. The high space requirement and, above all, the complex maintenance prompted us to reorient ourselves,” says Erwin Berger about the motives for the new purchase. At the end of 2020, Glas Berger invested in the systron proHD glass processing centre with waterjet: “Our vision was a fully-automatic grinding and processing centre with little maintenance. Easy to use and service & support should be professional and quick. The systron proHD with 20-slot storage system can absolutely meet these requirements.”



In addition to the existing company area, which now functions as an office and showroom, a new production hall with 4,000m² of production space was built in 2007.



THE GLASS STORAGE SYSTEM WAS A CRUCIAL BENEFIT

A diverse product mix of 150 glasses is to be produced in one shift using the proHD. To ensure continuous, rapid production, Berger has invested in systron's glass storage solution. The inlet and outlet storage ensure automatic loading and unloading of the systron processing machine. In addition, the storage is loaded again by the machine operator at

the end of the shift and can be processed unmanned. "This storage is a big advantage for us.

The machine continues to run during the lunch break, the proHD operator can always help out with other machines and when he goes home, another third of a shift can work on unattended. For the unmanned shift, we mainly buffer more complex panes, such as shower doors with several cutouts," explains Erwin

Berger the efficient use of employees and machines. Regarding Return On Investment, he adds: "If the economic situation does not change dramatically, the systron line will pay off in the next three years."

WATERJET CUTTING HAS BECOME INDISPENSABLE

The possibility of producing glass cutouts with a waterjet was new for Berger, who says: "Waterjet cutting

is an extremely flexible and gentle way to cut glass. You can cut radii with just 2 mm and the quality is very good. You no longer have to seam anything because the waterjet cut is so tension-free. The milling cutter creates a lot more tension and micro-cracks in the glass, which means you can't temper it directly. The maintenance of the waterjet unit is manageable, the nozzles have to be serviced again and again,

proHD machine operator Michael Schwein masters the machine and is not afraid of special projects such as waterjet cutting of cylinder head gaskets.





Glass up to 30 mm thickness
can be processed with the
waterjet.

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but in relation to the drills,
this is negligible.”

STAY INDIVIDUAL AND STILL INCREASE AUTOMATION

For a small company having
a versatile product mix
like Glas Berger, automa-
tion is not always easy. “All

our products are so differ-
ent, the standardised doors
often come from Eastern
Europe, here in Austria a
lot of things are still very
individual, this is where we
can play our trump cards.
But automation is of course
also an issue for us; lifting
work in particular should

be eliminated from the pro-
cess. We are thinking here of
a fully automatic unloading
of the cutting table, ideally
with direct feeding into the
systron glass storage. Let’s
see what the machine man-
ufacturers come up with to
meet these requirements,”
says Erwin Berger.



The systron waterjet cut holes do not need to be seamed before
the tempering process.



Grinding, polishing, waterjet cutting
all in one pass and in one processing tower.