

PEACE AND QUIET WITH 49 HIGH-SPEED DOORS

FISCHER GROUP USES EFAFLEX DOORS FOR NOISE CONTROL AT ITS ORTENAUKREIS HEADQUARTERS

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The fischer group plant is located on the outskirts of Achern-Fautenbach at the foot of the Black Forest. It is surrounded by green space but is also close to residential areas. Huge machining centres pull endless stainless steel strips from coils. fischer facilities use those strips to produce high-quality longitudinally welded stainless steel tubing. Around 123,000,000 metres of tubing in a range of different diameters are output by fischer group plants each year. Output on each day of operation would stretch the length of the motorway from Hamburg to Mannheim. Clearly, the manufacturing process for such a large number of stainless steel tubes is hard to keep quiet. FISCHER GROUP USES EFAFLEX DOORS FOR NOISE CONTROL AT ITS ORTENAUKREIS HEADQUARTERS For the planners, this situation of contrasts is a challenge they have to address. Roland Schneider is head of Mechanical Maintenance at the fischer group headquarters. It is quiet as he walks across the site. But then he opens a door, and the loud, pounding noises of production can immediately be heard. The noise only stops when he closes the door again. Now, all you can hear is the birds in the trees.

"That is one of the reasons to look for hall doors that keep in absolutely all the noise", he explains. "This production site is subject to extremely strict noise control requirements. We are surrounded by houses. That is why it is so important that residents are not disturbed by the sounds of production or by noise caused by the doors themselves." The facility planners chose EFAFLEX following extensive comparisons and in-depth consultation with our field sales advisors. The doors are fitted at the points where forklifts

deliver material to the machines, transport products and load lorries. Forklift trucks also use EFAFLEX doors multiple times a day in the material and dispatch warehouse. Fast-opening and fast-closing doors were needed for these areas. "In winter, the cold air goes right through", explains Roland Schneider.

"We simply cannot afford to have the doors open for too long. We do not want to waste energy." There is a lot of traffic right outside some of the plant's doors. To make sure the doors are not accidentally activated, they are also fitted with EFA-SCAN® laser scanners.

THE RIGHT DECISION

In his capacity as Maintenance Engineer, Roland Schneider is, of course, particularly happy about the long service life and robustness of the EFAFLEX products. Alongside the required noise control and speed of opening and closing, EFAFLEX in his view provides real added value: the technicians are in-house and highly trained. Advice from the field sales team is customer-focused and project-specific. "Our choice proved to be exactly the right one. We opted for EFAFLEX doors and have now installed 49 of them. It is a decision we do not regret."

EFA-SCAN® LASER SCANNER

EFA-SCAN® is the first laser scanner for use on doors worldwide, making it a reliable activation and safety system in one. The innovation by EFAFLEX covers the entire area in front of the door – for the first time without missing anything and by intelligent direction recognition, more reliably than any other system.

The sensor creates a three-dimensional monitoring area with geometric and dynamic detection ranges individually adjustable to local parameters. It offers maximum safety for people and the goods to be transported and also protects the door itself against accidents and damage.

The EFA-SCAN® creates two gapless areas: A safety area, located in the immediate vicinity of the door, and, farther away, a detection area. The EFA-SCAN® sensor functions like a highly modern control device for opening the door in this zone.

The speed and direction of the detected objects are calculated. The reliable direction recognition ensures that only persons or vehicles which move directly towards the door can trigger an opening impulse. If they move parallel to the door or away from the door, they are ignored so that an "erroneous" opening is effectively prevented.

The sensor also detects rain, snow, and external light. This makes EFA- SCAN® one of the few laser scanners which are also suited for outdoor installation.

PRECISION ALL THE WAY: FISHER GROUP COMPANY PROFILE

The Fautenbach-based fischer group is the world's second largest manufacturer of high-quality stainless steel tubes and components and a technology leader in the manufacture of longitudinally laser-welded tubing. In the course of its 50-year history, the fischer group has grown from a small business into a multinational group, currently with 20 companies and around 2450 employees.

As a logical, systematic addition to its tubing portfolio, the fischer group has developed a whole range of options for processing tubes to produce advanced components and assemblies. The international company supplies a wide range of high-quality, stable and corrosion-resistant products for sectors from the automotive and aerospace industries to heating and sanitary engineering, consumer electronics and industrial applications