

Press information

10.02.2017

IPAC – The EGGER-Project

What makes a good decorative product? That is the key question that repeatedly arises in the wood products industry. There are many factors that influence a product's quality, the major ones being colour, degree of gloss and roughness. When it comes to one of the key properties, namely the colour quality, the EGGER Group relies on the ACMS™ (Advanced Colour Measurement System) by IPAC (Improve Process Analytics and Control GmbH).

'Enhanced productivity and increasing customer satisfaction secure long-term profitability. With this objective in mind, we connect the partners involved in the process, use state-of-the-art technology and expect our suppliers to do likewise', says Walter Schiegl, director of technology/production, member of the EGGER group management.

But how does EGGER benefit from the cooperation with IPAC? By working with the ACMS™, EGGER relies on the world's best colour measurement system for decorative surfaces, thus replacing the visual quality assessment based on objective measurement data. This results in further advantages which in turn lead to clear time and cost savings. Besides the fact that the shipment of physical samples is no longer necessary and the associated logistical expenditures are dispensed with, there are further benefits including process stabilisation and optimisation as well as less complaints and reduced material costs. What is more, the foundation has been laid for the establishment of consistent digital quality management. Another supporting fact is that major decor paper suppliers already use the ACMS™ as recognised measurement equipment.

Based on the experiences with IPAC in the area of classic printing and production processes, EGGER's digital printing activities, which involve the use of newly developed ACMS™ software, have been accompanied by the ACMS™ at all locations from the very beginning.

However, the benefits of the cooperation between EGGER and IPAC are far from being exhausted. EGGER is constantly working on further expanding the deployment of the ACMS™ among suppliers and encouraging other market players to use ACMS™ certificates. EGGER has planned to finally expand the digital quality management to all in-house process steps. The quality that has thus been achieved is already appreciated by EGGER's customers. In future, the respective certificates will be made available directly to the customers.



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All of these activities constitute important steps towards the standardisation of the process. To this end, the ERA (European Rotogravure Association) set up a topic-related working group that actively strives to register this colour impression certification process as an ISO standard for the decor and wood products industries.

On its way towards the international propagation of the corporate philosophy and measurement method, IPAC has found a major partner in Fagus-GreCon. In September 2016, Fagus-GreCon took over 75% of IPAC. With the acquisition, Kai Greten has become managing director in addition to Harald Jordan. The major shareholding of Fagus-GreCon means economic safety and support in the areas of technology, sales, marketing and service. So last but not least, IPAC's customers will benefit from this development, as well.

In May 2017 it will be the first time for IPAC to be represented with the ACMS™ at Ligna in Hanover at the stand of Fagus-GreCon.

Legend:

ACMS™ - Advanced Colour Measurement System

For further information please visit www.ipac.at

EGGER Group: The family company founded in 1961 employs around 8,000 people. At 17 plants across Europe, they produce an extensive product range of wood-based materials (chipboards, OSB, and MDF boards) as well as timber. EGGER has customers worldwide in the furniture industry, wood distribution, and DIY markets.

IPAC Improve Process Analytics and Control GmbH is a subsidiary company of Fagus-GreCon based in Villach, Austria. IPAC is with the colour measurement system ACMS™ technological leader for colour measurement of decorative surfaces.

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