

# MSL brings competitive spirit to Holz Mobil

*Arthur Marshall, production manager at Wolverhampton kitchen maker Holz Mobil, had his competition very much in mind when he ordered a new IDM Genesis edgebander from SCM Hi-Tech Panels Division distributor Machine Sales Ltd. He wanted better edge finishing standards than he had been getting on his Wolverhampton shop floor, he wanted more flexibility and he wanted it all a lot faster.*

He also got a competitive reaction that he didn't expect. "We didn't realise how far behind the times our old edgebander was - how slow it had become," he says ruefully. "Since we got this new IDM Genesis, our operating standards and the quality of work we are getting has gone through the roof and the speed of throughput is so much faster, it has caused me some operating problems !

"My beam saw manager, Lloyd Griffiths, has always liked to keep himself a job or two ahead of edgebanding and Lee Vaughan on the drilling station that follows it has always liked to feel himself 'ready and waiting' for the next load of edge finished panels. The problem now is that Lloyd can't cut the board fast enough to keep up with Dave Feehan on the new IDM Genesis and Lee has got work building up in pallet loads behind him !"

Established three years ago, Holz Mobil is trying to build up its trade customer portfolio - MD Richard Hancock wants to sell into

kitchen studios and showrooms throughout the growing and already very prosperous Midlands belt and is also keen to extend the range of the company. His kitchen cabinet products sell as far afield as the west coast of Wales, right up to the Scottish border in the north; and the M5 motorway is opening up the rich pickings of the second home territories of the Westcountry.

Arthur Marshall reckons his shop floor throughput is currently running at 500 to 800 cabinets per week - but he wants to take that up to 1,000 by the end of this year. "Our design is first class," he says, "and our service is second to none.

If our customer in Colwyn Bay phones on a Monday and says he wants 12 kitchens as quick as we can ship, I take pride in the fact that that he can have at least half by the end of the week!"

MSL representative Matt Long says that the job specification at Holz Mobil wasn't taxing - just 0.4mm tape on the carcasses and 2mm ABS on the doors. But



*IDM Genesis operator Dave Feehan - generating a spirit of competition at Holz Mobil in Wolverhampton.*

speed of throughput and finish quality were crucial and the IDM Genesis Matt has delivered is very high spec indeed.

The inverter driven carriage track gives speed variable between 12 and 18 metres per minute with electronic top pressure and pre milling with diamond tooling for a perfect flush edge prior to edgebanding. The quick melt gluing system with anti-adhesion unit is, says Arthur Marshall, the best he's ever encountered and supporting quality of edge finishing are 2 x position trimming motors to top and bottom changing automatically between tape and 2mm ABS. Glue scrapers are self aligning with buffing and edge brightening for the

ABS.

The Holz Mobil IDM Genesis features a jump grooving saw adjustable to 60mm but currently set up in Wolverhampton for 9mm grooving to wall and base units - Dave Feehan says that job used to be done on a dedicated machine. Grooving of gables is also now done on the new IDM Genesis which, Dave Feehan adds, is the most operator friendly edgebander he's ever worked with.

The IDM keeps him up to date on a range of important details via a PC operating system with information like how many panels per day are



*Dave runs the edge finishing show on his own at Holz Mobil and has his work cut out manning both ends of the new IDM Genesis from MSL at the same time.*



*And then there's the edging spools to change when the need arises ... !*

going through at any one time and how many panels of similar specification it could do. It warns him when levels of adhesive are low, when edging spools need changing and many other fail safes including full statistics reporting that combine to help Dave meet his edge finishing commitments - and he takes pride in that, too.

Arthur Marshall says that the IDM Genesis increased throughput of edge finishing by 30% instantly and without trying - Dave Feehan runs the show entirely on his own at the moment. That means taking cut packs from the saw for edgebanding, taking them

off at the other end of the edgebander and stacking for delivery to the drilling station.

It also includes changing edging spools and adhesive as necessary, he says, so he's planning a 'boomerang' system to bring finished panels back to his operating position. Without it, he says, he's going to need some outside logistical input if he has to meet new and higher output targets - and especially if his shop floor competition starts to take things really seriously!

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