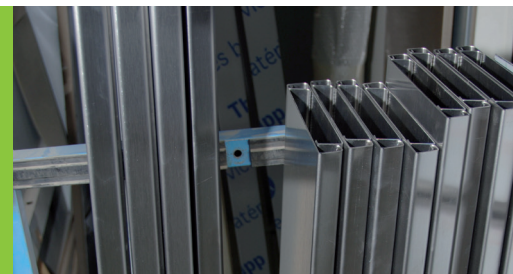


Handicraft business with latest folding technology

Wölfel GmbH elevator design works with folding machine PowerBend Professional



User

Founded in 1958, Wölfel GmbH is a mid-sized family owned company with 41 employees located in Lauf-Neunhof a.d. Pegnitz. Today, the company consists of three business units: joinery, kitchen studio and elevator design. Elevator design is a business for individual solutions. The number of variants for cabin dimensions, control panel, lighting and material choice turn the cabins into unique pieces. For modernizing the machine park of this business unit, Wölfel was searching for a folding machine. Requirements: gentle treatment of the surfaces as well as highest flexibility and accuracy. (www.woelfel-gmbh.de)

Success

Wölfel already made good experiences with the Schröder folding machine SPB earlier and thus wanted to have a look at the current machines of Hans Schröder Maschinenbau. Finally, they decided on a PowerBend Professional. Round about two tons of sheet metal are processed at Wölfel in one week – thanks to comfortable programming and quick tool changing the company has now new capacity reserves for orders and benefits from an even higher accuracy.

Used machine

PowerBend Professional

- Folding machine for up to 4 mm sheet thickness
- 3,200 mm working length
- Up-and-Down-folding beam
- Rotating clamping beam with a second tool set
- Options for operation from the front: control on swivelling arm, safety equipment, second foot switch

In the past 30 years, Wölfel GmbH designed a countless number of elevators in Southern Germany. Especially when it comes to prestige objects – e.g. company's head quarters, hotels, precious department stores – elevator manufacturers, architects, designers and builders often contact the Wölfel-Team. For the interior design of elevator cabins as well as for the profile frames and shaft shutdowns Wölfel uses a series of high-quality materials. Stainless steel sheets with fine surface structures are quite dominant. Covers will be prepared for the integration of mirrors, displays, lighting, but also with materials for fire protection in the Wölfel workshop. Every construction site, and in many cases even every floor needs to be produced individually. The goal: to deliver everything perfectly prepared, exact and on-time for assembly onto the construction site.

With the SPB Wölfel already earlier bet on a motorized folding technique and with the modernization of their machine park they again decided on a Schröder machine: PowerBend Professional. CEO Martin Wölfel chose the version with a working length of 3,200 mm and three additional features that turned out to be a real blessing for the workshop: The Up-and-Down

folding beam allows counter folds without having to turn over the sheet. The rotating clamping beam reduces set-up times as it offers a second tool set and a different geometry. The third option: operation from the front.

Individually programmed parts

Elevator manufacturers and architects tell the Wölfel-Team what they need, afterwards the cabin designer comes to the construction site for measurements. After that, based on dimensions, design- and material parameters, individual blank cuts and folding programs are programmed on the machine directly in the workshop. In order

to be able to do that Wölfel uses the software control POS 2000 Professional from Schröder. This software that has been developed by Schröder, perfectly fits the machine. With a motorized folding beam adjustment, folding center adjustment and a crowning device, the machine automatically adapts to the characteristics of the sheet. This is because important data such as the spring back coefficient of stainless steel sheets is already stored. "We had already appreciated the graphic control POS 2000 Professional when working with the SPB, but one thing we did not consider: The development department from Schröder used the 15 years for significant further developments – there are much more opportunities now, the working procedure is different now", states Reiner Maier. "Out of this reason my colleague and me received specific training in order to be up to date on the latest developments. In the workshop, every single sheet out of the measurement needs to be programmed individually. With the currently high volume of orders we need to do that extremely fast and as accurate as possible. And that is really fantastic with Schröder: In the case of any questions when working with the machine, we quickly get help from the Schröder service team."

„Thanks to the software control on a swivelling arm and a second foot switch the machine can also be operated from the front – for us this is the common way of working. Sheets for slim profiles as they are often used for elevator cabins, can thus be gauged and processed much more comfortable from the front“

Reiner Maier
Machine operator



Schröder Group

The Schröder Group consists of Hans Schröder Maschinenbau GmbH, located in Wessobrunn, Germany, and SCHRÖDER-FASTI Technologie GmbH, located in Wermelskirchen, Germany.

Founded in 1949, Hans Schröder Maschinenbau GmbH combines traditional and modern aspects in mechanical engineering. Successfully managed as a quality and customer-oriented family company, Hans Schröder Maschinenbau specialises in the development of modern machine concepts for folding and cutting sheet metal.

Thanks to the 2006 integration of the Fasti Company and its workshops and a global presence, the Schröder Group is now a leading provider of machines for folding, cutting, crimping, beading, and circular bending sheets of all kinds. The diversity of the range of precision machines ranges from proven solutions for trade to innovative, high-performance machines for automated industrial production. The Schröder Group now employs more than 250 workers at various domestic and international locations.

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