Project: Wrap-around labelling of paint bottles

The paint manufacturer C. Kreul GmbH & Co. KG has opted for a complete solution from b+b Automations- und Steuerungstechnik GmbH. The cooperation ran smoothly and further projects for the future are already being planned.

The company C. Kreul GmbH & Co. KG, manufacturer of paints for artists, children, and creative people, produces 4.000 different articles. Every day, 20,000 filled bottles leave the bottling plant - the production volume is increasing. After the colors have been produced and approved by the quality assurance department, the colors are distributed to currently 14 filling lines. A few lines are multifunctional. Most of the lines are designed for specific glass or plastic bottles as packaging material. The company, based in Hallerndorf, has been in existence since 1838 and currently employs 100 people.

The paint manufacturer was faced with the challenge of providing the paint bottles filled during production with a label on the circumference. A high level of labeling accuracy was important here. An interface between the labeling solution and the existing merchandise management system was essential.

Therefore, the company C. Kreul decided to use the labeling and identification solutions of b+b Automation- und Steuerungstechnik GmbH as partner.

Decisive for this decision was the complete solution from b+b - consisting of a high quality and reliable labeler, the software solution, and the integration of existing and new printing systems. The label automation and design software Labelsplatform 4 (LP4) from b+b serves as the basis for printing in the production line.

b+b turnkey solutions:
Etikettieranlage VRM-DS-2PA
Fully automatic labelling system for wrap-around labelling and lid labelling of round cans and jars

Label design and automation software Labelsplatform 4

With Labelsplatform 4, a simple and flexible design of the labels is possible according to the customer's specifications. The design tool can be used to create attractive identification layouts from simple barcode labels to high-performance, automated (with formulas and functions) product labels with continuous text and printing conditions. The label editor thus forms the centrepiece of the automation solution. Thanks to LP4 Remote and LP4 Format Manager, the use of additional PC workstations in production is not necessary. The LP4 policy modules enable compliance with local or industry-specific guidelines and laws. The LP4 database manager allows easy data management and integration with other systems. A complete automation of label printing and the associated workflow can be achieved thanks to the LP4 Commander and the LP4 AutomationCenter.

Label printer

In addition to existing printing systems, SQUIX industrial printers are used by the company C. Kreul. The development of the printers is consistently focused on simple and intuitive operation and high reliability. As partner of well-known printer manufacturers b+b offers different printing systems for integration into existing or new production lines.

Other previously tested solutions could not convince the ink manufacturer as much as the modular solution from b+b. Kreul has thus created a basis for the future to integrate further printing systems or new labellers into the system without having to test or use individual software solutions again.

The project flow was smooth. Especially important for the implementation of the project was the direct printing on the line on the label and the quality of the print image. With the LP4 Automationcenter "Workordercenter 2019" and LP4 Premium in the background, targeted printing

on the label is possible. When it is about label design and the use of additional product information, the Kreul company now has a future-proof system with LP4, with which it can react quickly and flexibly to changes and customer requirements. The central data maintenance and use is a great advantage, combined with great time efficiency. For the ink manufacturer it is important to have a basis with LP4 that can be successively expanded in a modular fashion.

The user interface at the labellers is designed to be intuitive and user-friendly via the touchscreen. The predefined hierarchy of settings ensures that there are no operating errors or unintentional changes in the settings. The user interface can be programmed differently at any time. The same applies to the installed software - it is characterised by simple operation, staggered access, and support from b+b via remote access. This ensures a fast response time in case of problems and the fastest possible assistance in case of support.

In principle, the colour manufacturer sees added value in the improved quality of the label, the positioning and printing of the contents and the standardisation of the production line in the labelling sector. By consistently using the LP4 solution, time savings can be achieved in various areas, from article maintenance and work preparation to production processes, can be achieved. About the topic "digitisation", it is a first, important step.

The labelers from b+b were particularly convincing because of their quality and reliability. An open and honest approach in the context of project planning, realization and review of past projects was always given. Therefore, nothing stands in the way of further cooperation. First discussions about further investments of the machine planning have already taken place. For the management of C. Kreul GmbH & Co. KG, one thing is certain: " We look forward to further cooperation with b+b"