

Homag edgebander: 100% speed, quality and reliability

Companies with an ever increasing workload require a high-performing and reliable edgebanding machine. Furthermore, with the introduction of process sensitive edges for gloss boards, a suitable machine becomes crucial for any business.

Homag has developed a high-performing machine that is carefully specified to meet the Australian market demand for high volume machines to process high-gloss material. The Ambition 2470 enables the user to process a wide selection of material with optimum edge quality. Users can alternate between neutral or darker glues. The different equipment

packages on offer permit adaptation of the machines for a wide range of different requirements. With feed rates of up to 25 m/min, producers with higher output targets can tailor their productivity to changing demands.

Two companies from the Wollongong area, about 100 kilometres south of Sydney, have both decided to invest in a Homag Ambition 2470 edgebander. Two companies, two similar stories: Both owned an edgebanding machine from a different supplier that could not meet their standards. Therefore, Beny's Joinery from Wollongong and UTJ Interiors from Unanderra teamed up with Homag.

*high performance to
process high-gloss
material*

BENY'S JOINERY:

"We needed a machine that can run all day"

The two decision makers at the family-owned business Beny's Joinery, founder Beny Forte and son Raffaele Forte, finally found the right machine for their requirements. "We needed a machine that can run all day and seamlessly process gloss edging such as glossboards, acrylic and ultragloss", Raffaele summarises.

When Beny founded the business in 1971, he already saw the importance of owning European machinery – and so does his son Raffaele, who joined the company about 10 years later. "It's about quality and price", Raffaele says. "If you make decisions simply based on price, you need to be prepared to replace the equipment fairly soon."

He continues, "We are very happy with our German edgebander. The machine has given us the possibility of customisation in volume. Considering the shortage of skills in Wollongong, the investment has saved the company manual labour. "Previously, we employed 6 joiners and now we only need 2 for the same amount of work."

In order to increase their output and reduce manual workers, Beny and Raffaele invested in the Homag return system TFU 140. This patented panel return conveyor is designed to automatically return panels from an edgebanding machine to the operator. The TFU 140 return allows one operator to continuously work at the edgebander returning parts back to him to be off-stacked or for reintroduction into the edgebander.

Raffaele says about the investment process: "It took us three months to make the decision. We looked at the most prominent brands on the market and asked around and went to Homag in Sydney to look at the size of the motors of the machine. Other brands look like toys compared to Homag", he says, very impressed by the size of the Homag edgebander.



"The machine has given us the possibility of customisation in volume", says Raffaele Forte, director of Beny's Joinery.

Beny's Joinery is now well-equipped to keep all the work in-house which gives them a lot more control which results in better customer service. They specialise in kitchens and detail joinery and mainly distribute their products to retail customers.

Beny started in a small backyard of 15 square metres and used to put the kitchens on a trailer. That goes back to the seventies when Beny emigrated from Italy. The entrepreneur is now 78 years of age, still very passionate and has no thoughts of retiring. He grew the company to 45 staff and continuously extended the work space to 4,000 square metres.

UTJ INTERIORS:

"It's a lifetime investment"

Established in 1950 as Unanderra Timber and Joinery, UTJ Interiors has grown to become a premier manufacturer of custom joinery and detailed veneering. Over the years, they have grown to employ 65 staff and own a wide range of machinery. At the end of last year, it was about time to get the right edgebanding machine.

"We previously owned a Brandt edgebander and it didn't let us down. Now we required a reliable next level up machine and we found the Homag Ambition has all that we need", says owner Paul van de Haar, who runs the family business together with his father Hans, and their dedicated team.

"It's the quality of Homag that convinced us. We were talking to people in the industry and got the same feedback again and again. It's a much quicker machine with a better finish and perfect for achieving more capacity. It's a lifetime investment with a good service backup in Australia."

The highlights of the Ambition 2470 include a finish processing unit that comprises a glue joint scraping unit for disposal of glue residues at both the top and bottom of PVC edges. As a result, UTJ Interior's operations are far more efficient.

The Homag Ambition 2470 can be used for gluing edges, precise snipping and finish processing, including corner rounding ends. PU can also be used if required. Even veneer edges are rounded using the four-motor profile trimming tool without splintering. "We don't get edge chips anymore", factory floor manager John Jessup says, "That saves us a huge amount of time." He continues with a smile, "It had taken us longer to clean the edges than to build the actual product."

UTJ Interiors is a fourth generation family business and shop fitter of choice for many specifiers from the coast to the city. Paul's grandfather emigrated from Holland in 1951 and started as a small joinery shop where he built prefabricated homes on the same premises. Regrettably, in 1989 a big fire burnt down the whole factory. Rebuilt and expanded, UTJ emerged from it even stronger. With the continuing focus on technology, they



have built up long-standing relationships with their clients, which include T1 builders and high-end private clients.

Top: "We required a reliable next level up machine and we found the Homag Ambition has all that we need", says owner Paul van de Haar (left; with Factory floor manager John Jessup).

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