

Beckermann Küchen: Reduce rates of error with innovative measurement technology

> Optimised Through Scanner Process

As demand for greater efficiency continues to grow, levels of automation in the furniture industry are ever increasing. This entails new challenges. Processes need to be recorded and secured in order to ensure optimisation in the next step. It's for this reason that Beckermann Küchen has invested in new measurement technology from Hecht.



Photo: Gerald Lampe, Foto Hölzen.



> Highest quality – including the possibility of product customization, which can be realized in efficient processes – is standard at Beckermann Küchen.



The growing degree of individualisation in kitchens presents new challenges, especially as this should not come at the expense of production efficiency. This applies equally to Beckermann Küchen. The acquisition of furniture parts for companies also continues to grow steadily. Since these furniture parts are made-to-order, it must be ensured that they are delivered exactly as requested.

That's why Beckermann Küchen, which has used a manual measuring table from Hecht since 2002, has now invested in their *Inline Scanner*. This enables furniture manufacturers to check furniture parts immediately upon delivery.

During the measuring process, the furniture parts are moved over the scanner. Then the recorded measurements are matched with those specified in the order. The device is capable of measuring the delivered frames, glass fronts,

fronts or body parts in length, width, thickness, four angles as well as cut-outs with an accuracy of 0.3 millimetres.

For this, the parts are placed manually on the conveyor belt and then pass through the 1,000 millimetre wide scanner with a reduced feed rate of only 15 meters per minute. In real-time, the operator receives a feedback regarding the good- or missing-part. Additionally, a comparison is made with the database of the running production orders. The commission is checked for completeness and a dimensional check is carried out at the goods receipt.

Even parts that have been painted and therefore do not have a barcode label can be uniquely identified with the scanner. In this way, a comparison of completeness and a clear assignment to current production orders can be made. If target and actual data correlate, the stickers required for further production can be printed

straight away. Deviations in data lead to an immediate error indication and quick elimination thereof is then possible.

In this way, the goods receipt process is secured and timely intervention is possible, eliminating cost-intensive subsequent deliveries and production.

"With the investment of the *Inline Scanner* from Hecht, we wish to minimise reaction time to our suppliers," explains Beckermann Operations Manager Jürgen Gieske. "This allows us to make the production process smoother and avoid any shortcomings for the customer. In addition to this, cooperation with Hecht has been extremely successful. The project was developed together and implemented very well, with only a few days passing from the delivery of the inline scanner to start of production."

The Hecht *Inline Scanner* for incoming goods inspection and parts identification has a measuring



➤ At Beckermann Küchen, the *Inline Scanner* from Hecht ensures effective control of incoming furniture parts. Incorrect deliveries are immediately identified.

range of 1,000 to 1,500 millimetres. This can be varied according to customer requirements. As in-line measurement integrated in the production line or as a stand-alone variant, it offers various possible applications.

Inline scanners, which have already been produced for over ten years, are gaining significance due to the trend towards product customisation. The possibility to control each part in real time and to access the target and actual data increases process reliability for all companies.

"This is extremely important for ensuring our quality," explains Jürgen Gieske. "After all, the name Beckermann Küchen has stood for outstanding products for

120 years. And not just domestically. Our export rate is now around 65 per cent. We deliver to almost all European partner countries, Asia and the USA. We serve as the ambassadors of the highest German quality in a wide range of markets with their respective requirements."

With their latest product innovations, such as the *Duplex Inline Scanner*, Hecht clearly strives for the same high standards: equipped with two high-resolution cameras, the device allows a measurement on the top and bottom side right in the machine line. In addition to dimensional control, drill hole position and diameter can also be checked with an accuracy of 0.2 millimetres. Such control cannot be

achieved with the human eye. Added to this is the high production volume, which only the right technology can capture.

For example, the *Inline Measuring Table 3D Hawk Eye Scanner* can be used to identify furniture parts without labels, barcodes or RFID. The part is identified by colour, size and contour. Depending on the partial spectrum and the requirement, an accuracy of 0.2 to 1 millimetre can be measured.

No wonder it's not only the furniture industry who relies on Hecht. Their innovative measuring technology is also used in the metal sector and by well-known companies in the aerospace and automotive industries.