

Press release

The newly founded Lehmann Timber Code AG opened its doors for the first time on 3 July 2015 at 112 Bischofszellerstrasse in Gossau, St. Gallen. The specialists in the construction of components and preforms use digital processes to design and manufacture geometrically complex free-form structures. Timber construction of a sophisticated technical and architectural standard lies at the heart of everything they do.

Lehmann Timber Code AG

Lehmann Timber Code is an Erlenhof AG start-up company and is conveniently situated right on the A1 motorway in Gossau, St. Gallen. As an independent production plant, the company's focus is on special constructions as well as components made from timber and other materials. This young company combines cutting-edge manufacturing technology and digital expertise with the industrial production processes of Lehmann Holzwerk AG and the skilled craftsmanship and technical know-how of Blumer-Lehmann AG. CAD/CAM software and high-performance intelligent CNC machine technology are used to mill, treat and preassemble a range of complex parts. Under the management of Martin Antemann, eight workers focus on custom, multi-curved components and large-dimensioned parts.

Martin Antemann, Manager of Lehmann Timber Code AG:

“We develop, program, manufacture and transport special components. With just-in-time delivery and maximum flexibility. We count among our clients companies from the construction industry, preform construction and industrial firms – in Switzerland and from around the world.”

Modern digital production processes: IT and craftsmanship, hand in hand

The core activities at Lehmann Timber Code AG are consultation, digital design and the CNC production of individual parts or entire sets of components. Positive and negative forms as well as downstream facilities such as preassembly, surface treatments or logistics complete the range of services. The sizeable production space, machinery that is peerless the world over, plus newly developed software components all serve to maximise efficiency, quality and reliability. Innovations like these ensure that this team of timber specialists is well-equipped to meet the upcoming challenges created by the digitisation of construction (BIM). The immense flexibility and performance of the machinery requires a high level of software expertise so as to provide the machinery with the high-quality code and flawless information that are so vital. Needless to say, Lehmann Timber Code AG also specialises in the preparation of this data. The IT system is designed to allow all information corresponding to geometrical features to be imported and supplemented with data relevant to production and quality. All data can be exported into the usual formats or further modified in additional stages of the process.

The most technically advanced machine engineering

The heart is a CNC system built upon tried and tested technology from the Technowood AG company in Toggenburg, Switzerland. Through close collaboration, the machine underwent further development, allowing us to incorporate our own specifications, including some world firsts. The TW mill offers a highly unique interplay of software and hardware components to ensure

seamless processes from development all the way to production. This enables simple as well as complex work to be executed on both lightweight and heavy components with exceptional precision and speed. The system features a range of operational levels to configure both the preparatory planning as well as the process itself in the most efficient and flexible way possible.

In essence, the CNC system consists of a free-standing gantry with three 5-axis units and eight dollies for moving the workpieces. All six sides of a component can be processed without any further clamping. The size of the parts that can be manufactured is limited only by the means of transport by road, rail, water or air. The CNC system can process parts in sizes up to 5.5 m in width and 27 m in length and a processing height (Z axis) of 1.35 m is available.

Preassembly takes place immediately after and completes the range of services. This stage sees the finished CNC parts turned into components, modules or ready-to-assemble units, which are then packaged up to finish.

Martin Antemann, Manager of Lehmann Timber Code AG:

“True to the principle of ‘whether rugged and tall, dainty and small, crooked or straight, we won't let it wait’, we look forward to all enquiries from timber construction, the timber industry, formwork and preform construction as well as system and product manufacturers.”

Karl Bollhalder, member of the management team at Technowood AG:

“Lehmann Timber Code AG shares our guiding principle of achieving ultimate quality with our products. This system satisfies the highest of expectations and, combined with flexible programming and control options, creates top-quality and efficiently manufactured components.”

Timber construction all the rage: top architects discover new possibilities using timber

Lehmann Timber Code AG manufactures components for a red-hot development in timber construction: thanks to digital design, impressive feats of engineering and developments in timber-based materials, we are now able to construct timber designs that just a few years ago would only have seemed possible using other materials. A growing number of premier architects are now looking to timber as a natural, high-tech material and the immense range of design possibilities it opens up. An increasing collection of landmark projects are being accomplished with structural architecture, where timber serves not just as cladding and protection but also as the support structure itself while emerging visibly in striking architectural form. A who's who of international architects have shown great appreciation for timber. These include Norman Foster, Zaha Hadid, Herzog & de Meuron and that trailblazer of sustainable construction and holder of the Pritzker award, Shigeru Ban. Where timber constructions used to be limited to just a few floors, today designs are being drawn up for 30-storey high-rises. Residential, office and industrial buildings are bringing timber construction back to the urban environment, making timber the building material of the future.

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