

Press Release

New conveyor technology sets standards and with the collaboration app use digital tools effectively

With a new generation of conveyor technology Grenzebach makes it possible to further increase the availability of float glass plants. Transporting glass gently, carefully and safely: The specially developed drive train with direct drive represents a major step forward. The number of components in the drive has been minimized and access to key components is now even easier. This enables companies to significantly reduce the cost of spare parts and maintenance. And thanks to the new collaboration app, the work on the conveyor system is now even easier.

The operators of float glass plants want continuous production 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Conveying technology is the connecting element in a float glass plant. Grenzebach has always been committed to transporting glass gently and safely. The new generation of conveyor technology now provides even more dynamics, reliability and also saves resources - a big step into the future. "Every hour of standstill costs the operators of glass plants immense money. With our new generation, we are once again increasing the availability of conveyor technology, and significantly fewer resources are required for spare parts and maintenance," emphasizes Markus Schmid, Senior Manager Mechanical Concept Engineering at Grenzebach.

Direct drive brings many advantages

The newly developed drive train with direct drive works without the usual belts and drive shafts. This provides even greater dynamics during transport, increases efficiency and also reduces the requirements for spare parts storage and maintenance. Markus Schmid continues: "These service-intensive components have been eliminated and are now a thing of the past for conveyor technology." The new drive train also makes it possible to use all common motors. Newly developed bevel gears are used to transmit power to each roller, which not only guarantee smoother running - but above all, much more precise positioning. With this innovation Grenzebach underlines the demand for gentle and precise glass transport along the entire production line.

Free view of key components at all times

Another novelty: Due to the compact design, all components are arranged below the conveying level. Access to the drive train is provided by a continuous transparent protective cover. This means a clear view of key components such as gears and shafts at all times. The innovative lock system allows quick and easy access for maintenance work. Thanks to a special plastic mixture, the protective cover is almost unbreakable, durable and perfectly suited to the harsh requirements.

Change over now and save resources permanently

"The advantages of the new generation of conveyor technology naturally are also open to the operators of existing glass lines. As a competent service partner, we

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Press Release

retrofit lines so that they can benefit too," says Florian Nagler, Head of Customer Service at Grenzebach. Provided that the necessary preparations have been made, the conversion of a drive to the new conveyor technology generation can usually be completed in less than three hours. That's well invested time, which results in lasting and substantial savings in resources. Downtimes due to maintenance work are eliminated and the production yield is increased. The maintenance intervals and scope as well as spare parts requirements are reduced.

Impulses and wishes of customers taken up

Impulses and requests from the operators were decisive for the development of the new conveyor technology generation. "As a sparring partner of the industry, an ongoing exchange of ideas to optimize the technologies is just as important to us as optimal support in day-to-day business," says Grenzebach expert Markus Schmid. Less downtime, predictable maintenance and thus lower costs: with this focus, Grenzebach supports the further development of systems throughout their entire life cycle.

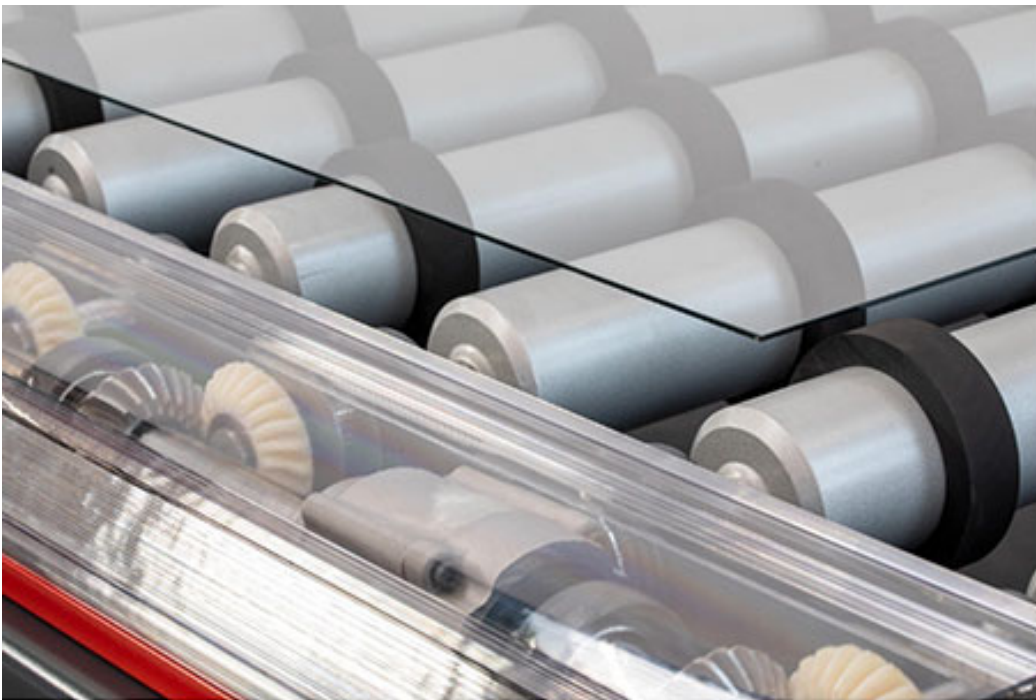
Next service level: the collaboration app

In order to solve questions and problems on the flat glass line as quickly as possible directly on site, Grenzebach customers can now use the collaboration app. Nagler: "The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us what is possible in virtual ways. With the collaboration app, we can provide customers all over the world with practical help directly at the plant, in addition to our existing service channels". Another leap forward in remote service, which Grenzebach's experts provide around the clock for customers worldwide.

Targeted advice directly at the plant

The key functionalities include not only the classic communication channels via chat, audio or video call, but also the possibility of using a graphic live annotation to incorporate specific notes and comments directly into the situation on site. "In the future, we will have our eyes and ears directly on our customers' systems and will be able to provide even more extensive, targeted and better support," says Florian Nagler. The integration of smart glasses as well as the transfer of data or documentation and the sharing of the screen are a matter of course.

Press Release



Access to the conveyor system is possible via a continuous transparent protective cover. This means a clear view of the key components at all times.

Source: Grenzebach



CE-conformal quick release fasteners make the drive train easily accessible. Thanks to the quick lock system, access for maintenance work is now much easier and faster.

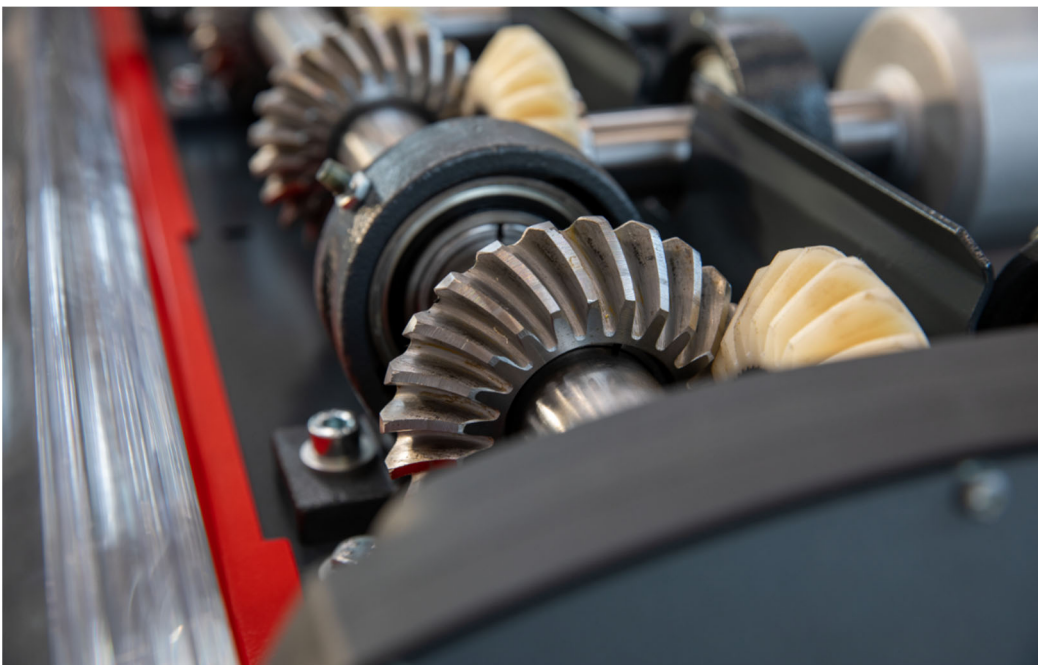
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Press Release



A major innovation: the direct drive with a new type of gear unit has no belts or cardan shafts. All common motors from different manufacturers can be directly mounted to the new transmission. Due to the compact design, assemblies remain below the conveying level without any problems.

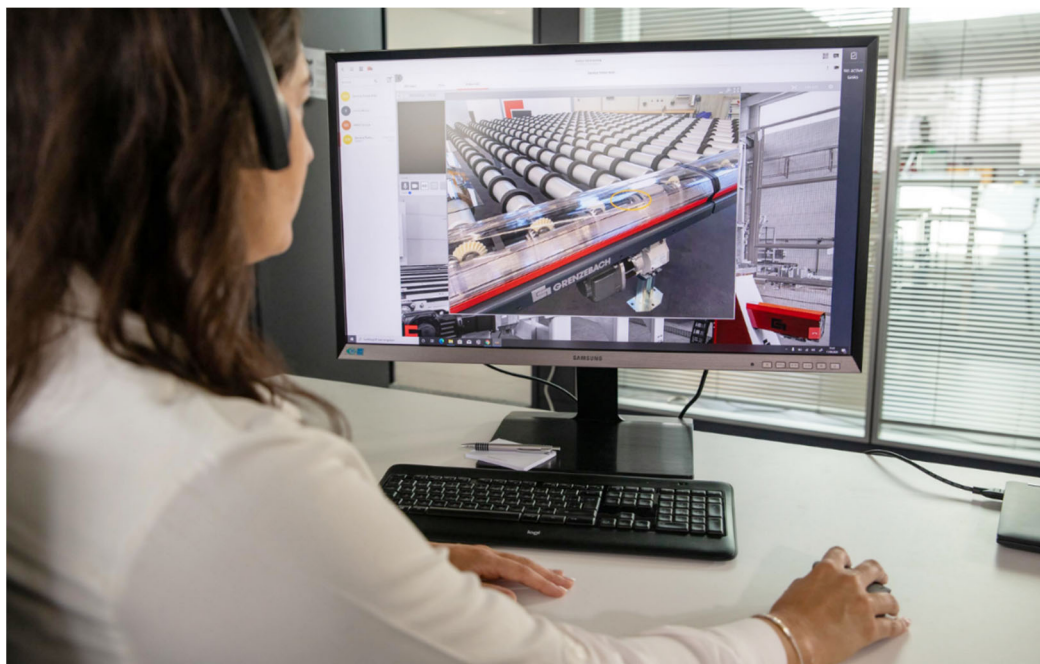
Source: Grenzbach



Gentle glass transport along the entire line: Newly developed bevel gears are used for power transmission to the respective support rollers. They not only enable smooth and gentle running, but above all guarantee even more precise positioning.

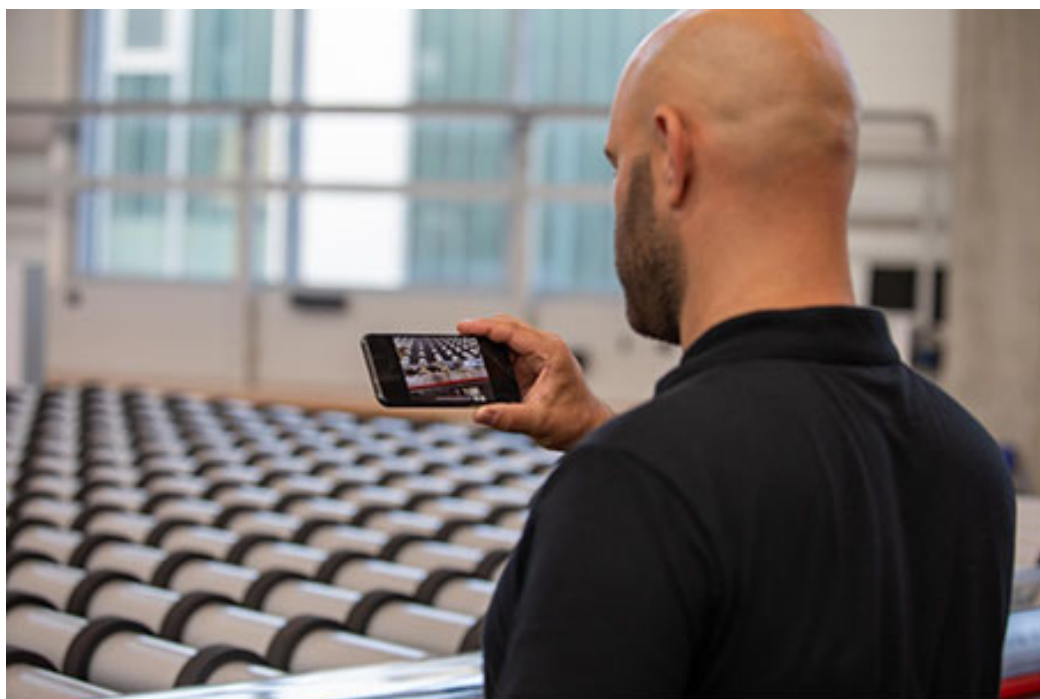
Source: Grenzbach

Press Release



The new collaboration app makes it even easier for the service team to connect to float glass plants worldwide. Questions can be answered quickly and the plant is quickly available again in working order.

Source: Grenzebach



The collaboration app takes you to the next remote service level: technicians at the plant operator's receive direct graphical annotations as well as very practical tips and notes for troubleshooting.

Source: Grenzebach

Press Release

Grenzebach is a leading automatization solution provider for the global glass, building material and intralogistics market. In addition, the company develops new application areas, such as friction stir welding, the automatization of industrial additive manufacturing and digital networking. The digitalization platform SERICY allows customers to develop their own future-proof digital know-how. Grenzebach ranks among the international technology leaders in its markets. The global manufacturing footprint with production sites in Germany, Romania, the US and China, as well as additional worldwide locations ensure customer support on-site. More than 3,000 systems installed in more than 55 countries stand for quality and reliability. Since the company opened its doors 60 years ago, it has been owned by the founding family. With an export ratio of more than 90 percent, Grenzebach is a global player.