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More efficiency at CEWE thanks to POLAR AirGo Jog

The AirGo Jog was first presented at the end of 2020 as a 'milestone for autonomous processing'. The development was carried out in cooperation with the online photo service provider CEWE - after a successful field test, two examples of the jogger are now in use.

The search for a new ventilation system brought CEWE and POLAR together four years ago. The goal was to find a solution for B2 formats that would allow the sheets to be removed and processed in layers without having to change the sequence of the sheets. The place of operation: the production facility in Germering, which specializes in medium format. All orders are processed there in intermittent three-shift operation.

POLAR, with CEWE as field test customer, has developed a fully autonomous system: The AirGo Jog fully automates the loading and jogging process. First, a Transomat loader takes entire layers from a pallet and transports them to an automatic jogger. There, the usual jogging process first begins - with the crucial component: an aeration system. While the material is jogged, air is blown into the cutting layer. This enables a first-class, edge-precise jogging result. The jogged cutting layer can then be cut in one.

Successful project even in times of crisis

"We are delighted that the AirGo Jog has finally arrived on the market. The close cooperation with CEWE was a great help in overcoming last difficulties - the successful field tests now confirm the success," says Sales Manager Markus Judel. The project period since 2020 was a particular challenge. "The past two to three years were conceivably complicated, there was the pandemic and later major supply chain problems," recalls Frank Schulz, technical manager of CEWE's Germering site, who steered the project. "The fact that it was still successfully implemented was only possible because of the great flexibility on both sides!"

In the meantime, the jogger in Germering is no longer just running in test mode, but in regular operation: around the clock, with a cycle time of 60 to 90 seconds, it is a real efficiency miracle. CEWE retrofitted a second model at the end of 2022. "Almost all of our projects are processed with the AirGo Jogs," says Frank Schulz. The program includes grammages from 150 to 250 grams; in tests, even papers with only 80 grams could be jogged successfully. The POLAR system is convincing all around: "We were able to greatly reduce the number of FTEs, the system runs more reliably and the ventilation result is optimized," Schulz is pleased to report, "in addition, the AirGo Jog is very compact in its design and does not require much space." POLAR systems are popular at CEWE - several cutting units, two of which are currently equipped with an AirGo Jog, are located in Germering.

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No detail is lost in the digital FAT



At the Print Media Center of Heidelberger Druckmaschinen, the AirGo Jog is installed together with a POLAR PACE system.