



HIGHER-QUALITY VENEER SHEETS MORE EFFICIENTLY BY MODERNIZING THE DRYER

Quality has a name. Koskisen. Koskisen is a family company that was founded more than 100 years ago. Over the decades, they have evolved into an international wood products and processing expert. Since 1909 Koskisen has developed from being a small co-operative in sawmilling to a trustworthy manufacturer of high-quality wood products in Finland and a major employer in its operation locations.

The plywood panel business is one of four core business areas of Koskisen. Raute and the Järvelä origin manufacturer have been in close cooperation for many decades. **During the years, Raute has delivered single machine modernizations to a complete factory enlargement and updates.**

The main raw material of Koskisen plywood products is Finnish birch which is both durable and strong; it is suitable for a wide variety of industrial and architectural end uses. Koskisen's plywood is a highly regarded and sought-after solution in the demanding global market for transportation, building, and interior design manufacturers.



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Antti Kotro, Production Manager



Modernizing machinery to meet the quality standards

One recent delivery from Raute to Koskisen plywood mill was a veneer drying machine modernization where the process control and dryer analyzers were updated. During the improvement of the drying line, some manufacturing machinery and especially their control units were updated. The analyzers were updated with the latest solutions to ensure the highest-quality process and end-products.

– Koskisen production development had recently changed their recipes for multiply plywood products and with line modernizations. The result was that the operator dependence got decreased plus it released more time for overall operation monitoring, says Production Manager **Antti Kotro**. – This guarantees the solid quality between the production shifts and days.

Calling Raute to help to improve the production, Koskisen wanted to produce higher-quality veneer sheets more efficiently. By modernizing the dryer and minimizing over-drying, the production improved in quality and efficiency.

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Effects on the production

– The increase in automation smoothed out the variation in production, enlightens Mr. Kotro the outcomes. – When the dryer conditions for drying the wood were kept at more optimal values, the quality productivity also improved. In addition, we improved the mill's energy efficiency.

The modernization process by Raute took only less than a fortnight, with less than a week installation work and start-up time a week. These fast modernizations are Raute's signature – we only want minimized production downtime with a result that means efficiency, quality, and savings.

– We timed the modernization beyond traditional maintenance stoppages. This emphasized the importance of project management. The definition, planning, and monitoring of the project were successful, utilizing the strengths of both Koskinen and Raute. In such projects, seamless cooperation is crucial to success, and it worked well with Raute.

