



## ITALIAN VENEER MANUFACTURER PANGUANETA OPTIMIZES PRODUCTION

*In 2018, Panguaneta SPA started to develop their production lines by building a 3,500 m<sup>2</sup> extension to their block peeling department. The project included installing two peeling lines from Raute, which resulted in raw material savings and higher production volume per hour.*

### Improving competitiveness was the target from the beginning

Panguaneta is an Italian leader in the poplar plywood market and one of the most significant companies in their industry. The company is based in Sabbioneta, Italy, and their mill extends over a 29,000 m<sup>2</sup> floor area where 250 people produce 85.000 m<sup>3</sup> of quality plywood per year. Their products are mainly used for automotive and nautical purposes but also in furniture and design, along with construction and DIY projects.



The improved efficiency and competitiveness of peeling production was at the center of Pnaguaneta and Raute's project from the beginning. Therefore, Panguaneta paid a lot of attention to saving raw materials, improving the quality of semifinished products and optimizing production times. They also aimed at increasing the capability to manage multiple formats simultaneously and capturing all the necessary data from the production.

"Raute was able to satisfy all of our requirements by designing and manufacturing two lines, each of them for a specific format. Both of them have been in continuous operation since 2018," **Gino Ceresara**, Panguaneta's Engineering Manager says. "Since the very beginning, the lines have stood out. They are reliable and fast while also guaranteeing tangible savings in raw material."



## Data capturing is mandatory for an efficient process

The supplied Raute technology included a data capturing management and information system, MillsIGHTS, which captures production, process and downtime data. This supports the monitoring and controlling of the production.

Mr. Ceresara continues: "An important aspect is the in-out data exchange of the machines. This, in addition to the usual automatic setup of the new formats, allows the collection of all necessary information. That data is key in monitoring the production and catching performance trends.

Now it's possible to deduce the necessity of immediate corrective actions that keep efficiency high."

The key benefits of Raute's equipment and MillsIGHTS are that they continuously provide valuable production information and alert instantly if there is any deviation from the issued targets. Mr. Ceresara says: "This data exchange meets the overall goal, the 'Industry 4.0' requirements and ensures that information is available for Panguaneta's Planning and Finance departments for more conscious and precise production management."

"I followed this project from the concrete casting of the machine bases up until erection, commissioning, start-up and continuous maintenance. To us, this project has indeed been an arrow that hit the target in the center," Mr. Ceresara states.

## Timely delivery and tailoring to Panguaneta's needs

Raute delivered the lines on time, providing project supervisors for controlling Panguaneta's assembly teams and guaranteeing the correct erection.

The installation of the lines started in mid-July 2018 and after three months the first one, the short peeling line, started production in the hands of Panguaneta's trained peeling operators. During February 2019, the longer peeling line started production. The latter has proven to be so flexible that it has also covered formats intended for the shorter line.

"Over the next months, further improvements were agreed upon and executed, thanks to the flexibility and support of the Raute staff. They contributed to making the lines as flexible as possible for Panguaneta's specific requirements," Mr. Ceresara explains.

After a few months of operation, it was already possible to see the effectiveness of the block centering unit. Along with a remarkable core diameter reduction, the blocks can now be used optimally thanks to the precision of the Block Centering Analyzer R7 (the original name was Smart Scan HD Centering) and the autocalibration function, performed through the peeler's laser feedback. All of this has resulted in the reduction of raw material volume, with higher veneer quality and equal production rate.



## Safety first

The safety of the persons working on the production lines – the operators, maintenance personnel as well as those who are not familiar with the dangers – is Raute's priority. This is why Raute assesses and implements all safety measures. Finland and Raute are forerunners of safety issues and culture so we're in a good position to bring new professional points to the safety of operating the lines.

"Operator safety and machine preservation is a topic handled with extreme care, with all aspects assessed, pondered, and implemented," Mr. Ceresara says.

“ *When something is preventing a production cycle, a detailed diagnostic system analyses the cause.* ”

Gino Ceresara, Engineering Manager, Panguaneta





## Meeting performance standards throughout machinery life cycle

In order to ensure and maintain but also to improve the overall equipment efficiency of the machinery, Panguaneta reached a service agreement with Raute.

The program includes regular periodical visits to the peeling lines carried out by Raute specialists. The main target of the service program is to prevent unplanned stoppages by inspecting the machinery and its parts on a regular basis. The machinery's capability to produce good quality is checked and in case there is a need for adjustments or hand-on training, they are also provided during the visits. This allows Panguaneta to maintain the expected performance standards.

Raute's machines are reliable and their regular maintenance is easy. "The whole line is quite complex, but when something is preventing a production cycle, a detailed diagnostic system analyses the cause," Mr. Ceresara says. "A 24/7 online assistance service is also available from the Raute headquarters whenever our maintenance team needs help."

"The best end results on OEE can be achieved with correct activities and committed co-operation between the companies and personnel," says **Juha Rantalainen**, Head of Services at Raute Corporation.

