

## High-speed mini gates improve transport sequences and energy efficiency

Bayernoil Raffinerie Vohburg modernises maintenance buildings with high-speed doors from EFAFLEX

**A small door for bicycles and pedestrians, directly next to the big one for vehicles? The maintenance department of Bayernoil Raffineriegesellschaft mbH in Vohburg, Bavaria, put its money where its mouth is when replacing outdated outer doors with four high-speed turbo doors from the door specialists EFAFLEX. In order not to have to use the large doors for pedestrians and cyclists, small doors for cycle and pedestrian traffic were integrated into the entrances. This means that the minimum cold ambient air gets into the halls when opening and closing, and the temperature remains significantly more stable, even in the doorways.**

“Thanks to the new doors, even more daylight comes into the halls. Of course, our employees are happy about this,” comments Michael Schölch, maintenance engineer at the Vohburg site, on the benefits of the exchange. The steel folding doors in the workshop area were already 50 years old and no longer corresponded to the highest technological standards. The four sealed, highly insulating doors from EFAFLEX have been ensuring a positive energy balance since their installation.

The 200 work places in the valve workshop, in the warehouse, in the electrical, measurement and control area and in the mechanical workshop are free from drafts and weather related temperature fluctuations, due to the very fast opening and closing speeds.

Apart from the doors for fork lift and HGV traffic, further, smaller EFA-STT® have been installed for pedestrians and cyclists. Opening and closing occur precisely, via radar recognition in front of and behind the door. “Our employees no longer have to park their heavy load bicycles in front of the door, jack them up and then open the door to ride through,” says Michael Schölch, explaining a further important advantage of the new doors. “Now, they can simply ride through the door that opens in front of them and immediately closes again. This means that our logistical processes are more efficient.” However, this means heavy work for the doors: In nine months, over 110,000 opening cycles have been triggered through passenger transport alone.

The wind and weather resistant door leaf of the EFA-STT® is made of crystal-clear and PVC-free laths made of acrylic glass. It is divided in a grid dimension of 225 mm. This means that over 70 % of the door area is transparent. On the one hand, this brings a lot of daylight into the hall, and the clear view through the door significantly helps to avoid accidents and guarantee flawless transport sequences. The opened door leaf is incorporated into the original EFAFLEX spiral, in a compact, contact-free and therefore wear-free way, because the individual “layers” are continually kept apart during the high movement speeds of up to 2.5 m/s. This exemplary functional principle combines easy door movement with long life span and the highest availability. Even after many years in the most strenuous use, high-speed EFA-STT® still impress due to absolute economic viability and a flawless look. Furthermore, innovative product characteristics make it universally usable in architecture, for building sizes up to 8,000 mm x 7,800 mm. On request, various combinations with (e.g. grey) dyed and/or translucent laths can be realised for a variety of areas of application.

The modern doors highlight the company philosophy, to treat the employees as the most important goods. The refinery in Vohburg started operation in 1967. The premises is around 127 hectares. This part of the operation is supplied by the Transalpine Pipeline (TAL). Crude oil from Africa, Norway, Saudi Arabia and other producing countries is pumped through this pipeline from Triest to Vohburg and processed there. A wide product range emerges there: Refinery heating gas for own use, liquid gas, all types of petrol used today, diesel fuel, light and heavy fuel oil, kerosene, bitumen and sulphur. A well-trained and dedicated team guarantees an environmentally friendly and safe operation of the refinery.