

## New finger-jointing line for Artbois' special beam products

**Pinomatic and its agent, Finnso Bois, have concluded a deal with Belgian company Artbois for the delivery of finger-jointing line.**

Artbois, which is located in Etalle in Belgium, manufactures construction beams or balks for individual houses, industrial buildings, engineering structures, and recreational buildings, and their customers are mainly individuals, or institutional and industrial companies.

The company was established in 1989, and since 1996 it has been manufacturing constructions beams. The company employs twenty people, and has a turnover of about 3.1 million euros (in 2009).

Artbois' Managing Director Patrick Van Horenbeeck is a carpen-

ter himself, and the company can offer its customers complete services which include technical design, resistance calculations, manufacturing, and building works, as well as being able to provide architectural points of view for its products.

### Artblock™

Its creator, **Patrick Van Horenbeeck**, introduced a patent for a new build system in February 2008, calling it Artblock™. The idea centres around 'wooden self-supporting blocks', completely modular, which are composed of two parts of cross finger-jointed boards, separated with spacers of variable lengths, specifying the thickness of the insulation. Components are joined together with vertical sheaths. It is an aesthetic, economic and very quick technique. The system was imple-



After contract negotiations at Artbois. Sami Malinen (left), Finnso Bois' Thierry Lallia, Petri Oravamäki and Artbois' Managing Director Patrick Van Horenbeeck.



Line installation has started. Artbois' Toni Hautler, Pinomatic's programmer Juha Pitkäranta and Thierry Lallia from Finnso Bois.

mented for the first time in January 2009, for a specific customer in Gaume (Belgium). A second order concerned two duplex houses in Drôme (France). Artbois' target also includes the communities market: childcare facilities, offices, retirement homes, etc.

Artbois always delivers very individual balk and beam constructions made to very demanding targets and requirements. Special products also demand special requirements for the production line, as there may be versatile balks or beams included in the production batch.

### New line

Patrick Van Horenbeeck decided to install this very individual produc-

tion line because he wanted to increase the quality of his products, and the speed and profitability of the line itself. That line has been created in order to use a timber one-line strength grading.

According to the wishes of Artbois, a saw that was already in use at their factory was attached to the line. That saw is now controlled by Pinomatic's own system. The saw was delivered to Pinomatic to be attached to the line and Pinomatic converted the saw's use from manual to fully automatic. Artbois' Managing Director Patrick Van Horenbeeck visited Pinomatic in May to join in with the operator training course. Project Manager **Vincent Planté** from Finnso Bois joined him.

During the training course, attention is drawn to the functioning of the line, something which is in accordance with the contract. In addition, different work phases, the functioning of the different pieces of equipment, and the general maintenance of all constituent parts all have their own area of instruction.

In the operator training phase the line is driven using real customer products. This way the customer is able to see that the real functioning of the line, as well as the installation and start-up phase at the customer's facilities, proceeds smoothly, without any extra test-drives.

The delivery of the line takes place at the end of May 2010. (Visit [www.artbois.be](http://www.artbois.be) - [www.artblock.be](http://www.artblock.be).)

## Artowood automates its production

**Arto Korkea-aho started with the production of wooden doors 25 years ago in a woodworking factory he had bought in Alajärvi, Finland. Eight years later a component plant was founded in Lappajärvi, to support the production of the door plant. The company has invested in continuous development and maintenance of the competitiveness, and now it is the turn of further automation of the production equipment of the component plant, which were installed in spring 2010.**

Artowood Ltd, located in Lappajärvi, has been involved in timber downstream operations since 1993. The company manufactures glued, fingerjointed and pre-cut wooden products. The company provides employment to 30 persons and

the turnover is around 4.0 million euros. The share of exports accounts for 10%.

Artopine, which operates in Alajärvi, is the sister company of Artowood. The turnover of Artopine is around 4.5 million euros with the

share of indirect exports accounting for about 50%. There are 30 employees. The company manufactures exterior and interior doors mostly for the timber house industry. Artowood produces the preformed elements required by Artopine, but the customers also include numerous other enterprises who use timber components, such as door and window plants.

The products of Artowood include DUO blocks, supports, preformed panels, door and window components and frames. The raw material used is the Finnish pine, with the annual use of around 8,000 m<sup>3</sup>.

### Further automation in production

Artowood as the downstream operator of timber is a growing and expanding company. Artowood strives to keep the stock of machinery modern, ensuring thereby the high quality and flexibility of operations.

The delivery by Pinomatic included mechanisation devices for different points in production, such as the optimizing cross-cutting saw and the outfeed of the planing machine. In addition, a stacking device was delivered for the finger-

jointing machine, and the gluing unit of the high frequency press was renewed. All investments are targeted at increasing the operating rate, whereby the current processing machines will ensure higher capacities.

According to **Arto Korkea-aho** the project has progressed well and exactly according to the agreed schedule. Installation activities and the services during the sales stage have received positive feedback. "We are completely satisfied with the operations of Pinomatic," points out Arto Korkea-aho.

# Vankkapuu increased its production capacity with a new cross-cutting saw line

The pallet plant in Simpele runs with a new cross-cutting saw line. In November 2009 Vankkapuu Oy and Pinomatic concluded a contract for the delivery of a new line and now from the early spring the line has been in use.

Vankkapuu Oy is a Finnish company located in Simpele, Rautajärvi municipality and operating in the wood processing industry. Vankkapuu is a family business with another operating facility also in Honkalahti, Joutseno. Antero Vanhatalo found-

ed the company in 1986 and his son Mikko Vanhatalo took over the venture when becoming the Managing Director of Vankkapuu in 2009.

In the early days the business of Vankkapuu included the production of pallets and roll caps for the paper and cardboard industry in the neighbourhood. Along the years the company has grown and in addition to pallets and roll caps the operations now include the sale of timber and building accessories, planing, preforming of the elements of timber frames and blow wool contracting. The annual turnover of Vankkapuu Oy is about 5.6 million euros and the company

provides employment to 23 persons.

Vankkapuu is known for the quality of its products and the reliable and expert customer service. There are also special products available. The company serves both the industry and private builders.

## A new cross-cutting line for pallet production

The annual output of pallets in the Vankkapuu plant in Simpele is around 250,000 units of pallets per shift. The delivery by Pinomatic included the mechanisation devices for the new cross-cutting saw line.

The starting point for the client was that the timber to be cut in the new cross-cutting line would be cut directly on a need basis, whereby no timber cut into set lengths would be routed through the warehouse. This posed completely new challenges to the programming of the infeeding devices and the cross-cutting saw. The production batch (for example, day 1) would be given directly from the production control to the optimising program of the cross-cutting saw. The saw and Pinomatic equipment would communicate mutually through an EtherNet channel. The Pinomatic system would tell, which timber lengths are available (3 different lengths at maximum) and the saw orders boards with the correct length in the appropriate amount, which the Pinomatic devices turn



Three different lengths of timber can be used simultaneously, with own stacking stations on carriages that move aside.

into small bundles for feeding to the saw. The cross-cutting saw is of the type that pushes from the end, making it possible to saw a maximum of 10 boards at a time.

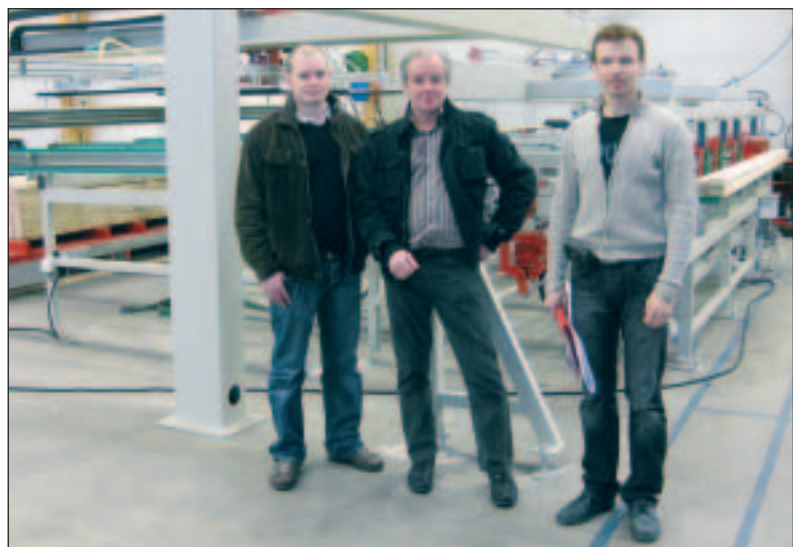
## Positive experience from action

"All in all, the project proceeded as planned without any major surprises", Mikko Vanhatalo tells. "We were looking for a tailored optimising cross-cutting saw line for the timber in our production and opted for the combination of a cross-cutting saw offered by Awutek Oy and the mechanisation delivered by Pinomatic. For us it was important that the saw and the mechanisation would function seamlessly together."

According to Vanhatalo the operation of the line was thoroughly examined prior to the deal, and after the deal was closed the project

moved on fast. "The coordination of the saw and the feeding equipment was managed splendidly in a direct contact between the suppliers of the devices."

"The saw line was completed almost unnoticed, while we had the pallet line installed at the same time. The installation of the saw line itself went fast, in about a week, after which the test-runs started," Mikko Vanhatalo tells. "The needs for changes that were discovered in the program and mechanics during the test runs were corrected in a short period. Now the line has been running already for a couple of months and the operators have also adopted the new operating methods. The production capacity has increased already by now an estimated 25 per cent in comparison to the old saw," Vanhatalo concludes.



Mikko (left) and Antero Vanhatalo from Vankkapuu were monitoring in Pinomatic the test-running of the line together with Esa Uusi-Kokko, the Technology Manager of Pinomatic.

# pinomatic

Pinomatic Ltd  
Pohjolan tie 7,  
61800 KAUAJOKI  
FINLAND

Tel. +358 (0)20 741 9720  
Fax +358 (0)20 741 9759  
pinomatic@pinomatic.fi  
www.pinomatic.fi

## Administration

Matti Rantala  
President  
Tel. +358 (0)20 741 9743  
matti.rantala@pinomatic.fi

## Sales

Petri Oravamäki  
Vice President  
Tel. +358 (0)20 741 9740  
petri.oravamaki@pinomatic.fi

Ville Hautanen

Sales Engineer  
Tel. +358 (0)20 741 9724  
ville.hautanen@pinomatic.fi

Sami Malinen

Export Manager  
Tel. +358 (0)20 741 9735  
sami.malinen@pinomatic.fi

## After Sales Service

Tel. +358 (0)20 741 9727  
service@pinomatic.fi

Jani Hiula

After Sales Manager  
Tel. +358 (0)20 741 9725  
jani.hiula@pinomatic.fi

## Pinomatic News 1/2010

Pinomatic Ltd's  
customer magazine

Editor:

Pinomatic Ltd,  
Anne-Mari Hautala  
Marketing Manager  
Tel +358 (0)20 741 9723  
anne-mari.hautala@pinomatic.fi

Layout and printing:  
SeT-Print, Teija Seppälä

## In the Pinomatic gym the metal clangs and the treadmill hums

Pinomatic Oy actively invests in the fitness activities of its employees. The working team have already participated in marathon events for a number of times. In addition to floorball and baseball stunts the employees have also subsidies to use the services of the swimming hall in Kauhajoki. Pinomatic's own gym also gives a nice kick in staying in shape.

The interest in a gym was mapped for the first time in 2003 and based on this interest a decision was made to provide it immediately after the first survey. Once the gym has also been moved to larger premises and more equipment has been procured.

The gym is available not only for employees, but also for their spouses and children. There is enough of space for efficient train-



Two of the most eager gym visitors among Pinomatic staff are Teemu Kujanpää (left) and Tommi Nikkola.

ing even for eight simultaneous users, without having to queue up for the machines. The latest addition to the gym was a treadmill, which has been in heavy use along with the marathon hobby. If you need a change from the workout in

the gym, you can grab your racket and have a round of badminton with your training pal in the Pinomatic hall.



Agent in France:  
Finnso Bois  
Accompagne vos projets durables  
18, quai Louis Blériot  
75016 Paris, France  
Mr. Christian Lallia  
Tel. +33 1 45 27 73 40  
www.finnso Bois.com

Agent in Germany:



CTR Holztechnik, Müller zu Bruck Str. 12  
83052 Bruckmühl, Germany  
Tel. +49 8062 7255 150  
www.ctr-holztechnik.com

Agent in Lithuania:



UAB "Singlis", Savanoriu pr.187-4 korp.  
02300 Vilnius, Lithuania  
Mr. Andrius Zuzevicius  
Tel. +370 687 36037  
www.singlis.lt

Agent in Sweden:



Norrborn 1102  
82194 Bollnäs, Sweden  
Mr. Nils Myhrlund  
Tel. +46 (0)278 26400  
www.baldia.se