

Together we make your project a  
**Story of success**



**200,000**  
solid m<sup>3</sup> per year



Log yard extended  
by a second sorting line

After only a short modification time, the new log yard part with crosscut line could start operation.

**HOLTEC**

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## Trust in proven technology

Efficiency and innovations  
in detail as key factors

At the beginning of summer 2018 Hirschbach's log yard in Sulzbach-Laufen was extended by adding a second sorting line. During this enlargement, the long log cutting line which was over 20 years old was exchanged for a new high performance cutting line made by Holtec.

On the basis of a good and long term business partnership as well as of confidence in proven Holtec technology, the order was given to Holtec GmbH & Co. KG in December 2017. An important argument for the investment was the increase of yield and capacity of the log yard. Hirschbach is a traditional family-run company, which is managed in the fourth generation by Mrs. Claudia Hirschbach.

The annual capacity of about 200,000 solid m<sup>3</sup> is covered by 2/3 short logs and 1/3 long logs, mostly spruce. Customers are in the timber construction and the laminated timber industry. But Hirschbach's customers are also the classical wholesalers as well as the packaging industry. The log yard is designed in such a way that cut logs from the long log storage as well as short logs from the short log infeed are combined on a debarking line. This matching was realized in 2007 by a Holtec acceleration roller way with two allocators.

### Minimized downtimes due to well thought-out construction stages.

The whole project was divided in two construction stages to minimize the downtimes as much as possible. First, the centering unit of the debarker and the measuring line were exchanged. At the same time a second sorting line was installed, parallel to the existing one. Due to the detailed planning and arrangement of both companies, Holtec and Hirschbach, the feeding of the sawmill with short logs could be restarted after a rebuild time of only three weeks. After the successful commissioning of this part the old long log yard was demounted and replaced by a new Holtec long log cutting line. New control and performance electrics were delivered by Holtec for the whole installation. So it was possible to transfer the complete installation with CE standards.

### Challenge: limited operational areas

The operational areas of Hirschbach in Kocher valley are limited by the river Kocher and its torrents as well as by the street. Therefore it was really necessary when planning to position the long log and short log feeding as well as the sorting line in the best possible way to get an optimal use of space.

### Innovations in detail –

#### Milling disc instead of pre-cut saw

Yield and evaluation of the wood as well as large assortment were key points the same as the innovations in detail. This is the first time when a Holtec customer in Germany had a pre-cut milling disc installed behind the separating system and the butt-reducer made by Baljer & Zembrod. The milling disc was equipped with a saw element and a milling element to make a clean cut up to 7 cm at the butt end of the long logs. The milling element has a diameter of only 1000 mm, which can treat logs up to a diameter of 800 mm. The result of the first cut is a proper cutting surface which enables a better evaluation of the logs, as well as a homogenous mixture of remaining wooden chips which are more suitable for firing the heating installation than wooden discs. These arguments convinced the Hirschbach family. In the following the logs are transferred to the measuring line. As the division of the logs done by the operator is quite important, there is a second operator's desk at the measuring line. This way the operator has the optimal position to divide the logs according to the proposal of Jörg Elektronik.

After division, the logs are transferred to the cutting line where they are cut with a 110 kW high performance saw into different lengths. The short logs will be ejected by means of rotating ejectors to the storage steps and then transferred to the debarking line. Subsequently they are sorted in one of the two sorting lines. After a successful commissioning at the beginning of October 2018, the exchange of the cutting line for long logs could be finished. By the close and good collaboration of Holtec and Hirschbach, all objectives could be realized to full satisfaction.



” On the subject of utilization of residual wood: Homogeneous millings have the advantage over wooden discs.

Claudia Hirschbach  
CEO “

Satisfied project manager at Hirschbach:  
Ralf Bulling (Hirschbach), Valentin Huppertz (Vertrieb Holtec), Karl Jäger (Hirschbach)

