The Transparent Veneer?

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Today proper veneer management can be decisive for success or failure of a company; particularly when the material costs are as high as 50% and more, as is the case for veneered edges, jacket veneer of fixed veneer dimensions.

Naturally we cannot see through the veneer either. However, we have developed an overall system which allows us to check veneer purchasing as well as veneer classification and quality sorting and have therefore broken veneer management right down to the individual bundle or the final application therefore making it transparent for us.

This same problems present a number of primary factors for every veneer processor:

1. Is the quantity purchased really the actual quantity?
2. How high is the percentage of individual qualities, i.e. is the price still correct?
3. Do the quality classifications really apply for the product, which carries it in terms of costs or will reductions have to be made later?
4. How high is the waste rate?
5. There are only very few specialist who really know how to handle veneer to the optimum, and they should be used to the optimum!

Even when purchasing veneer it is always difficult to evaluate with uniform criteria, i.e. determine the price/benefit ratio clearly! Here even the daily form is sometimes decisive, however, it is even more decisive for the veneer cutter, because he usually determines the final quality and is expected to achieve the high exploitation rate. Everyone employing more than one person in this branch knows that some are more highly qualified, and these should handle the entire quality classification and optimisation, however, due to the extent of the work, can only process a certain percentage themselves. And when this has been processed to the optimum, the veneer bundle may even be used incerrectly later.

Moreover, the dimensions specified by the supplier can only be checked with extreme difficulty during the processing procedure itself, because great efforts are necessary for remeasuring or allccating to the dimensions in the dimension list. However, problem even occur when labelling with dimensions, because practically no one can check the number of bundles exactly, i.e. too many or too few bundles are also possible.

It is therefor necessary to rely on the information provided by the cutter in nearly all cases. He can designate certain batches as good batches or bad batches with degree of reliability.

Even when each cut bundle is catalouged using the cut dimension, which is already accomplished semi-automatically today in many cases, comparison is still made with the original dimension from the veneer supplier.

The veneer plants or dealers have different systems of measurement, whereby we differentiate primarily between manual measurement and electronic measurement. Everyone who has anything to do with veneer knows that tolerances play a role here. Certainly every veneer processor has already had problems with the dimensions, the quality or the exploitation and waviness at least once or was at least dissatisfied with the reliability of the data obtained.

With this background of unreliability we have decided to construct an electronic measuring system corresponding to those used at veneer plants in terms of its basic criteria, however, with a significantly higher measuring accuracy. For this purpose we have made arrangements with the Kleistronik company, a well known supplier for measuring systems for veneer plants, and constructed a completely new systems!

First this measuring system offers us the capability of measuring the original quantity according to the criteria of the veneer plants (width tolerance 5 mm, length tolerance 5 cm).

This allows us to determine the original dimensions of the bundle in one operation as well as perform quality classification.