

With wood flour through the standard screw: Wissner processes Re-Wood® on CX machines from KraussMaffei

- Teaching materials manufacturer Wissner relies on recyclates and KraussMaffei
- Re-Wood®: 80 percent regional wood flour plus binder
- Re-Plastic®: 100 percent from post-consumer waste
- 80 percent export share

(Parsdorf/Germany, June 5th 2024). At the blackboard in school - the large one-meter ruler in hand: many have already had contact with the products of Wissner GmbH. The company is also a technological pioneer and has created its own recycling material, Re-Wood. It is processed on injection molding machines from the KraussMaffei CX series - with standard plasticizing.

German SMEs are family-run, think in terms of generations and are committed to sustainability. This coincides with the interests of parents. They want their children's products to be natural, durable and, above all, safe to use. Wissner GmbH (Bensheim/Germany) combines everything: its teaching materials and games are mainly made from Re-Wood, a recycled material developed in-house. No additional trees have to be felled for it, as it is based on regional wood flour. Combined with a binder, either recycled plastic or biopolymer, Wissner brings it to granulate size and to the injection molding machines - all CX from KraussMaffei with clamping forces of 500 to 1,300 kN.

Due to its 80 percent wood content, Re-Wood has different physical properties than pure plastics. Nevertheless, it can be processed in a standard plasticizing process without any adjustments to the screw geometry or non-return valve. One thing in particular should be noted for the injection

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parameters: Re-Wood does not shrink - so care should be taken when reprinting.

Re-Wood products: 100 percent recyclable

Unlike real wood, Re-Wood building blocks can withstand cleaning in the dishwasher, they are very strong, almost infinitely durable and, if they do wear out, can be recycled again and again. Wissner even takes back Re-Wood products that are no longer needed. Building blocks & co. can be coated using drum coating, for example, and printing is also possible. Wissner also processes Re-Plastic®, which consists of 100 percent recycled post-consumer waste.

When the company began developing Re-Wood around ten years ago, the focus was on regional raw materials, environmentally friendly production, freedom from harmful substances and durability. It also had to be stable and saliva-proof - after all, the products are also intended for small children. Given the company's history, combining wood and plastic was an almost logical step, as Wissner started out as a joinery in 1976, followed later by plastics processing, and in 2007 the first CX machines from KraussMaffei moved in. Around 25 employees produce items such as geometric solids, slide rules and peg cubes. The traditional focus is on teaching materials for schools and kindergartens, with the games sector becoming increasingly important.

80 percent export share

In addition to its own products, such as the number game "Hexagon", Wissner also offers its expertise to major players in the games industry. The industry as a whole is currently endeavoring to relocate production processes from South East Asia back to Europe. For example, the wellknown Halma men are now available in Re-Wood in the special colors purple and natural. A total of 80 percent of Wissner's turnover comes from abroad. The pricing must therefore also be attractive for less affluent regions. The efficient processing of the future material Re-Wood on the CX machines is the prerequisite for this.

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01_PM_2024_06_Wissner Team.jpg

Driving forward the development of sustainable teaching and play materials together (from left): Jörn Wissner, Simon Hagemann, Jess Wissner, Jürgen Wissner (all Wissner GmbH) and Peter Meisel, Regional Sales Manager KraussMaffei Photo: KraussMaffei

02_PM_2024_06_Wissner Production.jpg

View into the production: The CX machines from KraussMaffei master the demanding processing of wood flour with standard plasticization Photo: KraussMaffei

03_PM_2024_06_Wissner Rewood.jpg

More color variety thanks to ReWood: The well-known Halma men are now also available in the colors purple and natural. What's more, the game pieces are almost infinitely durable, dishwasher-safe and 100 percent recyclable Photo: Wissner

04_PM_2024_06_Wissner Rewood Games.jpg With love to details: Thanks to its excellent properties, Re-Wood is increasingly conquering the national and international world of board games Photo: KraussMaffei

Enclosure: Pictures and more information can be found at <u>www.kraussmaffei.com</u>

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KraussMaffei – Pioneering Plastics

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KraussMaffei is among the world's leading manufacturers of machinery and systems for the production and processing of plastics and rubber. Our brand stands for cutting-edge technologies – for more than 185 years. Our range of services covers all areas of injection molding machinery, extrusion technology and reaction process machinery. In 2022 we added additive manufacturing to our portfolio. This broad range of technologies gives KraussMaffei a unique selling point in the industry. With the high innovative power of our standardized and individual product, process, digital and service solutions, we can guarantee customers sustained additional value over the entire value-adding chain. Our range of products and services allow us to serve customers in many sectors including the automotive, packaging, medical and construction industries, as well as manufacturers of electrical and electronic products and household appliances. KraussMaffei employs around 4.700 people all over the world. With more than 30 subsidiaries and over 10 production plants, as well as about 570 commercial and service partners, we are represented internationally close to our customers. The company was founded in 1838 in Munich.

In April 2016, China National Chemical Corporation Ltd. ("ChemChina") became the majority shareholder of KraussMaffei Group. In December 2018, ChemChina listed the KraussMaffei Group as KraussMaffei Company Limited in Shanghai. The listing opened up access to the Chinese capital market and local investors. Now ChemChina is part of Sinochem Holdings Corporation Ltd., one of the world's leading chemical conglomerates with over 220,000 employees.

For more information: www.kraussmaffei.com

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