

# FLEX TRIM CASE

Nr. 7, February 2009

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## Door producer in Spain: Longer lifetime and improved sanding quality with Flex Trim

The Spanish frame, moulding & door producer, Bricoblock, increased the lifetime fourfold and obtained improved sanding quality in addition to a more efficient production with a new solution from Flex Trim A/S.

### The customer

Bricoblock is one of Spain's largest producers of frames and mouldings, with a smaller scale production of white lacquered doors.

### The task – longer lifetime and simple replacement

The items to sand are doors in MDF with milled grooves with a depth of 15 mm. The doors are being wood sanded before being lacquered white.

Before the new solution from Flex Trim was implemented, Bricoblock used a roundabout brush sander with 4x400 mm and 2x600 mm spindles, equipped with conventional single-use brushes of a traditional brand.

These brushes had to be replaced with new brushes every 6<sup>th</sup> week and implied dismounting of the spindle. This replacement process induced stops in the production, and thus loss of time.

For that reason Bricoblock wanted longer lifetime of the brushes and also to avoid the very complicated replacement of the single-use brushes.

The brush sander is placed in a production line followed by a widebelt sander for sanding of the flat surfaces.

### The solution

With the solution from Flex Trim, the existing sanding heads were replaced with Flex Trim sanding heads installed in size Ø180.

To obtain improved sanding quality and longer lifetime on the brushes, the new sanding heads were equipped with 18 pcs. of sanding strips on each head, and with a shorter brush than used until then.

By using a shorter brush a higher sanding pressure was achieved, and combined with a significant reduction of spindle speed, the flexible brush could more easily get down into the milled grooves in the door.

By replacing the sandpaper to a higher grit size, it would have been possible to achieve finer sanding. However, this meant a reduction of the lifetime, which was Bricoblock's first priority, and for that reason, they chose to keep the same grit size as used until now.

Together with the reduction of RPM, the rotation speed on the round about brush sander unit was reduced to minimum.

### SUBJECT:

Longer lifetime and improved  
sanding quality

– profile sanding in MDF



The Spanish door producer, Bricoblock, has installed a successful solution from Flex Trim for wood sanding on doors of MDF with CNC-milled grooves, before lacquering them white.



The sanding heads in the round about brush sander were replaced with sanding heads from Flex Trim.

The result is among others a four times longer lifetime

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## The result

After the running-in of the machine and adjustment of the sanding pressure according to guidance from Flex Trim, Bricoblock experienced a significant improvement of the sanding result.

The fibres in the grooved doors were removed to a much greater extent so far, and the following hand sanding was reduced significantly. This also resulted in time reduction and improved working environment.

Not until after 6 months the new Flex Trim brushes were replaced, which means a multiplication by four of the lifetime compared to the previous sanding system.

Bricoblock has expressed total satisfaction with the new solution from Flex Trim, which owing to the obvious improved sanding result, also has resulted in that the lifetime of the widebelts in the following machine also has been extended.

In brief, Flex Trim's solution has resulted in significantly cost savings global for Bricoblock.

Satisfied with the new solution from Flex Trim, Bricoblok later bought a FlexSander 600 machine to reduce various hand sanding jobs, and are also considering replacement of existing sanding heads to the Flex Trim system in another machine line.

## Benefits for the customer

With the new sanding solution Bricoblock has first and foremost got a longer lifetime on the brushes and an improved sanding quality as wanted. As earlier mentioned, the Flex Trim brushes have a four time longer lifetime than the brushes used earlier.

In addition, the production process has been made more efficient and time is saved, as it is now easy and simple to replace the brushes, and it is only rarely necessary to stop the production line.

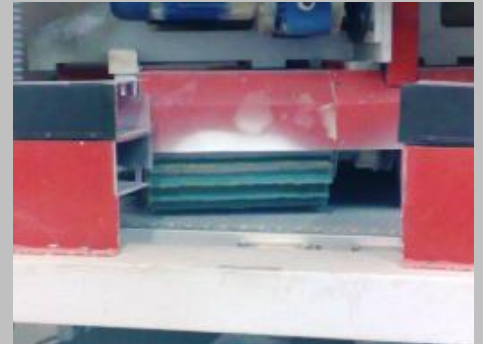
Also in the following process, the solution is making a difference. Because of a better wood sanding with the brush sander, the lifetime on the widebelt in the following machine is extended, and manual hand sanding has been significantly reduced.

With yet another successful solution, Flex Trim has again proved living up to its slogan: **"Quality – not only on the surface"**.

## SUBJECT:

**Longer lifetime and improved sanding quality**

**– profile sanding in MDF**



With the sanding heads from Flex Trim it is easy and simple to replace the brushes and it is only rarely necessary.



With the experiences of a successful solution, Bricoblock has further more bought a FlexSander 600 sanding machine to reduce various hand sanding jobs.