

Altendorf selected at Neville Joinery

NEVILLE Joinery, a division of the Neville Construction Group, of Luton, Bedfordshire, has recently purchased a new generation Altendorf F45, with Options Pack III, sliding table saw.

The machine is controlled from an eye-level operating panel, which gives the operator an easy overview of all settings. This panel can be adjusted ergonomically to suit the operator, moving both horizontally and vertically. A practical clipboard can be fitted to either the left or right side of the operating panel.

The motorised rip fence is controlled via a keypad on the eye-level panel (with all dimensions displayed on the large screen). This facility saves the operator from having to walk round to the other side of the machine and back to change the settings.

The Vario drive is particularly useful for obtaining the optimal cutting speed setting for the material being worked.

The infinitely variable speed control is operated via the keypad, with the settings clearly displayed on the LCD screen. The operator can select any speed between 2,000-6,000rpm.

With the use of the Vario drive, there is no need to move the V-belt to change the speed and the sawblades no longer require such frequent sharpening.

When Sandy Simpson, the director responsible for the Neville Joinery division, considered that the time was right to buy a new sliding table saw he called in John Burnett, of J Burnett Engineers, the area agent for Altendorf.

'We explained our requirements to John and he arranged for Dave Rydlewski, our mill foreman and myself to visit the Altendorf showroom for a demonstration of the new F45 machine with Options Pack III,' says Mr Simpson.

'We took along some plywood panel samples of 125mm thickness and the Altendorf machine cut them really well. Following a series of successful operations, which demonstrated both the capabilities and versatility of the



Left to right, mill foreman, Dave Rydlewski, Neville director, Sandy Simpson and Altendorf area agent John Burnett.

F45, we were suitably impressed and we decided, there and then, to buy the machine. It was delivered the very next morning and was installed and 'up and running' by that evening. Job done in 24 hours!' he adds.

John Burnett provided 'on-site' training for four Neville Joinery operators and the saw has been operating successfully ever since.

Prior to purchasing the new F45 machine, Neville joinery had been using two other dimension saws for several years: one a Spanish machine and the other an older Altendorf F45 saw, which the company had been operating for 22 years and which is still giving sterling service.

'We are extremely pleased with our new saw. It does all that we require and it is so much faster in operation,' says Mr Simpson.

'It really is an unbelievable saw, three or four times better than anything that we have had before and the 5.5kW variable speed unit gives a higher powered delivery, equivalent to

a 7.5kW performance. Furthermore, the saw is faster to set up, it is easier and quicker to change dimensions and it gives us a truly accurate cut time after time.

'The new Altendorf has drastically reduced downtimes and has speeded up our entire production procedures by over 50 per cent.

'The programmable fence has made a world of difference and with the overhead controller, the operator no longer has to walk around the machine to change settings,' he adds.

Neville Joinery was in the middle of a large contract for McDonalds' restaurants when the company took delivery of the new Altendorf sliding table saw. This involved producing slatted walls for a nationwide refurbishment scheme.

'With so much material to cut for this particular job, we really appreciated the time savings afforded by the overhead

controller. It speeded up production considerably,' says Mr Simpson.

Neville Joinery's mill foreman, Dave Rydlewski, has been with the company for over thirteen years.

'I have been working with our original Altendorf F45 machine since I first came to the company and it has been an excellent machine. It has been easy to use and it has always cut absolutely square,' says Mr Rydlewski.

It has always given us great service and it is still performing well even after 22 years. On account of the reliability and accuracy of this machine, we knew that we were always going to buy another Altendorf when we needed to upgrade our production facility.

'All our operators enjoy using the new Altendorf.

'It has been really instrumental in speeding up our production times.

'We particularly like the programmable rip fence and the cross-cut fence with manual stops. We get repeatable accuracy to within 0.1mm and a much improved quality of cut.

'We can make all machine adjustments and changes, using the screen, whilst the saw is still running.

'The three-axis scorer allows us to make adjustments to the width, as well as to the 'up and down' and 'side to side' positions. Our new saw has a 3.4m table and we've also got the Duplex angle fence, which is a very useful addition,' he adds.

'When you buy a new workshop machine, you can't afford to have downtime,' says Mr Simpson.

'We have been associated with John Burnett for some time now and he has always given us fantastic service.

'We know that if ever we have a problem, he will be with us to sort things out in no time at all. You can't ask for more than that,' he concludes.

For further information tel Altendorf UK Ltd on 08000 743316. Please quote Kitchen Maker.



Dave Rydlewski working with the new F45 sliding table saw.



Mill foreman, Dave Rydlewski and John Burnett (far right) pictured with Neville Joinery's new Altendorf F45 with Options III sliding table saw.