



In close collaboration and with ever new tooling solutions, Samuel Pritzy from Xlam Industrie (left) and Jochen Lanske from Oertli optimized the processing of the French cross-laminated timber producers

Grow with the tasks

From standard to high-performance tools for CLT

Only founded in 2020, the French cross-laminated timber producer Xlam industrie has already achieved considerable development. Like the first projects, the tools initially used in the joinery were standard solutions. Today, the young company also masters challenging orders with special tools from Oertli.

Timber construction has seen enormous developments in recent years. Unlike ten years ago, buildings made of cross-laminated timber with ten floors or more can now be implemented - and in a very short of time. In order for modern timber construction to actually demonstrate all of its strengths on the construction site, it requires precise and extensive preparatory work in the factory. "This is the only way timber construction can continually develop and that is exactly what we work on every day," confirms Samuel Pritzy, production manager at Xlam industrie. The company, founded in 2020, is a subsidiary of the Chauvin sawmill. Both companies are located in Mignovillard, in the middle of the French Jura, an area of excellent coniferous wood forests. It is precisely these spruce and fir trees that Xlam produces industrial CLT for its customers, primarily in France, but also in Belgium, Switzerland and beyond.

Rapid performance increase

Pritzy cites joinery as the company's central success criterion: "We are a small and young company that can stand out from competitors with extensive and clean joinery services." The French rely on a CNC portal machining center TV-Mill from Technowood, equipped with tools from Oertli. While initially there were standard tools, such as classic HS milling cutters or first generation Castor tools, Pritzy and his team quickly became interested in more powerful variants. "The art is to listen carefully to the customer, determine their needs and then design the tools based on that," emphasizes Jochen Lanske, who is responsible for the project on behalf of Oertli. It is also important to find a balanced ratio of tests, prototypes, goodwill and billing for new tools.

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In recent years, CLT assembly has become increasingly complex



Oertli equipped this joinery machine from Technowood with the latest generation of high-performance tools

Lanske is all the more pleased to be able to support customers like Xlam industrie: "I always have an open ear from Pritzy when I come up with new ideas that increase production. To not disrupt day-to-day business, weekends and holidays are also accepted for extensive testing of prototypes. Together we are pushing this development and the limits of what is possible, little by little." Pritzy adds: "Before we make further investments, we are working intensively on exploiting the potential of our machines and tools to increase productivity and quality in equal measure. There are numerous opportunities for us here and, together with Oertli, there are no closed doors."

Special tools

As examples of implemented projects, Lanske cites the conversion of collet chucks to shrunken shank tools, the use of tools from the latest Castor generation, such as the Castor Optimo Zero for sharp-edged, very small and deep cutouts, or those of the turbex Sprint series from 16 to 40mm Diameter. Pritzy particularly appreciates the tools from the Castor series in different designs, such as the groove and drilling cutters in different lengths and diameters. These brought with them an enormous increase in performance and quality.

The roots of success

Bottom line, Pritzy attests that the tool plays a significant role in the company's success. "We can only extend the system appropriately and work extremely precisely despite the high performance with the right tools. Together with Oertli we have already achieved a lot and I am convinced that we will not be lacking in common ideas and projects in the future." Pritzy also takes the opportunity to highlight another key success factor for Xlam industrie: "Without the tireless efforts of all of our employees - from production to planning to administration - this success would not be possible. Special thanks to everyone here."



Xlam Industrie relies on Oertli tools from the Turbex and Castor series



The joinery system equipped with Oertli tools

For production manager Samuel Pritzy (right) from Xlam Industrie, his dedicated team is just as important as the right tools

