



OPMAAT

VAN DER GIESSEN NEWSLETTER ON STAINLESS STEEL, ALUMINIUM, ENGINEERING AND MACHINE



The new potato diameter roller sorter moved from development to being commissioned

Van der Giessen announced the development of a new potato diameter roller sorter in the previous issue of OPMAAT. We're now happy to report that the first Van der Giessen potato diameter roller is being produced and installed.

With a capacity of 50 tons of peeled/unpeeled potatoes per hour, Farm Frites in Lommel will be working with our new roller sorter. It won't stop there though as two new machines are already on order. One of the special features of this machine is that each roller is driven separately and that both potato entry and exits are fully adjustable in width. This ensures that the right diameter is always distributed to the right place. In addition, the entry side point of the sorter includes

Two new machines
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a self-developed divider roller enabling the smooth distribution of the potatoes across the width of the roller. The machine will be installed in the spring of 2020, including the potato supply from the PEF unit and an underlying line-belt towards the new waterjet cutters. The entire production line, from steam peeler to blancher was developed, engineered and installed by Van der Giessen, including the external sections.

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CONVEYOR BELT 2.0 WITH STAINLESS STEEL MESH BELT

Potato processing is all about the power of numbers. Minor production process improvements have major consequences. That is why Van der Giessen continuously strives to innovate its conveyor belts. The latest update is a stainless-steel mesh belt for better drainage. The advantage is that wet products such as sliced potatoes are less 'sticky'. Leo van der Pol: "That leads to better hygiene and less product waste. The open belt frame also enables easier access for cleaning and maintenance. All profiles are made of sheet metal and tubes placed in a diamond shape, allowing the dirt to slide off by reducing the capillary action." As little waste as possible should be left on the conveyor belt. Van der Giessen's engineering philosophy is that every French fry counts and should not be damaged. "We're all about custom-built solutions, never mass production". Van der Giessen has already produced and sold several version 2.0 stainless-steel mesh conveyor belts.

ON THE MARKET

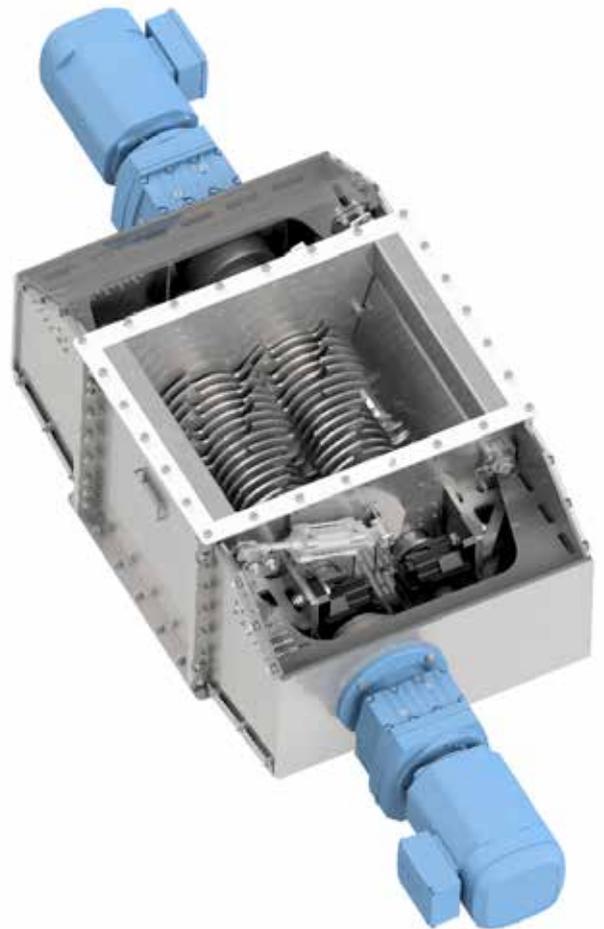
New Shredder

'Under construction', that was what was reported in the previous edition of OPMAAT about a new shredder developed by Van der Giessen.

In the meantime, several shredders have since been sold, built and installed. "With great result", as Wim van der Giessen says himself. "There are very few standstills due to jamming. The specially developed bypass works superbly. It ensures that the machine recovers itself if any hard materials or large pieces of wood get caught in between. These pieces are removed by an automatic bypass." Encouraged by customers' enthusiastic reactions, Van der Giessen goes one step further as a shredder with two rotating blades is now in development. The drawings and the engineering are finalised, and the first machine will be built as a demo model this December. Interested customers can stop by in Werkendam and bring their

root crops, fruits and vegetables to see and try out for themselves how well the double-blade machine performs.

'The specially developed bypass works superbly'



STAFF IN FOCUS

FRANSIEN VERSTIJENEN

Fransien (just turned 50) is the energetic woman behind the numbers. She's the one who makes sure that all incoming invoices are processed, stays in touch with the accountant and also takes care of urgent payments and project administration. The latter one is no small feat. Fransien belongs to the work group that is working on implementing the new ERP system (Ridder), which involves an enormous amount of work. The ERP system merges the entire business process, i.e. all logistic, financial and administrative data, from quotation to final invoice, timesheets, procurement into one system. "Working in a manufacturing company is so much fun. It's nice to look back on the visible results. It makes me happy." Fransien has always been an upbeat person. "Every day is different here. I have many different contacts, customers, purchasing, colleagues and of course the management. On the open day, my brother and sisters also came to take a look around." The word that comes to mind when you think of Fransien is 'energy'.



FRANSIEN VERSTIJENEN

No wonder, as even in her spare time this Brabant-native likes to stay active. Walking, cycling, playing golf or doing physical fitness keeps her in shape.

VAN DER GIESSEN MARITIME

Perfection as a guiding principle

As a typical Werkendam company (shipping village), it should come as no surprise that Van der Giessen is often active on inland vessels, offshore and on (super) yachts.



GERBEN VAN ANDEL



In fact, everything that can be found on board and made from stainless steel, duplex or aluminium can be made by this company. Just think of some examples like exhaust valves and exhaust pieces, filters, filter elements, strainers, agitators, radar brackets, portholes, masts, stairs and railings. Heavy-duty work, such as help-masters on oil rigs also occurs frequently. Gerben van AnDEL, a cooperating foreman in the aluminium processing department,

understands the high demand for this work. "Traditionally, we've always paid attention to detail and quality. It shows through in our welding work. Everything that leaves our company is spotless. And I don't just mean that it's beautifully polished, but especially that our pieces aren't tarnished and that any sharp edges have been neatly removed. But also, as we like to say, the welding is neat and tidy around the corners. This makes the surface

smoother and neater." What Gerben means to say is that excellent welding is in the company's genes, its DNA. It can also be seen when you visit the Van der Giessen workshop. Neat, tidy workstations, a floor as smooth as a billiard ball. Gerben also has high praise for the smooth cooperation with the work preparation department. "It makes all the difference when you can rely on the drawings being exactly right."

EXPANSION

OUR MAN IN EUROPE



JEROEN DE GROOT

Jeroen de Groot (45 years old) is a true expert on Europe. He works frequently in countries like Belgium, England, Austria and Germany. Usually to assemble complete lines and new machines, put them in operation as well as doing maintenance and repairs. He has been employed by Van der Giessen as an external / in-house mechanic since September this year and is thoroughly enjoying his work. Prior to this, he worked as a mechanic for potato and vegetable processing machines and bakery machinery. An experienced pro. "You never know exactly what you'll find. Often it takes a bit of improvisation." In addition to assembly work, Jeroen also needs to be skilled on a forklift truck, compact crane and internal transport equipment. "Of course, I always have our drawings and layouts with me, but there's always some fitting and measuring to do on the spot." And that just happens to be the part of fieldwork that he enjoys so much.

Van der Giessen is expanding

Van der Giessen recently purchased 1100 square metres of land, located on the right side of the current building. This site is now under construction and will be used for the temporary storage of finished machines and other products that are ready for transport. The site is professionally fenced and equipped with ample lighting and security.



CO-OPERATORS



Bert Moree

FARM FRITES AND VAN DER GIESSEN Growing well together

Bert Moree, technical manager of Farm Frites in Oudendoorn, has been working with Wim van der Giessen for over 30 years.

"I remember Wim coming here as a mechanic, and now his company has become an organisation carrying out more and more complete projects. Their first shredder for instance, that was recently installed here. A perfect example of a proprietary product that we co-developed. It's what they do best, listening to the client. They brainstorm with us and come up with concrete solutions. They really embrace the challenge of going to the plant with the users and see how parts of the machinery can be improved. And, they pay very close attention to quality, like opting for a sheet thickness of three millimetres instead of two millimetres. I've visited their company in Werkendam many times. The place is top-notch."

"In addition to maintenance work like replacing shafts, bearings and drives, Van der Giessen's work at Farm Frites has increasingly shifted to engineering and installing complete production lines including third-party machinery (e.g. steam peelers, optical sorting systems) and our own products such as platforms, tanks, pump systems, conveyors, flume systems and piping." Farm Frites, just like Van der Giessen, is a company that once started out small. Its founder, Gerrit de Bruyne started Farm Frites on his own farm in 1971 and it has since grown into an organisation with branches in The Netherlands, Belgium, Poland, Argentina and Egypt.

FROM THE FLOOR

A new recruit strengthening the team:

- Oscar van Poederroijen > has been temporarily employed as a varnisher / general staff.

Other news:

- The team had their annual outing on December 7th. To mark the year's end, Van der Giessen's entire team and family visited the Winter Efteling, Glühwein included.

- Dennis Van der Giessen, Alfred van Sonsbeek, Johan Schampaert and Gerben van Andel have successfully passed the work floor management course. **Congratulations to Dennis, Alfred, Johan and Gerben!**

- We were recently audited for our EN 1090 certification for stainless steel structures. All went extremely smoothly. We passed inspection again and are permitted to continue our activities covered by this EN 1090 certification for another year. **John, thank you for your guidance and preparations!**

- We were also recently audited for our VCA* company certification. Here too, all went smoothly and we passed inspection again. We can continue this VCA* certification for another year. **Marc, thank you for your guidance and preparations!**

- On October 17th, all Van der Giessen employees received a CPR and AED course at the workplace. This was an instructive course for all employees and there many enthusiastic reactions from the staff! **Corinne, thank you for the guidance and preparations!**

COLOPHON

OPMAAT is a publication of Van der Giessen and is sent to its business associates.

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