

New packaging machine for Siddall

Came celebrates its first 50 years

New mortice keep from Locinox

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Italy

10768

Gibidi celebrates
50th anniversary



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- Sliding gates up to 50m width
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Here we see Manni and Alex from Harms Zaunbau in Wiefelstede – installing a sliding gate. Nice work, guys! Thanks for the great photo.

Colophon

Publisher

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Team

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So, how strong are your fences?

Those fences that we all put in the ground each and every day: how strong are they, really? Who and what are they keeping out? "What sort of question is that?" you might be thinking. "Surely it's obvious? If there's a fence somewhere, then you can't get through. Not by car, and not on foot. Simple."

And sometimes you'd be right. Sometimes it really is that simple. Everyone knows that if you need to install a fence around a golf course, you'll have to put in very tall posts and hang up nets with a small mesh size. If an enquiry comes in from a baron in some castle or other, then offer a wrought-iron fence with lots of scrolls and curlicues and you'll stand a good chance of getting the job.

But sometimes a fence's intended job isn't so clear. That means that you don't know how strong it needs to be. Is it intended to prevent the grandchildren running onto the road? Or the dog? Does it need to stop an intruder who's outside and wants to get in? Or just making sure that next-door's dog doesn't dig up the garden?

This is especially the case for the 'ordinary' mid-range fences, where years of focus on cheap-cheaper-cheapest mean that there are much bigger differences than you might think at first glance. Back in the day, when everything was better, chain-link mesh was made of thick wires. Rigid mesh panels were made of thick wires too, and posts had a whole row of fixing points. The hollow sections used for the posts had thick walls, the bars in the railing panels were still welded on, and so on and so forth.

A lot of this has changed in the past 20 years. There's still a lot of talk about the zinc layer, which isn't as thick as it used to be, but all the other factors play a big role too and there hasn't been much discussion about them.



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In Germany, for example, you have a typical post with a cover strip, or clamp bar. When these were developed in the eighties, they had a nylon mounting block every 200 millimetres. These days a lot of manufacturers use mounting blocks made of PE, sometimes with just two or three blocks on a post.

"That's not a problem," you might say. "PE mounting blocks might dry out from the sun a bit sooner, but they hold the panel in place just fine, right? And why would you want 11 of those blocks on a post, so the post ends up being unnecessarily expensive and I might miss out on the order as a result? Surely three mounting blocks is more than enough?"

And again, in some cases you'd be right. Sometimes all a fence really needs to do is mark the boundary and that's its only job. But the trend of constantly reducing wall thicknesses, wire strengths and other features of the materials does mean that you can no longer take certain fence qualities for granted.

For example, we on the editorial team were amazed to see a news item about a scooter rider who rode his vehicle into a fence. He wasn't going fast.



At least, not fast enough to cause serious injury, as he didn't need to go to hospital. His scooter wasn't wrecked either. The fence was, though! The twin wire panel was completely broken off the post.

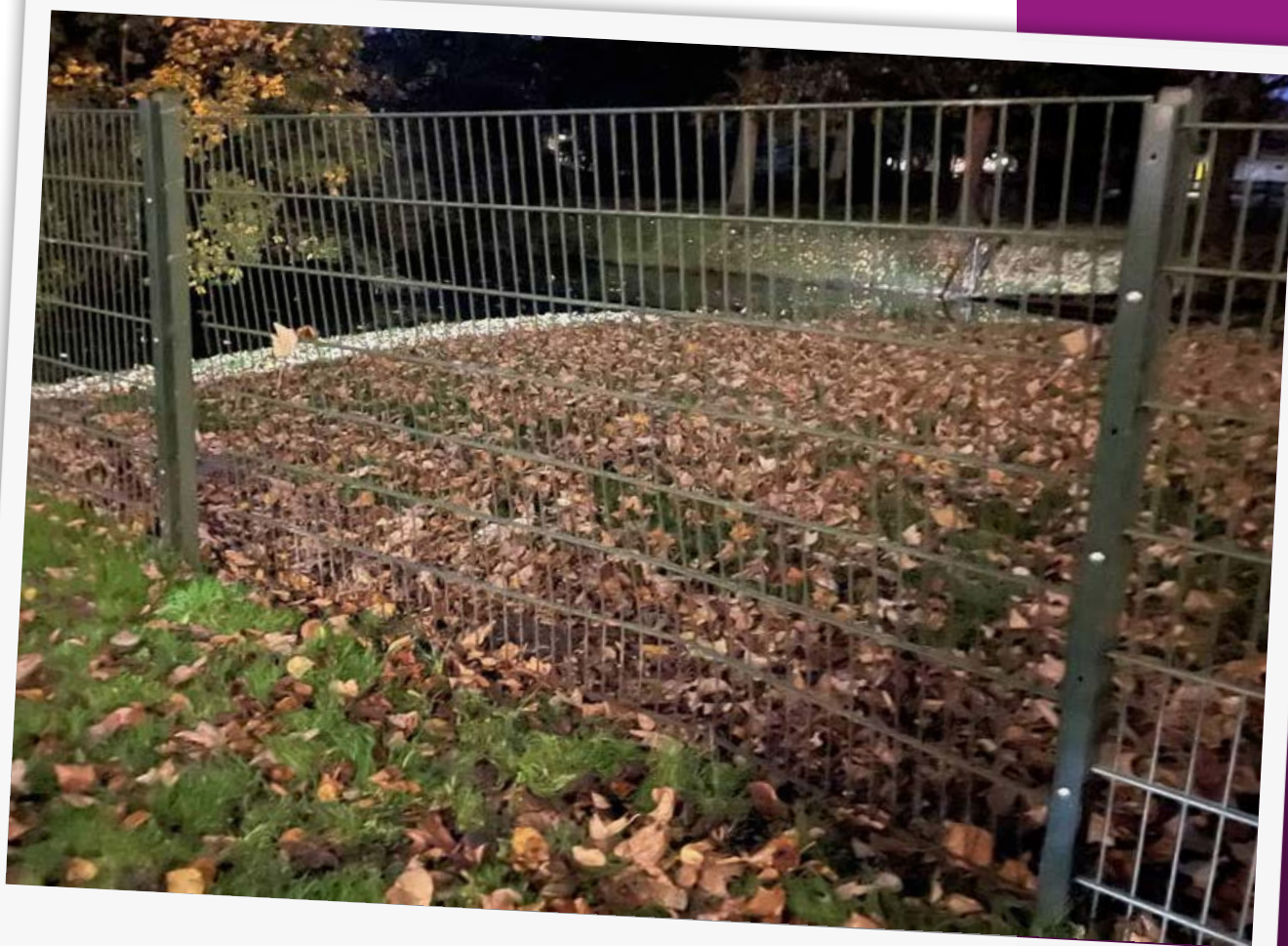
When we took a closer look, we saw that although that post did have a cover strip, it was secured with just three plastic mounting blocks. And that means there were just three small pieces of plastic holding the panel between the post and the cover strip.

Don't get us wrong: this isn't an attack on the fence, or on the fencing worker who installed it. If a scooter crashed into a car, that car would also need a visit to the panel-beater. We have no idea whether the fence was sold as a fence to keep intruders out.

Perhaps the customer just wanted a fence that would show where the boundary lay, and had no further requirements.

So we've got nothing against the installer or the post system. We also have no idea whether the customer in question made a complaint to the fencing installer. They could probably just make a claim from the scooter rider's insurance company, so there was no fuss about guarantees.

But we were stunned by how little force is actually required to detach a panel from the posts for some post systems. Because if a scooter weighing roughly 120 kilos with an 80-kilo person on it can push a twin wire panel out of a fence, so can a burglar who took a few karate lessons back in the day. And that shows fences, the ones we all sell, in a whole new light. ■



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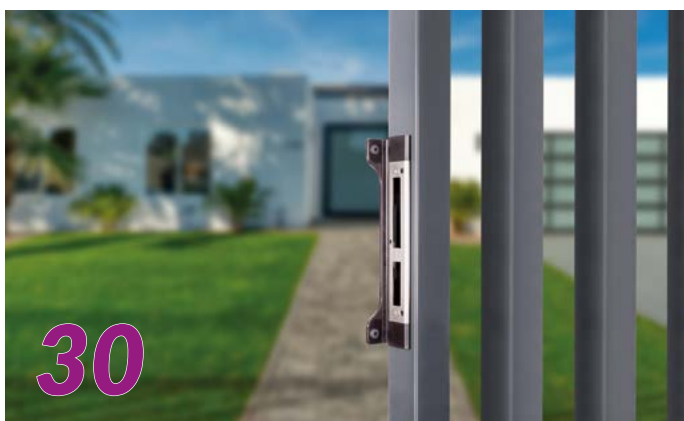


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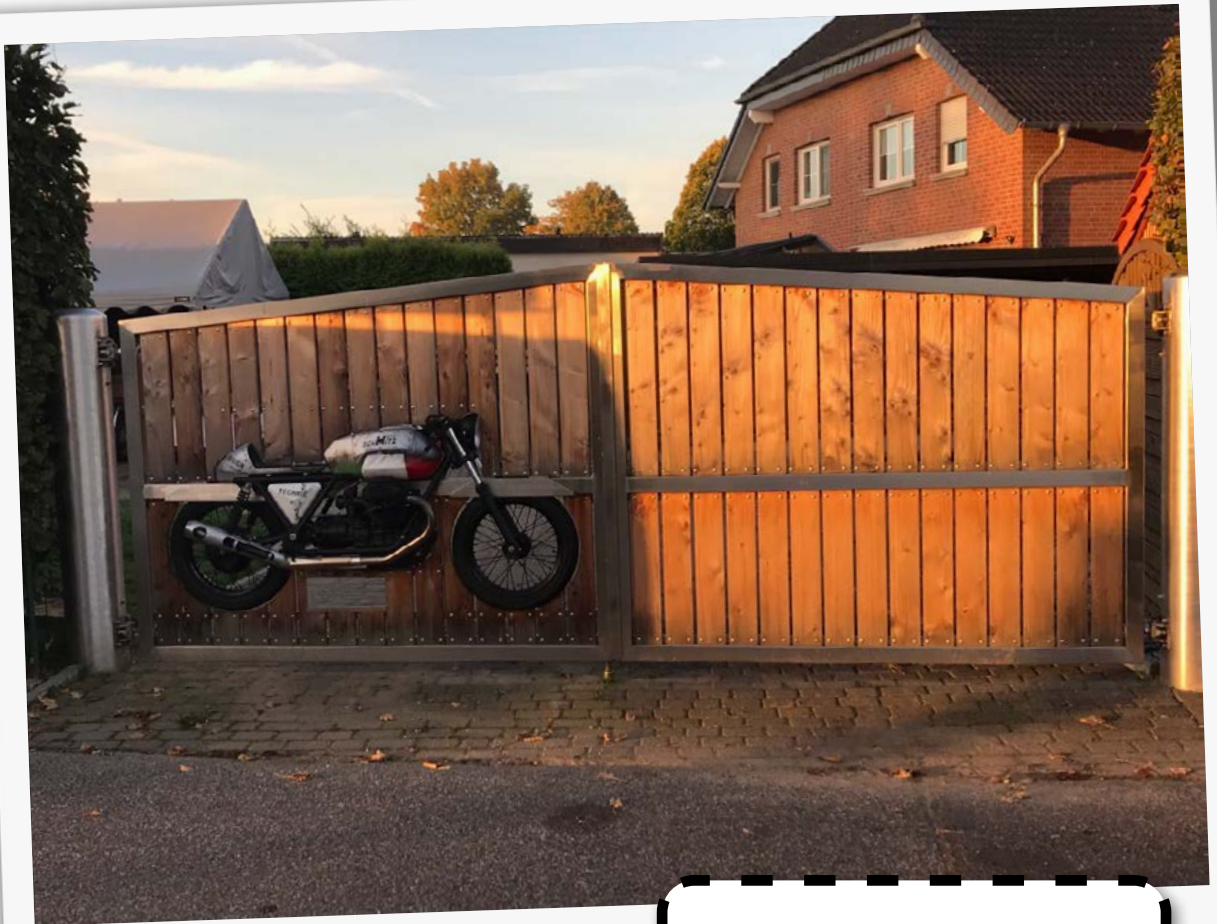
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Installer Wim van Dijk sent us this photo of a truck full of fencing materials, without further comment. Luckily we don't need to guess which company he works for. Talk about putting your heart and soul into your work, Wim. Thanks for the photo!



Katrin Kunert of TAM in the German town of Dingelstädt sent us this photo, also without further comment. We never cease to be amazed by some people's crafting skills. Thanks for the photo, Katrin!



More arts and crafts, but this time in positive form: Michael Dawils of drive manufacturer Belfox, in Kalbach in Germany, came across this gate in Wassenberg, a village near Aachen on the Dutch border. *"Now the motorcycle season is over, this motorbike is wintering in a gate until the spring,"* he wrote. We have our doubts, Michael. But it's a fun gate and a great photo.



Saakje Eckhardt of AEM Hekwerken in Drachten, in the Dutch province of Friesland, sent us this photo with the comment, *"The posts just keep on getting longer."* Nice perspective, Saakje. Thanks for the photo!



Alexander Seybold of BZH Balkone und Zäune in Köngen, near Stuttgart, sent us this photo of a privacy fence he installed in his own garden, complete with lighting. Nice work, Alexander! If the work you do for your customers is as lovely as that, your fortune will be made. Thanks for the photo!



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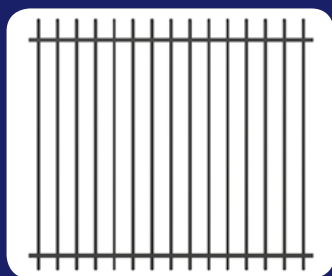
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Aquilon: new folding gate from Lippi



Rembrandt Happel

Lippi, a manufacturer of fences, gates, furniture and outdoor accessories based in Angoulême in the southwest of France, has launched a new automated folding gate. The new Aquilon gate is intended to secure buildings that are publicly accessible, be they residential, commercial, or industrial. Aquilon was developed as a plug-and-play gate.

“We wanted to create a product that was suitable for any project, while also being easy to transport and install,” product manager Thibaut Sossou says. “This gate needs only minimal space to open, so it fits in any location, even when space is at a premium.”

Industry

“Most folding gates on the market are designed for high-security applications,” Sossou says. “Their dimensions are too big for normal use, so they are often too expensive. With the Aquilon it’s the other way around; we developed it with multifunctional use in mind. It’s available with either two or four leaves, enabling extremely efficient access management while ensuring that as much space as possible remains available. Thanks to the characteristic opening movement of the folding gate, it opens twice as fast as an ordinary swing or sliding gate.”

Plug and Play

“The second key requirement, which we ourselves set before beginning development,” Sossou continues, “was that the installation should be as quick and easy as possible, to save installers time in the installation process. For that reason, we wanted to offer it fully pre-assembled, with the drive already installed and all cables already connected and tested at the factory. Two technicians can install this gate within 2 hours, excluding excavation and electrical installation.”







Zero waste

The Aquilon is delivered on a reusable steel pallet, for which a deposit is paid. "There are two reasons for this," Sossou says. "Firstly, we wanted to create a gate free from packaging waste, so we replaced the wooden pallet with a steel one. That means fewer waste disposal costs for our customers; steel pallets can be reused. The packaging was designed to make the gate easy to transport and install. To make it easier to manage the packaging, we offer our customers a dedicated platform so they can easily organise its return."

Specifications

The drive is a standard 24-volt drive from Cardin: the Blesol. "We've had good experiences with it," Sossou says. "It's strong and slender and comes with an app, so you can control the gate from your phone, or check its status." The Aquilon folding gate has a standard height of 1.50 to 2 metres and is available in passage widths ranging from 3 to 8 metres. All passage widths are available with three standard leaves of 1.5, 1.75 and 2 metres wide. There is a two-leaf version for passage widths of 3 to 4 metres and a four-leaf version for passage widths of 6 to 8 metres. The leaves are hinged on posts measuring 180 by 180 millimetres. All leaves are filled with bars. The Aquilon folding gate with two and four leaves is available in twelve standard colours, with a delivery time of 3 weeks. ■



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New packaging machine for Siddall





Leo Grapendaal

Siddall and Hilton Products, a manufacturer of wire panels from Brighouse, near Leeds, has made an addition to its machinery with a fully automatic packaging robot. The machine delivers pallets that are ready for transport.

“Last summer we started working with a new welding machine,” says operations director Andy Dawson. “For those in the know: an LGR102 from EVG, an Austrian company based in Graz. We really needed it, so we could meet the additional demand created by Covid. But that machine is amazingly fast, which created a bottleneck after the machine before we could move the packages of completed panels. The guys had to keep stopping the machine all the time, leading to an unnecessary downtime of about 10 percent. So it didn’t take long for us to decide that we needed a packaging machine.”

Robot

The new packaging machine consists of a robotic arm and a strapping machine. The robotic arm picks up the panels from the welding machine as soon as they are completed, then stacks them neatly on a pallet. Once the pallet is full, it moves to the bundling machine and the robot begins to stack a new pallet. Then the bundler adds edge protection to the stack of panels and bundles them, along with the pallet, into a single ready-to-use package that can be removed by forklift.

Customised

“We had quite a few requirements for the packaging machine,” Dawson says. “We make twin wire panels, 358 panels and various other types of industrial wire panels on the new welding machine, all in different sizes, wire thicknesses and mesh sizes. For that reason we weren’t able to buy a machine off the shelf, but needed a combination of several other machines. Getting the robot arm, the transport mechanism and the bundler to work together properly was quite a job. In particular, making sure that the different software from all those components could communicate with each other – and with the welding machine – turned out to be complicated. We had a really nice collaboration with Sewtec Automation from Wakefield for this.”



Gary Day (left) and Andy Perks (right) of Sewtec with Andy Dawson of Siddall and Hilton Products with the robotic palletiser in the Factory Acceptance Testing (FAT) on site at Sewtec

H.A.M.P.

The new robot is Siddall's first machine to have a name. *"It's the first machine that we haven't just bought off the shelf,"* Dawson says, "so we thought it would be a nice idea to give it a name. We held a competition at the high school here in Brighouse, with the winner and their whole class getting a tour of the factory. We got lots of great entries. In the end we chose 'H.A.M.P.' as the winner: it stands for 'Half a Million Pound Machine.'"

Fast

With the new packaging machine, the welding machine is running at full speed and there's hardly any downtime. *"With some types of panels, this machine is up to 10 times faster than various other welding machines on the market,"* Dawson says. *"We're incredibly proud of the high output we're now able to achieve. It means that we can keep growing and meet our ambitious goals for the future – or even increase them."* ■



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Came celebrates its first 50 years



Rembrandt Happel

This October, Italian drive manufacturer Came celebrated its first 50 years by dedicating an entire day to the people who made – and continue to make – the company's history. The event was hosted at Came's headquarters in Dosson di Casier, just outside Treviso.



BENVENUTI

50TH

ANNIVERSARY

At the event, which was attended by Casier's mayor, Came's founder Paolo Menuzzo was awarded a plaque in recognition of his entrepreneurial skills. The plaque was presented by Leopoldo Destro, president of the Central Veneto business association.

History

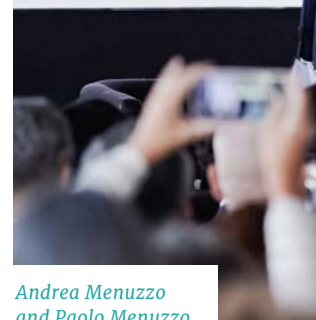
Came's history started back in the 1970s when Paolo Menuzzo designed the Frog. "It was the first waterproof underground electromechanical gate drive," Came's marketing manager Silvia Zaia says. "Owning a motorised gate was a status symbol in those days. The idea of making it a product that was affordable for many was a real hit. The Frog later became an icon. The second milestone was Bimbo, the first pocket-sized miniature radio controller, designed to be attached to a car's dashboard or sun visor, or carried in a handbag."

Expansion

The company opened its first warehouse in the 1980s, then took its first steps towards expansion in Italy and the rest of Europe in the 1990s. At the same time, technological advances resulted in a major expansion of the range of drives. "After that, the 2000s were marked by the first acquisitions and further international expansion," Zaia says. "But also by the response to a new trend, the security business. And then there were the major projects of the second decade, such as the World Expo in Milan in 2015, which led to an era of integration between in-house and third-party products. It also led to the delivery of ambitious urban planning and community projects, and ultimately to the recent automation of the access control system for one of the world's biggest stadiums, in Qatar."

PA
MEN

Fond



Andrea Menuzzo
and Paolo Menuzzo





International

"That's how the company has grown from a small local business with four staff and a turnover of 3 million Italian lira in the early 1970s, to a holding company with more than 2,000 employees that is set to close off 2022 with a turnover of almost 300 million euros," Zaia goes on. "The Menuzzo family has come a long way in half a century and, largely thanks to Andrea Menuzzo's work on internationalisation, the business now operates all over the world." Andrea is the son of founder Paolo Menuzzo, and has been the company's CEO since 2018. Came now has 11 production sites, three of them in Italy (in Veneto and Friuli-Venezia Giulia) and the remaining eight in France, Spain, England, Turkey and Brazil. The company is active in 118 countries. It has its own branches in 20 of these countries, with sales in the rest being conducted via partners and distributors in the rest. There are 10 R&D facilities in total.

Birthday

Came celebrated its 50th anniversary on 1 October with all its staff and a number of business contacts and other stakeholders. Attendees were treated to a day of presentations and reminiscences, followed by a gala dinner and rounded off with a fireworks display. "It is my pleasure to share this moment with the people who helped to write Came's story – and continue to do so today," Andrea Menuzzo said. "Today we're celebrating our company's first 50 years. We've come a long way, and we've achieved a lot to be proud of. At the same time, we're looking to the future – to major growth plans, with technology and integration playing an increasingly central role. Over the past 50 years we've laid the foundations for being able to celebrate 100 years of Came; in the coming days we'll start to work towards this new goal." ■



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This month's photo comes from Switzerland. Walter Benz of Benz Zaunfabrik in Lindau, located between Zurich and Winterthur, installed this knot-free Siberian larch fence in Egetswil, a hamlet in the municipality of Kloten. The bottom row of wooden railings covers a row of concrete elements, while the top row forms a balustrade. Thanks for the photo, Walter! The Locinox construction radio is on its way to Lindau!

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Have you got a fun picture of a fence or gate you'd like to share with the industry? Send it to hello@fobs.eu and you might be the next lucky winner of the Locinox construction site radio next month!



New mortice keep from Locinox





Rembrandt Happel

Belgian lock manufacturer Locinox is bringing a new mortice keep to the market. The new design is called SFKU and will be built into the gate in the same way as the manufacturer's mortice locks, such as the Fortylock.

“Until now, manufacturers always had to make two different leaves for double leaf gates,” sales director Lieven Pieters says, “with one leaf prepared for installing the lock, the other for the keep. Preparation and production use different methods, increasing the overall cost. We wanted to change that.”

SFKU

This is why Locinox is now launching a mortice keep to go with its mortice locks. From the first quarter of next year, the new SFKU will fit into the same laser-cut design and will be secured with the same Click-it system as the mortice locks¹. “It means that manufacturers will be able to prepare all leaves in the same way,” Pieters says. “To make a double leaf gate, from now on they’ll be able to take two single leaves from the stack. They install a mortice lock on one leaf, a mortice keep on the other, and the double gate is ready. We call it the Uniwing concept. This concept also includes a Uniwing component set, which covers the holes for the handle and the cylinder on the fixed leaf with beautifully designed hand grips. This adds an additional attractive functionality to the leaf, where there’s normally only a keep installed.”

Design

Locinox’s R&D team paid particular attention to the SFKU’s design during the development phase. “Mortice locks are often used for gates with closed infill,” Pieters explains, “so we wanted to make a keep that only needs a minimum of space, to keep the gap between the leaves as narrow as possible. This gives the end customer as much privacy as possible.” The SFKU is made of stainless steel and aluminium. The mortice keep is compatible with all four Locinox mortice locks: the Fortylock, Fiftylock, Sixtylock and Eightylock. ■

¹) See info box



The new
mortice keep

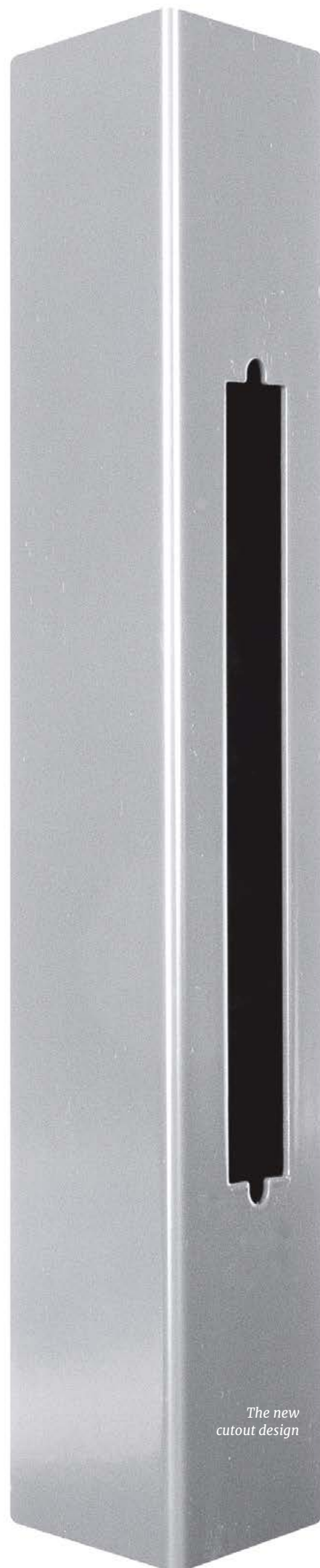


New cutout for Locinox mortice locks

Along with the introduction of its new SFKU mortice catch, Belgian Locinox has announced a new cutout for its mortice locks. The Click-it fixing system, used to attach both the mortice locks and the new SFKU to the gate's leaf frame, does not require holes for screws or other fixings. "You just need to laser or cut a hole out of the profile," Pieters says. "You insert the built-in component of the mortice lock into that. You then use a screwdriver to relax two springs, which brings two counterplates or flaps into place. These clamp the lock behind the wall of the profile. And finally, you screw two bolts into the holes in the counter plates, fixing the lock firmly in place. It's a real improvement on the fixing holes where you had to tap the thread yourself, especially for profiles with 1.5-millimetre walls."

The hole cut in the profile now has new dimensions. Instead of a 190-by-22-millimetre rectangle, a new contoured shape is needed. The new design has a rectangle measuring 176 by 22 millimetres, with a half-moon shape at the top and bottom measuring 7 millimetres in diameter. The flaps of the new Click-It system cover a larger area behind the half-moon shape and secure the mortice lock more firmly. The design also ensures that the lock is centred precisely.

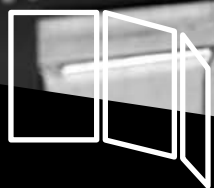
"It's important for manufacturers to implement the new template into their production as soon as possible," Pieters says, "because the locks with the new profile no longer fit into the old cutout. The other way around does fit, so the manufacturers who change their cutout now can just continue to fit locks with the existing profile, until they receive their first delivery of the new locks." The first new versions of the mortice locks are expected in the first quarter of 2023. ■



The new cutout design



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Gibidi celebrates 50th anniversary



Rembrandt Happel

Italian drive manufacturer Gibidi is 50 years old. The business was founded in September 1972 in Poggio Rusco, a little town between Bologna and Verona. The golden jubilee was celebrated with a two-day party for colleagues and loyal customers.

“Gibidi’s story actually started back in the late sixties,” says sales director and co-owner Mauro Negrini. “Three friends started building custom-made drives in a garage, for rich people with huge villas. They made two or three drives a week, haha. In 1972 they sold their company to two other friends, who registered it in the trade register under the name Gibidi. The new owners started manufacturing drives in small series, and gradually the company grew to become primarily a maker of hydraulic systems for other businesses, some of them are actual competitors. The company grew steadily until the mid-nineties. What we did was actually make every drive just as the customer wanted it.”

ISEO

“In 1996 we were acquired by the ISEO group,” Negrini continues. “ISEO is a major manufacturer of locks, cylinders and push bars. In 2007 we were divested into the new BI group, along with a few other companies. There were difficult times after that, when we needed to seek out a new identity – and at the same time were coping with the Lehman crisis. Then in 2012 our region was hit by a major earthquake. Our factory was badly damaged and we were unable to produce anything for four months; even our most loyal customers were forced to go to the competition. It almost destroyed the company, but our CEO Michele Prandi, Vittorio Ballerio and I myself could not let that happen. At the end of 2012 we acquired Gibidi and began to rebuild it.”

Range

“Since then, in addition to manufacturing hydraulic and mechanical components we’ve also started developing our own electronics,” Negrini says. “As well as making OEM drives¹ for others, we’ve started focusing on designing our own products and increasing our visibility, with a wide range of good products at a good price aimed at the mid to high market segment. We’ve also expanded geographically and we’re now active in forty countries. We have our own branch in the UK, and permanent stock in a warehouse in Dubai so we can ensure quick delivery in the Middle East too.” Now, 10 years after the management buyout, Gibidi employs thirty people and has an annual turnover of over 6 million euro.

1) Original equipment manufacturer (OEM) is used in the context of finished products that contain subsystems from other manufacturers. The term refers to businesses that supply products for a branded supplier of finished products, with the branded supplier incorporating the product into its own products as if it had manufactured them itself.





*Michele Prandi and
Mauro Negrini*



Proud

"Something I'm very proud of is that all this time – and despite difficult times – we've never lost sight of our core values," Negrini says. "We always do our absolute best to guarantee good quality. Every product that leaves the factory has its own serial number and not just a number shared by the entire batch, as a lot of other factories do. Every step in the production process is logged, for every product. And when customers have feedback, they get an engineer on the phone so the next version of the product can be even better. That's why we're able to give a 5-year warranty, because we know our quality is good. On top of that, we're always transparent. When customers come to see us, they're given a tour of the factory and are able to look at everything; there are no secrets here. And in 50 years we've never sold a drive to an end customer or hardware store. We only sell to professional installers."

Anniversary

For the golden jubilee, Gibidi invited a group of forty big and in particular loyal customers to come to Poggio Rusco on 15 and 16 September. *"They're the ones who have helped build the company, over the past 30 years, into what it is today," Negrini says. "So we wanted to celebrate our anniversary with them. I should call them customers, but of course they're not – it felt like celebrating a birthday with friends and they were two unforgettable days."* In addition to extensive tours of the factory and a fun evening celebrating on a balsamic vinegar farm, the programme included a visit to the Ferrari factory in Maranello, just 40 kilometres from Poggio Rusco. The guests were able to have Formula 1 races against each other in simulators and compete in pit-stop contests to see who could change a racing car's tyres the fastest.







Gibidi invited former employees to attend the anniversary celebrations too. Maurizio Barbieri, pictured with the Pass sliding gate drive: "I joined Gibidi in 1973. I'd completed high school for metalworking and was hired right away. I never went to another company. I started out as a carpenter, then worked in the warehouse. I worked all over the company and I think I always did a good job. Gibidi is a family. Some of my colleagues have become true friends."



Matteo Reggiani: "I worked at Gibidi from 1991 to 2003 and I've got lots of fond memories. I did my best on everything, but even now I'm the most attached to the product I spent the most time on: the 500 and 510 modules. I've still got a working one at home! We worked a lot and very hard, but there was always time for a laugh and a joke with colleagues."



Vanni Perboni, pictured with two swing gate drives: "I joined in 1976 and left in 2019, 43 years at Gibidi, where I truly did a bit of everything. I started out with the machine tools and the drilling machine, then over the years I moved on to the lathe, did some carpentry, and I worked in the warehouse too. I was and am very close to some of my colleagues. We went to school together, then worked at the company together and went out together in the evenings – we still do that today. I'm happy to have worked here for so many years and that the company is doing so well."



Claudio Marchini: "I joined Gibidi in 1988 and worked here for 26 years. I started in the cylinder department, then over the years I did a bit of everything. As well as working hard, we always had fun here. We all got along really well. What can I say? It was a really positive experience!"

1972 - 2022

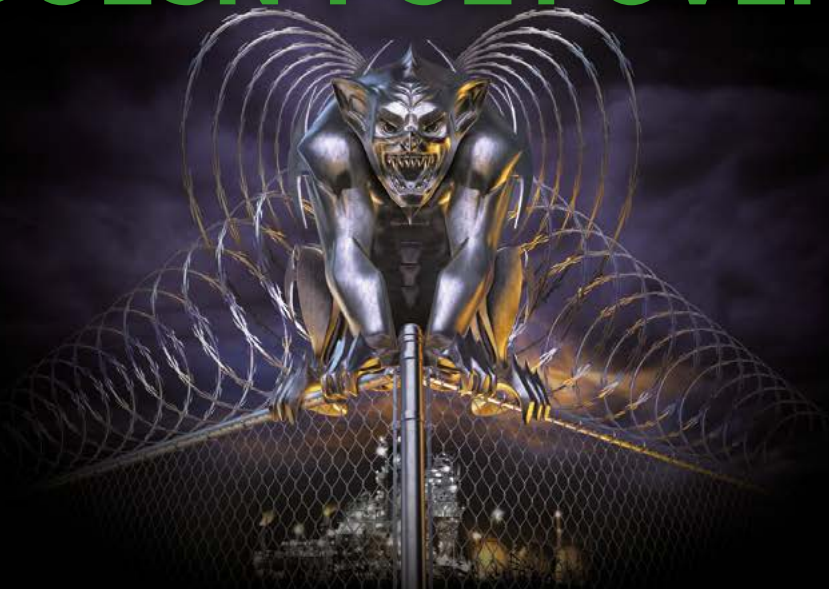


Future

Negrini looks to the future positively. "We're working on a new line of sliding gate drives," he says. "We plan to present these at the 2024 R+T, along with a new line of accessories. The electronics and software play an even bigger part here. For example, the controller will have a real-time clock that saves everything that happens, and a text-to-speech function will mean that you can open the gate with your voice. But I'm also very positive for the long term. Gibidi is a great company, it has built a solid foundation and still has a lot of potential. It can definitely run for another 50 years!" ■

GIBIDI
CREATIVE ANNIVERSARY

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TELL
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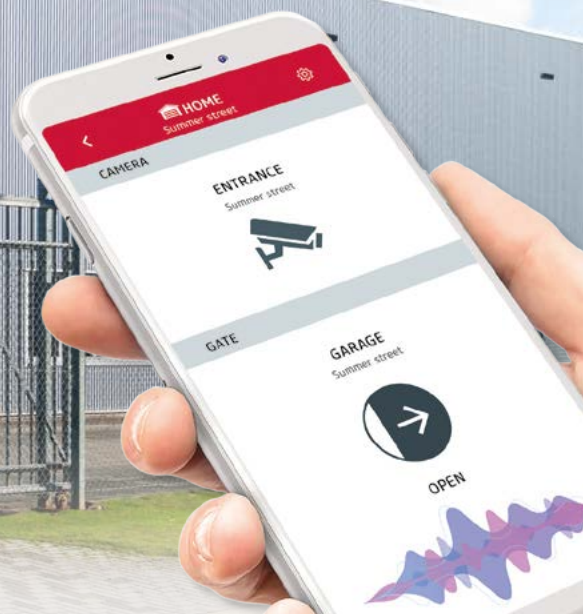
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Richard Jackson

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Are you finishing your installations correctly?

Much of the guidance that is available to installers regarding the safety of automated gate installations tends to focus on the steps that need to be taken to mitigate the risks on the actual gate. But whilst it is of utmost importance to ensure the correct measures have been taken to deliver a safe gate, it is also vital to finish the job correctly by providing a comprehensive handover to the customer, an element of the assignment which is sadly often overlooked.

Legal requirement

When the gate is first put into service there is a legal requirement for it to comply with The Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008 in the UK, or the Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC within the EU. Within this legislation, there is a clear and absolute requirement to provide the customer with a detailed handover which covers a number of areas.

Training on how to use the gate

Whilst it makes absolute perfect sense to educate the end user (or more realistically, a number of key personnel who will assume responsibility for the gate) on how the installation operates and how to use it correctly, it is also a legal requirement to do so. Full training **MUST** be provided to the owner and users of the gate with instructions on how to put the gate into manual operation, should the gate fail. Make sure that sufficient time is built into the final visit to allow for this – especially since it is likely that the customer will ask a number of questions.

Areas to be covered include:

- How to operate the gate
- How to isolate the power to the system
- How to manually release the system
- How the safety features of the system function
- How to avoid any associated residual hazards
- How to use activation devices or access control systems
- How to change the batteries on remotes
- How and when to perform system checks

It is also deemed best practice to actively ask who will be taking responsibility for the gate. Is it the school caretaker? Is it the facilities manager? What would happen in the event of a crisis if they weren't available to activate the manual release key? Do all the relevant parties know where the manual release key is kept? Gate Safe advocates this is always kept in a key safe close to the gate.

Training manual

While an actual demonstration on how to use the gate is essential, it is also not reasonable to expect all parties to remember all the details so the provision of an up to date and accurate training manual is also a requirement of the handover.

Declaration of Conformity

No gate should be placed into operation without issuing this formal documentation. The Declaration of Conformity must be completed by the person who is responsible for effectively creating 'the machine' – which for the vast majority of automated gate installations will be the installer. This must include the name, address and signature of the 'manufacturer' ie installer, reference to compliance with The Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008 or the Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC, reference to any standards to which the gate is compliant with, the model number and unique serial number of the machine and finally the date of declaration.

Recommended maintenance schedule or service frequency

A vital aspect of the handover is to communicate the importance of adherence to an appropriate maintenance schedule (this will vary according to the needs of the installation, determined by frequency of usage or the number of daily operations and specifics of the system that has been installed). Most gate systems will require at least one service every six months, but this could be more frequent if the gate or barrier undergoes a high volume of daily operations. Many systems are now fitted with a counter which can record the number of gate operations and it is possible to set this so that when it reaches a critical figure, the gate will cease to work until it is reset as part of the maintenance regime.



**UK
CA**

Declaration of Conformity

We
of

Name of Installer
Full Address and postcode

in accordance with the following:
The Supply of Machinery (safety) Regulations 2008

hereby declare that:

Equipment Double leaf swing gate
Model number Orion 2
Serial Number 6055214978/2015

I hereby declare that the equipment named above has been designed to comply with the relevant sections of the above referenced specifications. The unit complies with all applicable Essential Health and Safety Requirements of the Regulations.


Signed: **Andy Other**

Name: Andy Other
Position: Managing Director

On 1 April 2021

Document ref. No. 6055214978





The installer should also provide details of the basic maintenance checks that the gate owner should undertake on a regular basis outside of the routine professional maintenance service visits.

UKCA or CE mark

In Britain, the CE mark was replaced with the UKCA (United Kingdom Conformity Assessed) mark following the UK's departure from the EU and has been effective since 1st January 2021. Following a two-year phasing in programme, it will be mandatory from 1st January 2023 – for the rest of Europe the CE mark is still required. The mark provides a clear reference to the gate's compliance with The Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008 and must be clearly visible on the gate (minimum of 5 millimetres high) and written in indelible ink, or better still stamp marked.

Warning, warning

All automated gates should be fitted with a visual warning sign as standard and this also falls into the handover phase. Some gates may also require an audio warning to alert gate users when the gates are in operation.

Don't be tempted to rush onto the next job without finishing the current one correctly – and safely. ■

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It's noise to be silent



Wildlife fence

Etosha National Park is a national park in Namibia, a country in southern Africa. The park consists mainly of a salt pan that is so big, it can be seen from space. The park is very popular with tourists, as there are few watering holes in the desert and it's almost guaranteed that you'll spot wild elephants, lions, giraffes or other wildlife there. So, the park: it's surrounded by a 820-kilometre-long fence that is supposed to keep the animals inside the park (or keep unwanted animals out; it's not completely clear). The only thing is, the fence isn't in good shape. For that reason, the Namibian Ministry of Environment and Tourism had drawn up specifications, to the tune of hundreds of millions of Namibian dollars, to repair and electrify the fence. Various fencing businesses from the region worked on the fence, charging 700,000 Namibian dollars per kilometre. That's around 40,000 euros, which works out at about 40 euros per metre, and which seems a bit on the high side (even by Namibian standards) for some wooden posts and barbed wire. Environment Minister Pohamba Shifeta felt the same way, but only once 140 kilometres had been completed. He withdrew the commission and decreed that the rest of the fence would be done by volunteers. In 2020 he signed an agreement with the National Youth Service, a foundation that helps young people find work. It provided him with 10 volunteers. Another 25 volunteers came from the nature reserve, and a number of Ministry staff volunteered as well. The cutbacks on professional fencing businesses will save the Ministry at least 500 million Namibian dollars, a press release announces proudly. The volunteers do work a bit more slowly than the professionals, though; in the past two years they've repaired 28 kilometres of fencing. With 652 kilometres to go, they'll be done by 2069. So if it just so happens that you've always wanted to install fences amongst the zebras and lions, Minister Pohamba Shifeta is sure to be happy to accept your assistance.





Frogmouth fence

Speaking of frogs... in Australia they have frogmouths. Only they're not frogs, but funny-looking birds. Not only because of their froglike beaks, but also because of their plumage. When they fold their wings, they look just like bits of wood. It means that they don't stand out when they're sleeping in trees. But that trick only works in trees, not when the frogmouths perch on wooden fences. They were pretty obvious there, taking their afternoon nap. Neighbours called the animal ambulance. They thought the animals were sick, as they didn't move much. But when it arrived the frogmouths simply flew to a tree to get some more sleep. Yes, world news. We didn't really want to make a big thing about it either... but we just had to share!



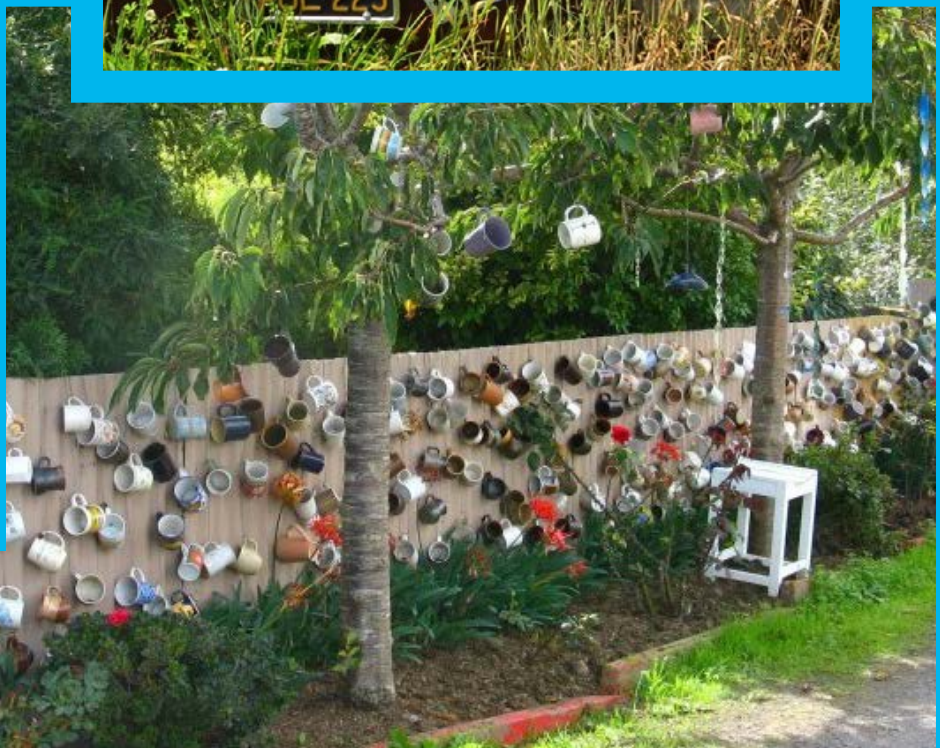
Frog fence

When TikTokker UnknownDazza discovered that there was a frog living in a fence post in the fence around his apartment, he was a bit worried. The frog, which he christened Frodrick, had living conditions that didn't seem ideal. So Dazza used his 3D printer to create a special frog house, which he then mounted on the fence post. He then put the frog in its new home, but Frodrick wasn't impressed. "He hated it," says Dazza. "Frodrick jumped straight out again and went to sit in the sun on the top rail of the fencing panel, a bit further down." Eventually, a week later, when there was heavy rain, Frodrick apparently reconsidered and decided it was a good idea after all to move into the specially-made house, where he still lives today. In the meantime, Dazza has started work on a new, bigger and more luxurious house for Frodrick. Will that house have a balcony, Dazza?



Crazy fence

Years ago, we wrote about the Bra Fence. It's an ordinary barbed wire fence in New Zealand, covered in bras. In all sizes and colours, sexy, practical, and in leopard print, there are thousands of them hanging there. Why that is, nobody knows. Early one morning around Christmas 1998, there were suddenly four bras on the fence. Local farmers spread the word and women promptly came along to hang their own bras next to them. It wasn't until much later, in 2015, that the fence was dedicated to women with breast cancer. Since then, it has been raising money for research into that cancer. But before that, the Bra Fence was just an out-of-control playful action by four (probably drunk) New Zealand farmers. All this time, we thought: *"Those crazy girls. Who would hang her bra on a fence?"* But we've learned that the Bra Fence isn't nearly as special as we thought. It turns out there are many other crazy fences in New Zealand. For example, they also have fences there with flip-flops, coffee mugs, bikes, hubcaps, buoys, teddy bears and number plates. Crazy people, those Kiwis.



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The Tortec logo, featuring a red circle with a white 't' and the word 'tortec' in red and black, is positioned in the upper right. Below it, a large, detailed image of a gate construction component, likely a cantilevered sliding gate system, is shown. The component is made of metal and has a complex, industrial design. In the bottom left corner, there is a large '30' with 'Jahre' to its left and '1992-2022' inside the zero. Below this, the text 'Partner in gate construction' is written in a large, bold, white font.

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30 Jahre 1992-2022

Partner in gate construction

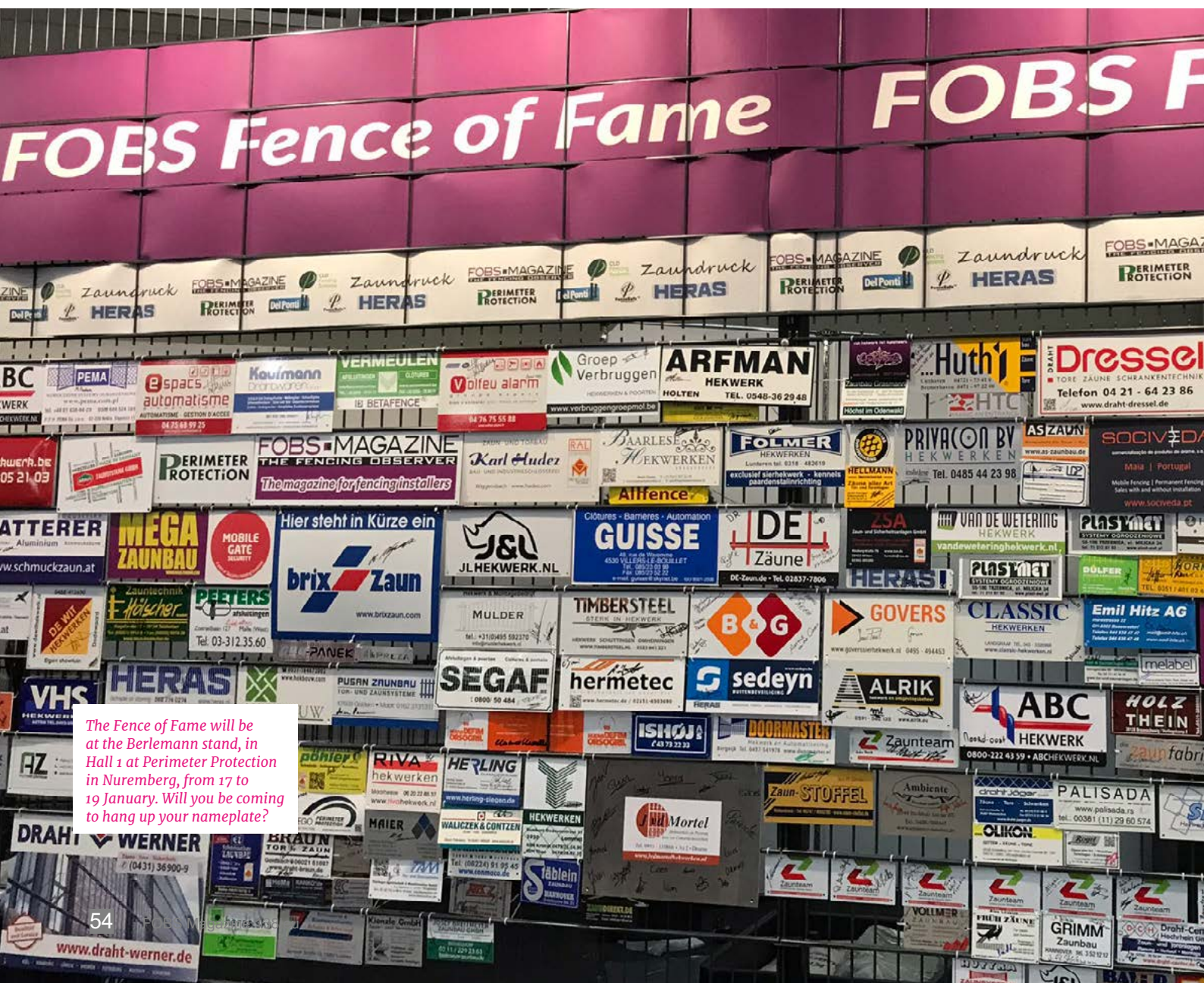
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Take part in The Fence of Fame

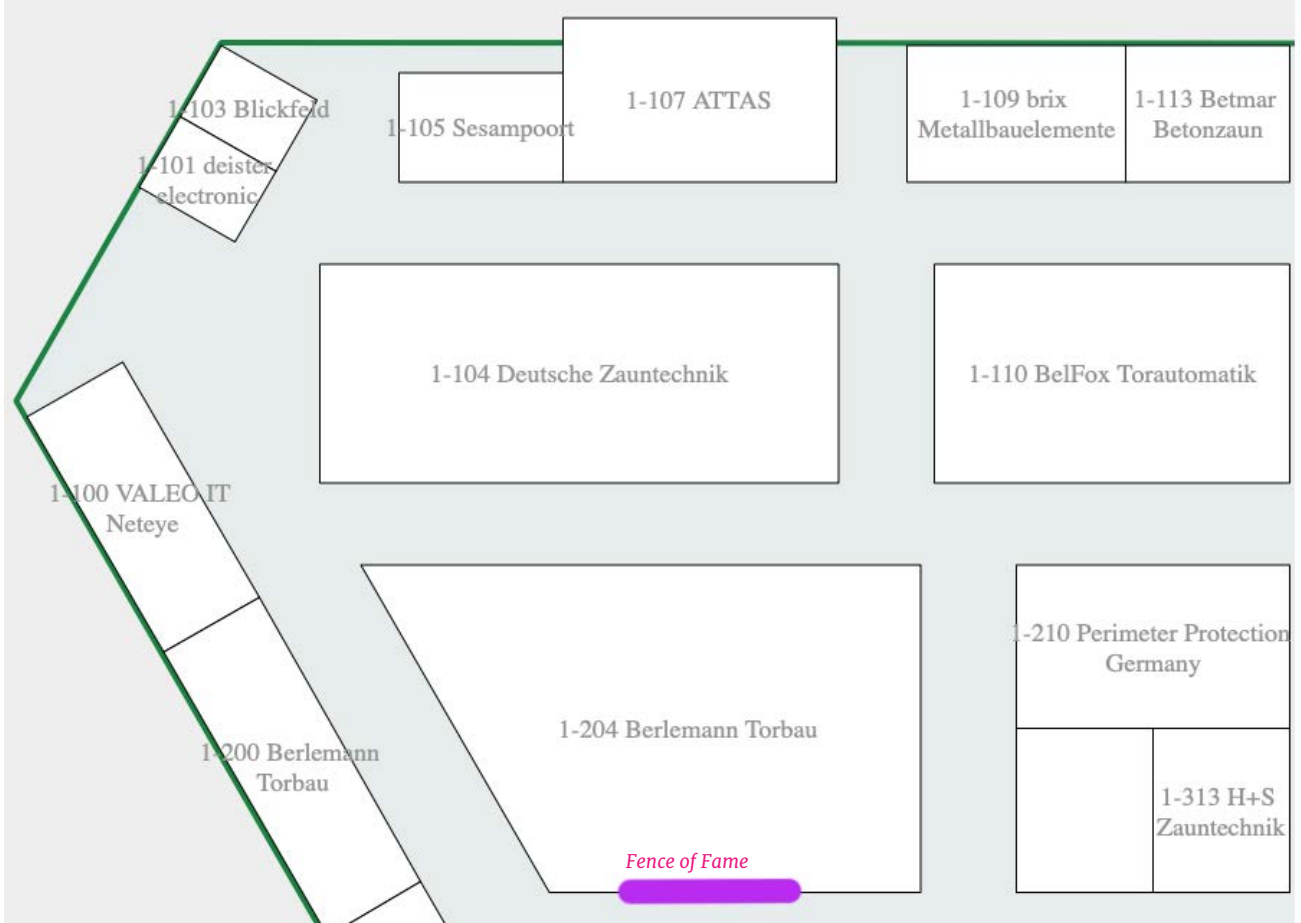
Nameplates are something special for every fencing installer. They're a form of advertising, but you're also putting your signature on every fence that you're proud of. We've already written a lot about it – and even played a game with it in the past.

At a previous edition of Perimeter Protection in Nuremberg, we put up an entire fence to hang nameplates on. Just because it's really cool to have a fence that's been signed by all the fencing installers. It was a great success – which is why we wanted to repeat it in 2022. Unfortunately the trade show was cancelled that year, but this year it's back – and the Fence of Fame too!

This time we will be collaborating with gate and fence manufacturer Berlemann from Neuenkirchen, near Osnabrück. Berlemann makes very good fences and we have the honour of using one of them for our nameplate fence this year. So you'll find the Fence of Fame at the Berlemann stand, at the front of Hall 1. When you come to hang up your nameplate, be sure to take a look at the Berlemann stand too, at the fabulous gates, fences and ball stop systems they will be displaying. And did we mention that the Berlemann team are very friendly people, and happy to advise you about their wonderful products? (Right, we've done enough advertising now. Many thanks to the Berlemann team, for the great collaboration).



The Fence of Fame will be at the Berlemann stand, in Hall 1 at Perimeter Protection in Nuremberg, from 17 to 19 January. Will you be coming to hang up your nameplate?



So: if you come to Perimeter Protection in January, be sure to bring a nameplate along. Big or small, plastic or aluminium – all types of nameplates are welcome. Sign it with a thick marker pen and hang it on the Fence of Fame. If you're not able to make it to Nuremberg, send your nameplate to us and we'll take it there for you. There are no prizes to be won, but anyone who sends a nameplate in will of course be given an honourable mention in this magazine. And you'll be able to take a few photos of your own nameplate, hanging amongst those of your fencing colleagues. We still have the nameplates from the previous edition, and we'll be taking them with us. We'll make a start with those.

Once the trade fair is over, we will find a nice place for the fence where vandals and aluminium thieves can't get to it. Your nameplate certainly won't be ending up in the recycling bin.

Naturally we would really like to have as many signs as possible hanging on the fence. Perhaps we'll even make the Guinness Book of Records. We're counting on you! ■

Unable to make it to Nuremberg in January? Then send your nameplate to FOBS Magazine, Viller Mühle, Viller 32, 47574 Goch, Germany. Make sure that we receive it before 11 January!



Here you'll find the most important events in the fencing industry. Please note that not all events are open to the public. Sometimes you may need an invitation or have to pay an entrance fee. Events can be cancelled last minute. Find out more on the website of the event or the organisation.



12 - 14 JAN 2023



Fens

FENS is an international trade show for fencing manufacturers, fencing installation businesses and fencing customers from Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

12 until 14 January 2023, Istanbul, Turkey

ISTANBUL

17 - 19 JAN 2023



Intersec

Intersec is an international trade show for safety and security in all shapes and sizes. There are security products for people, for data, for buildings and perimeters.

17 until 19 January 2023, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

DUBAI

17 - 19 JAN 2023

Perimeter Protection

Trade show for mechanical, electrical and electronic outdoor security. Here you'll find fencing and gates, drive technology, detection systems and access control products.

17 until 19 January 2023, Nuremberg, Germany



NUREMBERG

18 JAN 2023



Night of the Fencers

After the second day of Perimeter Protection, fencing installers gather here in the evening to enjoy a drink and a bite to eat together.

18 January 2023, Nuremberg, Germany

NUREMBERG



31 JAN - 3 FEB 2023

Budma

Budma is Poland's biggest construction trade show. If you're seeking inspiration in the latest Polish building industry trends, this is the place to be.

31 January - 3 February 2023, Poznań, Poland

POZNAŃ

1 - 3 MAR 2023

FenceTech

Fencing trade show organised by industry association AFA. Here you'll find everything the US fencing market has to offer, from picket fences to high security.

1 until 3 March 2023, Oklahoma City, United States



OKLAHOMA CITY

Fens

Fens is a new trade show in Istanbul, focused completely on fencing. The organisers' goal is to bring fencing buyers, installers and manufacturers from Europe, Africa and Asia together at a central location. Fens will be held at the same time as Atrax, a trade show for theme parks.



Night of the Fencers

Since 2020, purchasing organisation Zaunfachmann has organised a fun evening for fencing installers to get together on the second day of the Perimeter Protection exhibition show. Fencers are given the opportunity to enjoy a bite and a drink at a restaurant in central Nuremberg while they catch up with old friends and make new contacts. Everyone who is involved with fencing is welcome; you don't need to be a member of the organisation.



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