

Corndell has been manufacturing in Witney, Oxfordshire, since 1977, and currently manufactures oak and painted MDF ranges. It has three oak ranges, and one painted MDF range, which are sold to both independent high street shops, as well as groups such as Furniture Village and BHS. The company employs over 110 people and most are employed in the factory production.

## Corndell furniture grows with Schubox technology

The painted MDF range, called Anney, has been in production since autumn 2010, and has witnessed impressive sales growth. However, through-put in the spray shop was becoming an issue, hence its call to Schuberts. Such was the growth in the painted range of furniture, Corndell needed to increase the throughput and reduce the curing times of the product – and a Schubox catalytic drying system seemed the only answer.

Schuberts visited the factory and carried out a full assessment of the spray shop – including the flow, current drying times, and so forth. Successful live tests were completed, and an order was placed soon after. An existing warm room drying system was inadequate in terms of both drying times, efficiency and quality, and there was a limited footprint that Schuberts had to design the system around – and with a total of six to eight sprayers delivering wet product to the drying facility, the installation had to be right, first time.



Over a three-day period, Schuberts delivered, installed and commissioned a bespoke flash-off section, Schubox with an automatic door system. The freshly-sprayed pieces are placed into a dedicated flash-off zone, which allows solvent vapour to vent off for 10-15 minutes, before being placed inside the Schubox catalytic IR drying system for a maximum time of 20 minutes.

"The end results have been fantastic," says Steve Jackson, operations director of Corndell. "The Schubox does exactly what it says on the tin. We have a much quicker turn-over of product, far fewer re-works, less solvent smell in the air for the operators to breathe, and a finished product that not only is fully dry, but ready to be packed and shipped to our demanding customers."

The flash-off solvent air is extracted and vented directly into the Schubox for oxidation through

the catalytic process. The surface temperature of the furniture never gets above 40°C, so the substrate is never affected by excess heat and no warping, twisting or degradation of the furniture will ever occur.

Many of Schuberts' installations are tailored to the exact requirements of the end customer. The Schubox comes highly recommended for rapid curing of both solvent- and water-based paints and lacquers, and many installations can be seen running live for tests.

For more information on how a Schubox can eradicate sprayshop bottlenecks and improve the quality of finishes, readers should contact Schuberts directly.

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