

COST-OPTIMIZED RAW MATERIAL TRANSPORT IN PLASTICS PROCESSING

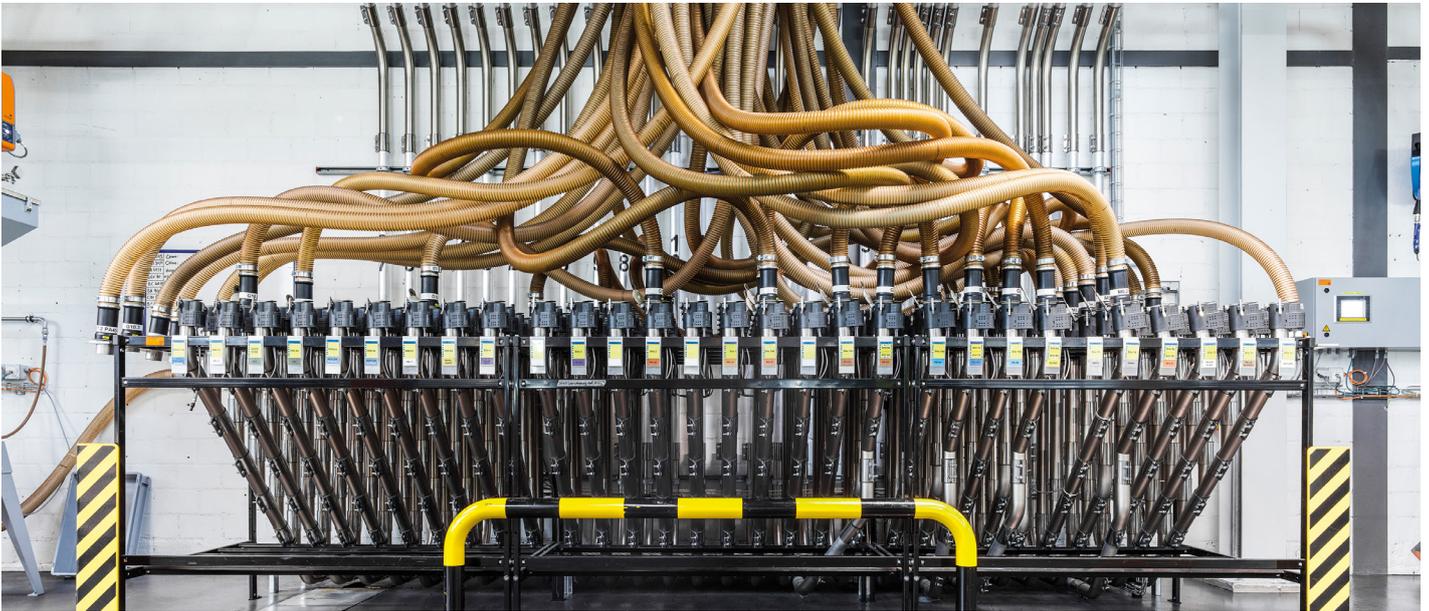


MCAM Symalit AG, based in Lenzburg, is Switzerland's leading supplier of plastic cable protection pipe solutions. Its wide range of products includes cable protection pipes, pipe bends, fittings, and accessories for a variety of applications. In order to protect itself from the enormous price fluctuations in plastic granulates, the company decided to massively expand its own storage capacities and, in this context, to put the entire raw material supply on a sustainable basis. MCAM Symalit AG entrusted the factory construction specialists at IE Plast with the planning and execution of the project.

Where cables need to be laid and protected in the ground, cable protection pipes from Swiss market leader MCAM Symalit AG are the preferred choice. For example, the Swiss market leader's high-quality products, made from environmentally friendly polyethylene, were the first choice for the construction of the Gotthard Base Tunnel. In the production process for cable protection products, the transport of raw materials from delivery to filling into the extruder plays an important role. MCAM Symalit AG recognized a need for renewal in this area. The focus was on expanding the granulate warehouse. The aim of the expansion was to increase flexibility and reduce procurement costs.

Recourse to comprehensive planning expertise

To execute the project, the company sought a planning partner with expertise in operations planning, industry know-how, and experience in raw material logistics in the plastics processing industry. The choice fell on IE Plast, which met all of these requirements. IE planners developed initial concept studies back in 2014, which were further refined in subsequent years and adapted to the changing needs of the client. The project, which IE Plast oversaw as the general contractor, was given the green light at the beginning of 2019.



Flexibility at all levels

With a convincing operational layout developed in close cooperation with the client, it was possible to organize raw material transport efficiently, exploit energy-saving potential, and keep options open for future expansion of the plant. From the newly constructed outdoor silos, which include a new truck unloading area, the granulate is transported to the extruders via drying and mixing systems. The media feeds are arranged on a steel platform and can be flexibly adjusted. The same applies to the building services equipment.

The new concept for raw material conveyance allows the processing of additional granulate containers such as big bags and octabins. Feed is possible to each extruder independently of the container, which further increases flexibility. Energy optimization was achieved by switching to a centralized vacuum system, whose waste heat is used to heat the warehouse and the bending shop. Protected access to the extruders for personnel takes into account the requirement for the highest possible level of occupational safety.

Creation during ongoing production

Thanks to perfect coordination between the plant managers and the IE planners, the new raw material conveyor system was installed without interrupting production. It gives MCAM Symalit AG exactly what the company needs to continue its success story: efficient processes, lower operating costs, and greater flexibility in production.

« With its forward-looking planning for raw material procurement, IE Plast has made an important contribution to the future development of our company and laid the foundation for the digitalization of our processes. We are very satisfied. »

Marcel Beer,
Managing Director MCAM Symalit AG

IE SERVICES

- › Planning and execution as a total contractor

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