

Voteecs gets Starbank's Vote

When Starbank needed a new shredder to cope with extra long offcuts, the close partnership between Schelling and Voteecs made the decision to buy Voteecs and easy one.

Shredding the three metre offcuts from two automatically fed Schelling beam saws running at full tilt might well have been a problem for the Newton le Willows-based panel specialist, Starbank, had it not been for Schelling UK's partnership with Voteecs. Voteecs is a German shredding machinery manufacturer with a reputation for coming up with solutions to all manner of shredding problems – and in Starbank's

case, it meant building a special vibrating shake-down chute to cope with the extra long chipboard and MDF offcuts from two highly productive fh6 saws.

"The solution was to build a horizontal shredder for long offcuts and position it between the two saws, so the operators of both could use it," explains Starbank's Phil Darbyshire. "We already had a vertical shredder that takes 1400mm long offcuts



and the operators used to stack the pieces before shredding, but with the longer pieces it would have meant operators breaking them up and feeding them in. The new Votecs has a five-metre, vibrating channel that handles the three metre offcuts easily.” The operator throws them into the channel and the vibration feeds them into the machine automatically.

Shredding chipboard and MDF is a necessarily noisy operation. Positioned between two saws, the 45kW Votecs VHZ T6, with its two rows of 30 40x40mm knives eating into several pieces at a time, would have been just too much for operator comfort, even with effective ear defenders. “We had the shredder put in a soundproofed cabin,” says Phil. “It was an extra cost option

but one we feel was necessary.” Starbank also had a tube magnet, which Phil refers to as his “bullet catcher”, added to detect and remove any metal. To further dampen noise and cut vibration, Schelling installed the machine on anti-vibration rubbers.

The VHZ T6 model has an infeed of 600mm x 120mm, which, combined with a rotor speed around 650rpm, makes it capable of shredding around 2.5 tonnes of offcuts per hour with a screen of 15-20 mm, and the build quality of the Votecs means it’s quite capable of working a three-shift operation. The 354mm diameter, v-profiled rotor is a patented design with knife holders mounted in the pocket section and knives bolted with covered screws, and the automatic Star-Delta operating system is simple, both in design and

operation. The machine itself is also simple enough for operator servicing and has been designed with low maintenance in mind.

“We looked at other machines but went with Votecs because of the backup we get from Schelling UK,” says Phil. “The operators are very pleased with it,” he concludes. “They don’t have to break the lengths and there’s a lot less noise. It was definitely the right decision for us.”

For information on Votecs contact Schelling UK on 01937 586340.

Facing Page: The Votecs VHZ T6 is equipped with a five-metre shake down chute and is positioned between Starbank’s two Schelling fh6 saws.

Top: The automatic Star-Delta operating system is simple, both in design and operation.