

“It was the quality of finish that decided it”

Germax Interiors. Brandt ‘500’ series.



Their corporate fitouts, refurbished hotels, custom made commercial furniture including a specialised line in boardroom tables have seen Germax Interiors gain an outstanding reputation that was being built over the past 21 years, as one of their directors, Urs Muller explains: “We like to tackle unusual and difficult jobs with a “can do” approach. While we have the equipment and experience to handle large jobs, we still do small ‘one off’ jobs for our architectural clients. We concentrate mainly in the Sydney metro area, but our reputation for specialised work in shapes, profiles and inlays has seen us also export into the Asia Pacific regions.”

The shop fitting and custom cabinetry market is tough. Competitive pricing demands efficiency, particularly with labour costs. On time delivery is a must with today’s tight schedules. High quality finish is the other prime requirement. When Germax went shopping for a new edgebander, they knew most brands offered the features to achieve their volume requirements and reduced labour. Quality of finish became therefore the deciding factor.

“And that’s why we bought the Brandt. We visited manufacturers who used Ermo, Ott, Holzher and Brandt edgebanders and saw the various quality of edges. We also talked to the owners. What we saw and heard convinced us in our decision to go with Brandt.”

From there it was just a matter of specifying the Brandt to meet Germax’s specific needs. With their mix of short and long runs and frequent edge material changes, quick changeovers were a necessity. “We’ve got 16 people on the floor and wanted a machine many could use. So we went for a fully programmable and auto resetting machine.” On Germax’s machine, this includes programmed setting of the pressure zone so it is simply a matter of calling up a program and the machine completely resets itself.

“We also do lots of doors so we were looking for a machine with on-board corner rounding as that would reduce time.”

Brandt’s ‘Quickmelt’ hopper fed glue system was another essential. “Recently we did a job with 12,000 metres of edge and went straight from that to a bunch of short run jobs. Quickmelt means there’s no mess and we always have fresh glue ‘hot and ready’ so we can use the machine for production or as an ‘on and off’ jobbing machine.”

The perfect even film of glue from start to finish regardless of panel height, length, or the size of the run was crucial for real edge quality. This is only achieved with a glue roller.

The quality of edging won Germax over. “We opted for the inclusion of glue line scrapers as we were spending a lot of time cleaning up edges. Now we get perfect glue lines straight off the machine”.

With six months use under their belt, Urs sums up the benefits “We’re getting much better results and are saving a lot of time. Anyone can get these results and the machine handles long and short runs easily. We also looked for a machine with good service back-up and that was definitely another factor in favour of the Brandt since it was backed by Homag Australia and we’ve been happy with their service since the installation.”