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FORSTER **FF**

aktuell

The magazine for customers, staff and friends of the Forster Group



Shelves for Luxembourg's biggest library ... page 10

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The year is nearing its close, and we are approaching the season when we find an occasional moment to pause in our day-to-day hectic rush and look back at events in 2019 and what we have jointly achieved.

We too are looking back. In addition to numerous changes and innovations initiated in the past year there have been many interesting projects that we remember with pleasure. And it is thus time for us to say thanks:

Thanks to all our staff members for their unfailing commitment and performance in the past year.

And thanks to our customers for the trust they have put in us. We confidently look forward to 2020 and our continued cooperation.

We have once again decided to abstain from Christmas gifts and to dedicate the sum to charity.

Accordingly we wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Ing. Christian Forster



Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Robert Reichartzeder



Ing. Hans-Peter Prüller

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RVS 05.02.11 AND RVS 05.02.13

New RVS Guidelines

Two new RVS Guidelines for the Design, Construction and Maintenance of Roads were published in August 2019, as revisions of previous issues. They constitute the current state of the art in road engineering.

RVS 05.02.11 This guideline applies to the production, design and installation of traffic signs on public roads. The revised version of RVS 05.02.11 (Traffic Signs and Announcements – Requirements and Installation) was published on 1 August 2019, replacing the previous issue of 1 July 2009. The update was necessary due to various amendments in the co-applicable standards and guidelines. Moreover, issues in related guidelines such as RVS 05.02.13 were adapted, restructured and summarised in RVS 05.02.11.



RVS 05.02.13 This guideline applies to the design of direction and information signs on type A federal roads (federal motorways) and type S federal roads (federal dual carriageways) as defined in the Federal Roads Act, and on intersection-free dual carriageways that have been declared throughways under the Highway Code.

Trade show review of 2019

The Forster Group looks back at a year packed with eventful trade shows where Forster staff met up directly with customers at numerous exhibitions, conferences and meetings.

The year began with shows in **Bern (Cultura Suisse)** and **Paris (SITEM)** in late January, which offered an opportunity for Forster to successfully present its shelving systems. These events were followed by the **Noise Protection Days in Munich**, presentations at **Wels (ASTRAD)** and **Graz (Kommunalmesse**, a trade fair for local government requirements) and the **Regal industry gathering in Vienna**. In May, Arbitec-Forster participated in the **Brandenburg and Saxonian Archivars' Conferences**.

In September, Forster showcased its shelving systems in **Graz (Austrian Library Conference)** and our advertising team lined up its products in **Linz (marke[ding])**.

Moreover, Arbitec-Forster brought its shelving systems to the **Archivistica at Suhle** and the **Exponatec Cologne**.



Trade show preview for 2020

Cultura Suisse – Trade Fair for Museums, Preservation of Monuments and Cultural Heritage.
Focus on: shelving systems for museums
Date: 22–24 January 2020
Place: Bernexpo – Berne (Switzerland)

SITEM – International Museum, Cultural Sites and Tourism Exhibition.
Focus on: shelving systems for museums
Date: 28–30 January 2020
Place: Carrousel du Louvre, Paris (France)

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A5 NORD/WEINVIERTEL MOTORWAY

No way to go astray: the Drasenhofen bypass



The Drasenhofen bypass was designed with an eye to improving the quality of living and road safety on the B7 Brünner Strasse. Every day, it extracts some 1,800 lorries from the village cores, bringing relief to some 800 residents. Forster supplied the full package of signs.

After just more than one year of construction, the Drasenhofen bypass was ceremoniously opened to traffic on 7 September. Along a length of 5 kilometres it is free of traffic lights and intersections. On its western end, ASFINAG added an access road towards Vienna and an exit towards Drasenhofen. Upon its completion, the Drasenhofen bypass became part of the ASFINAG network of toll roads.



Forster furnished all the signage for the road project, from standard traffic signs to direction signs and advance direction signs, including the requisite fixing and fitting systems such as cantilevers, latticed uprights and tubular frames. The foundation works for the uprights were also included in the scope of delivery. The project was divided into several stages. Since the Drasenhofen bypass was set to become a toll road, the delivery included the supply and installation of two walk-on toll bridges. 

The bypass provides tranquility, quality of living and safety to the neighbouring villages.

AWS SIGNS

Signal-yellow helpers

On behalf of the Austrian Railways ÖBB, Thales is implementing an automatic warning system for track works that uses signs made by Forster.

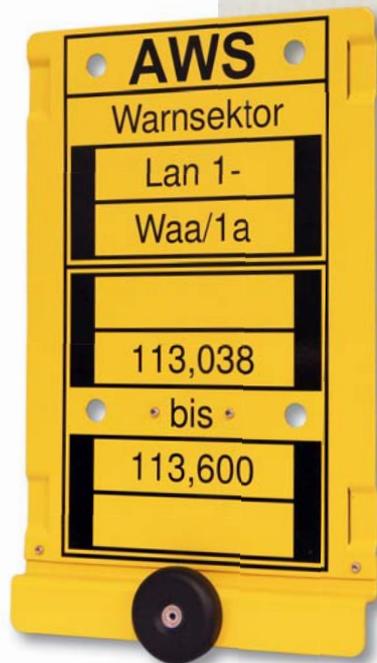
Same as roads, railway tracks require constant servicing. In order to ensure worker safety during maintenance and repair works, helpers are used: automatic warning systems (AWS) that send radio signals reporting the location of track workers.

Marking danger spots The ÖBB break down their overland tracks into warning sectors of about 800 metres each and identify danger spots – such as switches – in the station and sorting areas. AWS signs are fitted in such dedicated areas in order to provide a location code by way of a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag. Works in a given sector are logged in and out by the dispatcher who is thus enabled to warn crews of approaching trains. A radio signal sent by the RFID tag in the sign identifies the exact location of the crew.

Better safe than sorry The aluminium sign, powder-coated in signal yellow, is directly inscribed by digital printing. After drying, it is fitted with a mounting angle and RFID tag, followed by programming the tag. It comes complete with bore holes for screw mounting or beads for steel strip fitting that make it easy to attach the AWS signs to the catenary support with a steel band or fit them to the maintenance door of a noise barrier. It goes without saying that Forster thoroughly tests each sign for quality performance. After all: better safe than sorry! 🚧



AWS signs with (invisibly) fitted RFID tag.





Colourful view: the tinted plexiglass elements provide an eye-catching vista of the city.

NOISE BARRIERS AND TRAFFIC ENGINEERING

Construction site news from Upper Austria

Forster's fitters are currently clustering around Linz. One hot spot concerns renewing and enlarging noise barriers at the Linz motorway intersection near Ansfelden, and a second one focuses on new safety installations at the Voest bridge of the A7 Mühlkreis Motorway.

Some 9,000 people living in the vicinity of the Ansfelden motorway section near Linz will soon be able to relax and breathe deeply again: the new noise control measures installed along the Linz intersection near Ansfelden will significantly improve their quality of living. Starting in early March 2019, new noise barriers of a height of up to 7 metres have been set up along the A1 Western Motorway, a work in progress that is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2020.

Voest bridge: at the heart of the traffic flow At the same time, safety measures at the "heart" of traffic in Linz are progressing on the Voest bridge of the A7 Mühlkreis Motorway. Two additional "bypass" bridges are designed to ensure smooth crossing of the Danube by providing diversions to the flow of traffic. Forster motorway signs will be used in order to improve guidance and control of



The new noise barrier at Ansfelden extends to a length of 6 km.

future traffic flows. Traffic noise will be damped down by a noise barrier, designed by Plant Architects TH GmbH, which combines aluminium panels with dyed plexiglass, similar to the scheme used at Ansfelden. The bypass bridges are scheduled to be finished by next summer, and the next issue of Forster Aktuell will include an extensive report on the project. Up till then, the ASFINAG webcam supplies images of the bridge which are updated on a daily basis. 



The first gantries have already been installed.

NOISE BARRIERS FOR RAIL TRACKS

Deutsche Bahn tests Noise Breaker

Within the scope of the I-LENA initiative to test new, hands-on noise abatement methods, the German Ministry for Transport and Digital Infrastructure is cooperating with Deutsche Bahn in searching novel solutions. Their quest includes the Noise Breaker developed by Forster.

The noise emitted by trains can become quite unnerving for people living next to railway tracks. In order to reduce the stress, the German Ministry for Transport and Digital Infrastructure in April 2016 set up the I-LENA initiative to collaborate with Deutsche Bahn in testing new and application-oriented noise control measures. Jointly, the two partners intend to promote noise abatement measures with a view to achieving a more agreeable environment.

Noise barriers along railway tracks are quite often a sensitive issue, for operators as much as for neighbours. Leonhard Weiss GmbH & Co. KG, Forster's German distributor for the Noise Breaker, knows all about the advantages of this low-rise noise barrier and has submitted it



Testing the Noise Breaker within the scope of the I-LENA initiative to check out the potential of new technologies.

for field-testing on a dedicated track.

Quality shows in practice The I-LENA initiative offers an opportunity for developers and producers

of innovative noise control systems to test their merits on an actual test track of Deutsche Bahn. Such a field test quickly shows whether and how a system can be further optimised. The test opens up entirely new opportunities for the Noise Breaker system, which has already been approved in Germany: in enclosed areas which are difficult to access and where implementing conventional noise abatement systems would be difficult and extremely expensive, the Noise Breaker provides a solution because it is close to the tracks and of a very low height. 



For further information on the Noise Breaker see:
www.forster.at/en/noise-control/noise-breaker/



Easy to locate: emergency exits in conspicuous melon yellow.

NOISE BARRIERS FOR SLOVAKIA

Flexible, sleek, colourful

The versatile FONOCOON noise barrier systems add a welcome touch of colour to the edges of motorways. Their combination of transparent elements with aluminium leaves room for the full scope of design freedom. Quite recently, Foster Slovakia implemented two projects that added a touch of colour to the road.

Construction is progressing on the D1, Slovakia's longest motorway which is scheduled to extend from

Bratislava via Žilina to the Ukrainian border at Záhор. The section past Žilina is to be fitted with aluminium barriers made by Forster. The "melon yellow" elements, alternating with grey panels, provide for a harmonious colour scheme. Moreover, the emergency exits are marked out by their bright colouring and are thus easy to locate in an emergency. The grand design is rounded off by large glass panels which are imprinted with black stripes to keep birds from crashing into them.



Screen-printed combined glass panels on a railway bridge near Púchov.



Colouring the bridges of Púchov

The comparatively light-weight and partly transparent Fonocon panels incidentally are a perfect match for railway bridges: next to Púchov, a

small town in western Slovakia, combined glass panels, screen-printed in green and blue across their entire surface, have created a totally new look. 

PRECIOUS ITEMS SAFELY ARCHIVED

Mobile shelving for Swiss archives

Valuable heritage and culture items need to be safely stored. FOREG® shelving systems help make storage safe and secure in two Swiss archives.

Cinémathèque Suisse research and archiving system The Swiss Film Archive harbours collections of outstanding value that double as an important source of information: it is the audiovisual memory of Switzerland, and as such it is essential to keep it in proper storage. On a total space of 5,315 square metres, the Archive preserves about 700,000 reels of film in an underground depot, together with historical posters, photographs, scripts, documentaries, books and journals, not to mention historical projectors and cameras, as well as other equipment and items of movie history. And new additions keep coming in. FOREG® shelving systems ideally fit the needs of these very special archiving items. Thanks to the modular system, components can be exchanged, recombined and extended exactly as needed. The Swiss Film



The Cinémathèque Suisse stores the “audiovisual memory” of Switzerland.

Archive thus uses the whole range: shelf panels, drawers, cabinets and mobile picture panels.

Valais State Archive The archive at the Les Arsenaux cultural centre comprises shelving of 32,000 metres in length, spread across three levels.

In the future, the Forster archiving shelves will guard a thousand years of Valais history because the entire content of the Valais State Archive will be transferred there, together with the mobile shelves and map cabinets. When designing archives, planners typically put a premium on space-saving and economical solutions. A mobile shelving system made the best possible use of the available space, and doubled the original storage capacity. 



Valais State Archive: mobile shelving creates space.

PROJECT COMPETENCE

Shelving for the Luxembourg National Library



Another successful item has been added to the Forster list of reference projects: our subsidiary Arbitec-Forster supplied the shelving for the biggest scientific library in Luxembourg.

After five years of construction, the elegant new building of the Luxembourg National Library opened in late September 2019. The biggest scientific library of the country had to move to new quarters since the seven locations that had previously stored its stocks no longer offered satisfactory conservation conditions. Accordingly, some 1.8 million paper documents – books, journals, newspapers and maps – and other items were moved to their new home.

User-friendly on many levels

The new single depot of the National Library extends over five levels, each of which is divided into twelve rooms. The storage space, totalling 110 kilometres in the five-level magazine, was mostly fitted with mobile shelving. A crank-drive and plenty of accessories cover everything customers might need. Perforated end panels ensure that the material archived in the air-conditioned rooms is well ventilated.



Library shelving provides order and clarity and thereby defines the library's overall appearance.



Flat items in A0 and extralarge formats are placed in special cabinets where drawings and maps can be properly stored with due care.

The paintings are similarly stored with due regard to specific requirements: the picture panels can be pulled out to increase user-friendliness.

Installation and fitting works proceeded with the same degree of flexibility: rails were placed into the floor screed already in the summer of 2016. Delivery and installation were cued to the general pace of the construction works so that the

mobile shelves and shelving systems filled the open-access areas in step with the building's progress.

Stunning open-access area

While magazines are not accessible to visitors, a large, stunningly designed area in the new library is available for use by the general public. More than 200,000 books are stored on Forster-made shelves in reading rooms on three storeys. The stationary shelves are of the case type. As in every library, the national library uses a comprehensive set of accessories: among them are suspended and sliding

bookends to keep books in place, and journal bins in non-standard formats to utilise the entire width of the bay.

A brainy solution for ventilation and lighting

At a height of 220 mm, bay plinths accommodate integrated ventilation slits for heating and air-conditioning the open-access area. Already during the planning stage, the building services engineers marked out bays that were readied by Forster for subsequent fitting of heat exchangers.

The bays in the reading area were generally provided with five shelves, except for the front area where the height was reduced to two or three shelves. The media-theque has some of its bays split into seven shelves. Customising the design in the open-access area also included shelf lighting. Forster integrated retractable LED lights in the top panels as well as dimmable LED light strips in the shelf panels and floor lamps on single elements. 



INTERVIEW

“Paris-Riyadh-Oslo: a premium on flexibility”

Working for and at Forster is not just an exciting all-round challenge in an internationally operating company – it opens up entirely new perspectives. Forster Aktuell spoke with Gerald Hochbichler, who left Waidhofen to explore the world and install shelving projects on behalf of Forster.

The interviewee Gerald Hochbichler

Aged 31, the project manager for customised solutions has been working for Forster since 2008. Since 2011 he has been frequently assigned to international jobs. Following work in France and Saudi Arabia, he has been managing two major projects in Norway since 2018. Gerald Hochbichler is fluent in English and French, although his Norwegian is still in need of refinement. For our interview we contacted him in Oslo.



Gerald Hochbichler at the Oslo site office.

FA: When did you become a project manager? And what have been your main stops so far?

..... I started out with Forster in 2008, initially working on projects within Austria. I first worked abroad in 2011. My first international assignment was managing the National Archives project in Paris. In 2015, I undertook the project and assembly management of an art gallery in Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia. In the same year, I managed a project with CTLeS, the main book depository of the French Ministry of Higher Education, in Paris. In 2018, my job as a project manager for Forster took me from France

to Norway, first to the new National Museum in Oslo, and then to the Munch Museum. In parallel I am currently intensifying our cooperation with a distributor of shelving systems and training its staff.

FA: What are the prerequisites required for the job?

..... In addition to the specific knowledge and a technical and commercial grounding it is essential to be able to quickly adapt to new situations – both in social and in cultural terms. A high degree of flexibility is thus necessary. This may mean that you discuss technical details on site in the afternoon and meet the museum’s director on a social level in the evening. The point is to reconcile the customer’s interests with those of your company, to handle both interests satisfactorily for both sides and keep your sight on the commercial side. Quite frequently this requires a lot of diplomatic skills: we naturally endeavour to fulfil the customer’s wishes to the best possible extent – but not at all costs. Mine is not a “nine-to-five job” and working through the weekend may well be part of the job. You should be ready to leave your personal comfort zone. You also need the courage to make decisions that may have far-reaching consequences for

the project. Hands-on mentality is what is needed.

Specifically, I must keep track of what should have been assembled yesterday, will be supplied next week, cleared and produced in Plant III in the next five weeks – while at the same time coordinating several subcontractors.

FA: Please describe the job of a project manager. How does your day progress in a foreign country?

..... There is hardly any routine. Each day springs new surprises and challenges which need to be handled locally and as quickly as possible. I might plan a day at the office and find that I am tied to the construction site for the whole day – or vice versa.

In my day-to-day work I make sure that deliveries are correct and timely, talk to production, obtain assembly instructions, coordinate assembly crews and third-party suppliers. I keep project schedules up to date for the customer, check and make out invoices. And I need to respond quickly if the customer wants anything changed.

FA: What do you like particularly about your foreign assignments?

..... First of all that you immerse yourself in the countries and cultures much more deeply than a



tourist would. From a job perspective, it is exciting to accompany a project from start to finish with much personal commitment and make it a success for the customer and your company, no matter how long and winding the road may have been. A crucial factor is support from the organisation. From the back office to the production and assembly departments. I like working with our Forster fitters some of whom come with me abroad. Without them my assignments would have been only half as agreeable.

FA: Two things that were particularly enervating?

..... Occasionally, red tape encroaches on everything, like health and safety matters or invoicing regulations. Unrealistic requests are just as provoking as is a strict “no go” attitude, even though there would be a solution at hand; and that there are places, such as Saudi Arabia, where a well-deserved beer after knocking-off is strictly taboo.

FA: What has changed for you?

..... Each project has made me grow in terms of my job and my personal development. The more difficult situations you have coped with, the less will you be fazed by new challenges. There will come a time when you will automatically assert yourself, even when you are not fluent in the local language. But my many stays abroad also have made me more appreciative of my home country.

FA: How did you do when you first went abroad? How was the language situation?

..... During my first stay in Paris I was lucky to find good friends quickly. They helped me improve my language skills in no time. In the beginning a few mugs of beer helped overcome the language barrier..

FA: What did you find most challenging?

..... On the one hand the multiple responsibilities of handling sales, project management and assembly, and on the other hand the change in my private life. Going abroad means that you need to find a place to stay and to build up social contacts and structures. You must not lose sight of your work-life balance and keep up with hobbies and friends.

FA: When you look back at your stays abroad: which country/ project has been the most exciting/ challenging?

..... For me the most exciting project was the first one in Paris, because just about everything was new to me. The most complex project was the Oslo National Museum. And the cultural shock was greatest in Saudi Arabia.

FA: Have all your ideas and expectations been fulfilled? What did you personally gain?

..... Like most people I had specific ideas and expectations about a country. Some were surpassed, some were found wanting. The

point is to find out yourself before you make any judgement. What is “normal” in Austria need not necessarily be so in another country.

FA: Forster is active in many countries. Where would you like to go next?

..... Hopefully to a country that is warmer than Norway. Perhaps there will be another project in Australia – but you can’t pick and choose! But first I would like to spend some time at home. After that the abroad may well tempt me again.

FA: What are your next goals and which perspectives do you see in the Forster Group?

..... I am very grateful to Forster for offering me the opportunities to make progress in my career. Since my responsibilities are diverse and stimulating I rather love my current role. Undertaking further tasks such as the overall responsibility for a given region would then be the logical next step within the Forster Group. 

Interviewer:
Heinz Lumetsberger





SEINZ. GROOMING AND STYLING PRODUCTS

Health shop shelves for men

SEINZ. is the new dm drugstore line for the man who is into personal grooming. Its products are displayed in highly conspicuous shelves that include design elements made by Forster.

The project was handled with utmost simplicity and efficiency: existing shelves were redesigned rather than replaced. The distinctive SEINZ. look derives from a header with the logotype in capital

letters and dividers at the shelf sides. The header and clamp were made in different widths. In this way, different shelves in different stores can be easily transferred into SEINZ. shelves. Perforated polycarbonate dividers separate the shelf from other products and provide a distinctive appearance.

Such simple measures turn the SEINZ. shelf into an in-store ambassador for the brand – and not just in Austria. The new shelf accessories are also used in the Slovak Republic, Croatia, Romania, Hungary, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Slovenia, although under the “men’s world” brand name. **FF**



Appeals to men: the striking shelf of the SEINZ. series with elements made by Forster.

FLEET SIGNAGE

Forster's mail delivery



Deliveries are usually part of the postal service's remit. But this time it is the other way round: over the next four years, Forster will deliver the signage for the company's fleet of vehicles.

These cars get about quite a bit: postal service staff circumscribe the globe several times a day with their cars. It is thus of key importance to have a highly visible and distinct signage for the fleet.

In its deliveries, the postal service proactively protects the environment: only recently it invested in a further batch of electric vehicles, insisting on a particularly environment-friendly signage for the new additions: printed on PVC-free material with solvent-free colours, the film does not use any phthalate-containing plasticiser or chlorine. **FF**



Forster supplies the fleet signage for the Austrian Postal Service.

COMBINED GARBAGE BINS IN VIENNA

Environmentally friendly stickers for MA 48

In September 2019, the City of Vienna's municipal department MA 48 merged the yellow and blue recycling bins. As a result, plastic bottles, metal and beverage cartons are now collected in the same bin.

The PVC-free adhesive film is suitable for outdoor use. It is not just more environmentally friendly but also more robust than conventional film.



And then there was one: The new combined garbage tins will be installed throughout Vienna by March 2020.

Its high tensile strength prevents tearing and ensures that the film is detached in one go when it needs to be replaced. This helps not just the environment but also facilitates the work of MA 48 staff. **FF**

ROTARY SCREENPRINTING AND HOLOGRAM PRINTING

The latest print options

Forster puts a premium on innovation – and is a pioneer of printing technologies. Our forte is special print processes such as printing of conductive layers. Two of the latest technologies have found applications in new fields.



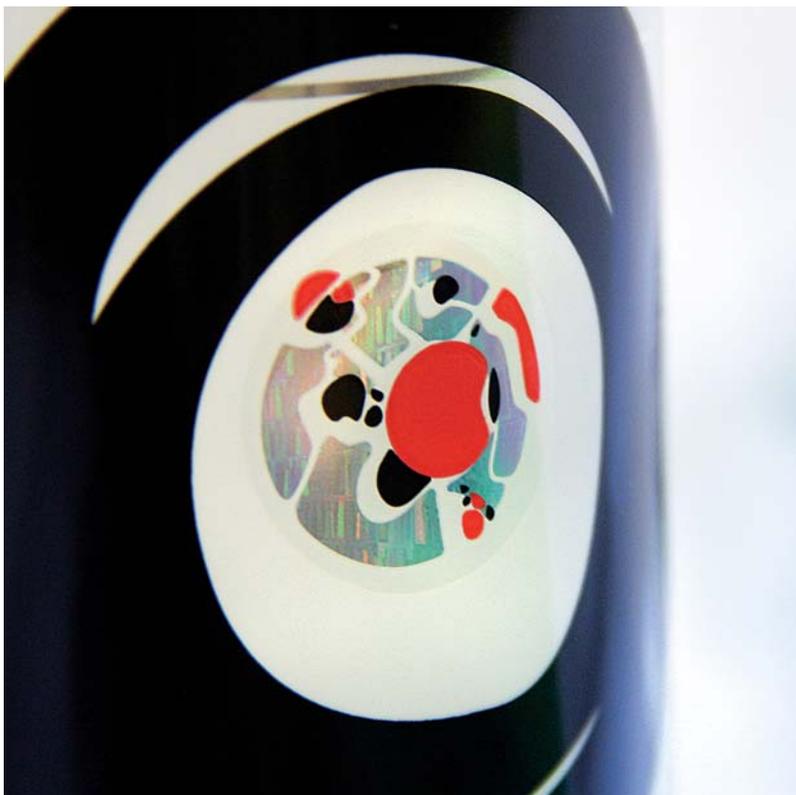
Hologram printing: all in one go

You will know holograms mostly in the form of stickers, either as customised holograms or as standard ones with a prefabricated background motif. Forster's innovative production plant prints such

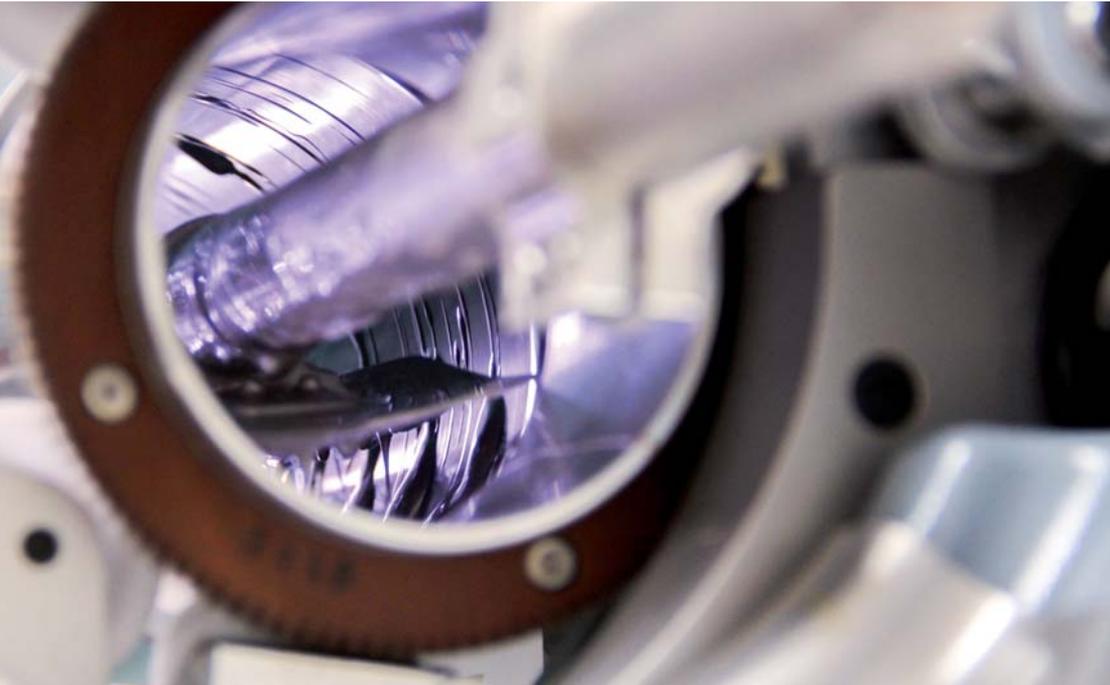
holograms in a single go rather than by the conventional method of separate embossing followed by attachment.

Effective brand protection

..... This type of hologram is particularly useful as proof for branded products. The new production method allows printing the hologram directly onto a tag, leaving out the glueing step. This is a clear advantage in designing and producing tags: the hologram is always perfectly positioned, even when it is partly overprinted by proprietary colours, and the innovative production process is in itself an excellent protection against fakes.



Example of a hologram print.



Rotary screenprinting delivers labels of a very long service life and UV resistance.

Rotary screenprinting: superior quality, multifunctional

Applications of rotary screenprinting cover a wide range: the innovative technology produces labels of a superior quality and allows making large batches even for functional prints. Moreover, the colour can be applied with greater intensity. Compared to conventional production methods, labels have a much longer service life and are UV-resistant. With rotary screenprinting,

metallic effects and special adhesives for security labels (self-destructing when removed) are possible. Contrary to normal screenprinting, this is feasible also for R2R continuous printing.

Added bonus from state-of-the-art print technologies In the future rotary screenprinting will make it possible to print conductive layers.



As another bonus, the application of very thick (colour) layers will allow tactile prints so that images, scripts and brand logos on a label can be felt with the tip of a finger.



GENERAL HOSPITAL OF THE CITY OF VIENNA

Signposts towards health



LED lighting is state-of-the-art standard.



High-quality appearance thanks to inlaid letters and acrylic logos.

The Vienna General Hospital (AKH) is a perfect theatre showcasing the full spectrum of what Forster's traffic and advertising department has on offer: following signage for the ambulance approach and the main entrance, Forster has now supplied the signs for the two ward blocks.

Fitters climbed to the dizzying height of 70 metres above ground level to carry out their task: attaching two signs each to the green (western) and red (eastern) ward tower blocks. While they were working, the wind had to be watched for a maximum permissible velocity of 3.5 metres per second as otherwise the roof maintenance platform would have become unsafe. The 3M sheets of series 100 suitable for long-term outdoor use were cut

into strips of 4 metres already at the works in order to facilitate their attachment on site. The two logos are 17 metres and 24 metres long, and the lengths were overlapped and glued together, as is customary in an outdoor environment.

The panels were cleaned by the customer before being glued together after testing and matching various detergents in order to avoid impairing the adhesion.

Neatly mapped main entrance

Forster provided the signs for the hospital entrance already last year, making it much easier for patients and visitors to find their way around.

The internally illuminated LED sign atop the main entrance is almost 22 metres long. The flat frame,



The logos of the Vienna Medical University and the Vienna General Hospital can be seen from afar.

coated in RAL 9010 (matte white), consists of a sheet-metal section bevelled all around and 95 mm deep. The front is laser-cut and the lettering inlaid. Specifically, the letters are made of transparent acrylic glass and covered by a dark-blue film inserted at the front.

Illuminated ambulance approach

•••• The slip road from Währinger Gürtel for the exclusive use of ambulances has gained in visibility due to a dimmable LED sign made by Forster. Its casing consists of a stable aluminium frame fitted with toughened glass. The sign was attached to the pedestrian bridge across the Gürtel road past the General Hospital next to the AKH underground station. Four maintenance openings at the top give crews access to the sign from the bridge. To this end it is pushed on guide rails to the glass windows of the bridge and returned to its original position after maintenance.

In order to mount the sign in a night shift, two lanes were blocked and the site properly secured. All applications for road police measures under Section 90 of the Highway Code were included in Forster's scope of delivery. The permits were issued by the City of Vienna's Department 46. 



IST PARK KLOSTERNEUBURG

Orientation for top scientists

The IST Park, a technology centre created by the joint initiative of ecoplus and the Institute of Science and Technology (IST) Austria and located at Klosterneuburg at the doorstep of Vienna, opened for business in late September 2019. Its two state-of-the-art buildings, which on their 2,400 square metres of space accommodate facilities such as coworking spaces and labs for molecular biology and cell culture, were supplied with directional signs by Forster.

At the main entrance, an internally illuminated Combiflex CF60 monument sign takes care of a proper introduction to the building's features. The modular sign system impresses by its sheer flexibility. Its sophisticated design allows changing and adding panels to reflect new tenants of the technology park. The LED modules are maintenance-free and their brightness was adapted to the ambient light.



Unpretentious, functional, superior quality •••• Inside the buildings, floor navigators, escape route maps and door signs of the Combiflex CF20 series provide a consistent look for the requisite orientation. The minimalist, flat appearance perfectly matches the corporate design and architecture of the surrounding. 



AHS WIEN WEST

A colour routing scheme for a modern school building



Aluminium sections similarly coated in RAL 1035 round off the overall optical appearance and continuous colour scheme thanks to their flat shape and clear, uncluttered lines.

Crystal clear marking

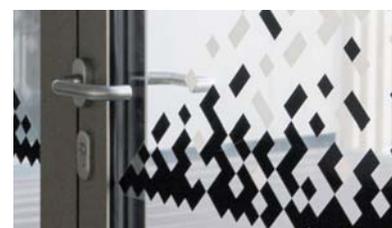
The two-coloured glass markings, which conform to Austrian Standard ÖNORM B1600, are made from highly transparent film, leaving the space behind in clear view although the outline of the door is distinctly visible. 

By adding and converting parts, a former military base in the 14th district of Vienna was transformed into a modern high school with a focus on sports. Forster supplied the routing and information system for the AHS Wien West.

Modern space concepts foster variety in approaches to teaching. While the lower grades are taught in clusters, the more advanced levels are organised in a department system. Students have their own common rooms known as “home bases”, used for learning, chilling

and as social meeting zones. The architect employed a colour routing system to mark the respective zones which was implemented by Forster with large-scale film lettering, dyed in line with the architect’s instructions.

The directional signs and floor directories consist of 3 mm strong aluminium, powder-coated in RAL 1035 pearl beige matte and inscribed with foil letters. The door signs and escape route signs use the Combiflex Mero design system which, as an added benefit, allows the school to update the signs easily by replacing the paper inserts.



13 SEPTEMBER 2019, FORSTERAU

Second Forster summer party

A pleasantly warm evening, cosy chats with colleagues, and a special icing on the cake: that was the Forster summer party. Already on the parking lot guests were charmingly welcomed by stiltwalkers. A humorous introduction by Christian Forster was followed by plenty of opportunities for the 500 guests to enjoy the convivial atmosphere and good conversation. The highlight of the evening was the spectacular glow show performed by the Mindspinners. The illuminated juggling act set against the dark night created light illusions swaying to the rhythm of the music. Conclusion: a well-paced party, entertaining and full of atmosphere, that definitely calls for a repeat performance. 



Christian Forster opened the Forster summer party.



The party tent was well attended right from the beginning.



The Mindspinners' glow show provided the spectacular conclusion.



Forster Group staff news

❖ ANNIVERSARIES

Waidhofen/Ybbs:

35 YEARS

Walter Asanger
Renate Zehetner

30 YEARS

Andrea Dvorak
Rudolf Hackl
Andreas Kaltenbrunner
Rudolf Martschin
Gerlinde Michal
Josef Steinkellner
Reinhold Stockinger
Christian Wieser
Friedrich Wegscheider
Oliver Würnschimmel

25 YEARS

Leopold Dietl
Elisabeth Forster
Erich Hiesberger
Gerhard Hintsteiner
Christian Kopf
Jürgen Maierhofer
Elke Peuler
Helmut Sonnleithner
Samira Vincevic
Dieter Wieser

Andreas Willenpart
Doris Wöginger
Adalbert Zehetner

20 YEARS

Martin Brandstetter
Erbert Forster
Harald Harreither
Petra Hummelsberger
Ursula Neubauer
Robert Reichartzeder
Christine Scholler
Renate Schön
Hüseyin Sener
Hermann Wührer

15 YEARS

Christian Almberger
Bernike Aschauer
Oliver Bachleitner
Claudia Boes
Michaela Ertelthalner
Jürgen Fluch
Malgorzata Kalinski
Markus Kleinhofer
Florian Kurowski
Christian Mataushek
Marion Schachinger
Leopold Schneckenleitner
Martin Stütz

10 YEARS

Silvia Atzenhofer
Regina Blaimauer
Metin Demirok
Jürgen Hartl
Christina Herzog
Rudolf Katzensteiner
Katrin Mayer
Michael Weigl
Hubert Zechner

St. Peter/Au:

40 YEARS

Franz Prüller

30 YEARS

Martin Sindhuber
Engelbert Zisler

25 YEARS

Cornelia Bentan
Manuela Braunstein
Brigitte Ennsmann
Stefan Henickl
Midhat Hodzic
Agnes Kaineder

20 YEARS

Sabina Catic
Heidemarie Hörlendberger
Suad Kalbic

ANNIVERSARIES

40 and 35 years with Forster:



40 YEARS
Franz Prüller



35 YEARS
Walter Asanger



35 YEARS
Renate Zehetner

RETIREMENT



After 32 years of service for Forster, **Harald Grünberger** retired from his active career in the noise barrier department. He accompanied noise screening projects of all dimensions in all of Austria, from preparing quotations to computing the final accounts. A project specialist up to his retirement, he was also frequently assigned to projects extending noise control facilities along the western railway tracks.

Brigitte Riedl
Rupert Sindhuber
Simone Wieser
Elisabeth Witzlinger

15 YEARS

Thomas Domani
Sieglinde Konetschnig
Doris Reickersdorfer
Anita Riedl
Hans-Jörg Riener
Andrea Übellacker

10 YEARS

Mary Freudenberger
Karin Hirtenlehner

Arbitec-Forster:**20 YEARS**

Andre Drzensla
Frank Heinrichs

15 YEARS

Jessica Preissner

Colberg & Forster:**25 YEARS**

Ralf Petri

20 YEARS

Marco Broda
Rolf Kroh

Forster Switzerland:**10 YEARS**

Julien Jaccoud

The management wants to express to all celebrants its gratitude and appreciation for their long years of loyalty to the company and looks forward to continuing our excellent cooperation.

RETIREMENT**Waidhofen/Ybbs:**

Günter Wagner
Jian-Ahmed Mudaffer
Roswitha Hochstrasser
Karl Haselsteiner
Harald Grünberger
Michaela Schütter
Friedrich Gerhard Wegscheider
Helmut Sonnleithner
Anton Holzer
Alfred Wagner
Gerhard Cecil

St. Peter/Au:

Siegfried Ubl

The management wants to express its gratitude and appreciation for their long years of loyalty to the company and extends its best wishes for their new life phase!

VOCATIONAL TRAINING SCHOOL

Rene Reikersdorfer (double apprenticeship of metal engineering with mechanical engineering as the main module, draftsmanship) graduated from the fourth forms of the two apprenticeships with *excellent success*.

Manuel Reiter (metal engineering, with mechanical engineering as the main module) graduated from the second form with *excellent success*.

Our congratulations on their excellent performance and our best wishes for their further career!

NEW APPRENTICESHIP: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

Information technology as an apprenticeship is exactly in tune with current times because the digital transformation opens up excellent job opportunities for graduates. Important prerequisites are technical understanding and logical-analytical thinking.

The apprenticeship takes four years of learning, i.e., how to develop requirement profiles for IT solutions, plan, set up and maintain IT environments, create user interfaces in the net and access to databases, and carry out security measures, testing and troubleshooting. 📧



Michaela Schütter joined the company in 2002. A graphic designer, she made a signal contribution to the appearance of our advertising media, shaping the visual look of our company within and without. A passionate golfer, she has for years been a familiar guest on the golf course, and in June 2019 she finally retired her mac in favour of her golf clubs.



In 1992, **Gerhard Cecil** started out as a sales representative in the Forster advertising engineering department and after a few years was appointed key account manager for Vienna. Specialising in printing and displays, he advised and supported our customers in Vienna in all advertising matters before taking his well-earned retirement at the end of the year.



Following more than 46 years of working for the company, **Karl Haselsteiner** took his retirement. Mixing colours, painting and coating, especially of traffic engineering products, have been his metier throughout his working life, and accordingly he was one of the most experienced specialists in the department.



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