

U-R-B-A-N NEWS

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Trust. Right from the start!

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Information for our customers and business partners

Full steam ahead into the future

Full steam ahead into the future: this is the path taken by Urban GmbH & Co. Maschinenbau KG.

"We were able to further expand our technological lead in the 2025 financial year and will continue on this successful course in the future," says Martin Urban, managing partner of the Urban Group.

The company is benefiting from the continuing high demand for its high-end manufacturing solutions, such as CUT welding machines. "Interest remains strong, and we are already accepting projects for the second half of 2027," says Urban, who attributes this trend to more than just attractive surfaces and corners such as zero joints.

"It's about much more than beautiful windows. For window manufacturers, the primary concern is automating processes and securing the production flow. The shortage of skilled workers is also having a major impact on window and door manufacturing, and our machines enable companies to counteract this technologically," explains Urban.

Countering the shortage of skilled workers

More and more companies are therefore opting for welding and plastering technology and are also optimising their logistics processes. "We have focused specifically on the high-end markets of the Western world and international industrial

customers, where we are regarded as an innovative supplier of machine technology for window and door production. Our tailor-made solutions set us apart from the competition and make us the first port of call for companies that also want to stand out from their competitors," explains Urban.

A lot of investments

In order to meet the high quality standards, Urban maintains a high level of vertical integration and continuously invests in its own production technology. A double-digit million amount is currently earmarked for the optimisation of production at all locations.

At its main plant in Memmingen, Urban has

commissioned another five-axis machining centre, and we are also expanding the area for machine and plant acceptance with a new hall.

At the plant in Forchach in Tyrol, another machining centre and a new powder coating plant will be installed in the coming months. Production at Urban Machinery in Fredericton (Canada) will also receive a new portal milling machine. The halls there have already been converted and optimised.

An expansion is also planned at the sales location in Cambridge (near Toronto).

"We are therefore also consciously investing in the American market, despite the current uncertainties," says Martin Urban.

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EDITORIAL

Dear customer,



The latest edition of Urban News brings you the latest news from your technology partner.

I am delighted that we have once again been able to put together a colourful mix for you.

In economically and geopolitically challenging times, the importance of reliable partnerships is once again evident. On behalf of the entire Urban team, I would like to express my sincere thanks for the great cooperation in 2025 and look forward to talking to you in person at Fensterbau/Frontale 2026 in Nuremberg.

Direct, personal communication with you is the basis of our success. Only by working together with you can we continue to develop new ideas and solutions that add value to your daily work.

Thank you very much for your trust.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Urban

Managing Partner



New five-axis machining centre and a new production hall in Memmingen.



The Urban plant in Forchach (Tyrol)



The Urban plant in Fredericton (Canada)

Adressfeld



Fully asked: The wooden window look

Interview with Tobias Sontheimer about the popular HFL windows

In addition to coloured profiles with fine structures, plastic windows with a wood look (HFL) are currently in high demand. Tobias Sontheimer from Technical Sales reveals the special features of HFL window manufacturing in this interview.



What is special about HFL welding?

Tobias Sontheimer: HFL is an innovative manufacturing technique used to weld PVC windows so that they look like classic wooden windows. The special feature here is the corner design: instead of the typical 45° weld seam, a straight butt joint is created – elegant, precise and authentic, just like a real wooden frame. This makes the windows look as if they were handcrafted, but they retain all the advantages of modern PVC technology.

What exactly distinguishes HFL from conventional welding processes?

Sontheimer: With conventional 45° welds, the seam runs diagonally across the corner – a clear indication that it is plastic. The HFL process goes one step further: the outer and/or inner side is precisely notched and then welded together in the core section. With

the help of precise notching mills and an adapted welding technique, a clean, tight and visually perfect corner joint is created – without any visible diagonal line. The result looks like a classic wood joint, but is completely tight and extremely durable.

What advantages does this solution offer window manufacturers?

Sontheimer: The process is amazingly efficient. Neither adhesive nor screw connections are necessary, and the amount of post-processing required is minimal. The lines remain clear and the surfaces remain clean. At the same time, the corners are completely sealed, so there are no open chambers and no moisture or insect problems. In short, the HFL wood window look combines

design, efficiency and process reliability at a level that was previously almost unattainable.

How can the whole thing be technically integrated into existing production facilities?

Sontheimer: No completely new production line is necessary. With precise notching milling machines and our Urban welding technology, the HFL wood window look can be implemented without any problems. Incidentally, we are talking about a process that can be integrated into existing processes on a modular basis and still offers maximum repeat accuracy. This technology will be particularly interesting for manufacturers in the premium segment who want to produce economically.



Tobias Sontheimer

Where do you see the greatest areas of application for HFL?

Sontheimer: Clearly in the high-end sector:

for listed facades, renovations or even in modern architectural projects where design and authenticity are required. The wooden window look appeals to builders who appreciate the warm, natural look of wood but do not want to forego the easy-care properties, low maintenance and cost advantages of PVC.

What is your personal conclusion?

Sontheimer: The wood window look combines traditional craftsmanship and industrial precision. It gives windows character and proves that modern PVC windows have long been more than just functional elements. With the right technology, products are created that are visually, technically and emotionally appealing. We at Urban are the right partner for all window manufacturers who want to inspire their customers with HFL windows.



The AKS 6350 for rapid welding.

AKS 6350 steps on the gas

Fast basic welding machine

Getting started with fast welding is now quicker than ever: with the new AKS 6350 horizontal basic four-head welding machine from Urban.

Like its big sister, the AKS 6600, the AKS 6350 is equipped with four angle welding heads driven by servo axes. This means that all four corners can be welded in a single operation.

"This makes the AKS 6350 ideal for many production environments where fast cycle times and high volumes are important," says Andreas Pauls from Urban's sales team. A large window

manufacturer in Bulgaria has just put four AKS 6350 machines into operation to double its window output. The AKS 6350 guarantees maximum corner strength and high dimensional accuracy thanks to its parallel welding push process. The new welding machine can be upgraded for HFL or HFL-Cube as an option.

Many options

The same applies to the online connection and the equipment with seal formers, scanners or automatic weld bead and squeeze gap adjustment of 0.2 or 2.0 mm.

Ensuring quality together

Urban as an active member of the GKFP quality association

Urban has been an active member of the Gütegemeinschaft Kunststoff-Fensterprofilesysteme e.V. (GKFP) since 2016 and is continuously involved in the work of the expert groups. The GKFP is a cross-industry platform for qualified specialist knowledge.

Working on solutions

This is where profile system providers, machine manufacturers, fabricators and other partners meet to work together on solutions.

"As a manufacturer of innovative machines for window production, it is important to us not only to deliver excellent technology, but also to actively participate in the further development of quality standards for the entire industry," says Michael Walther from Technical Sales, who represents Urban in various working groups, such as:

• **Profile Machine Working Group:** Exchange between profile manufacturers and machine builders to improve interfaces, processes and quality.

• **Industry group:** Platform for all members to discuss current market trends, technical developments and challenges facing the industry.

• **Sustainability Working Group:** Development of strategies and criteria for resource-saving, recyclable window production.

Quality Committee

A particular milestone is membership of the Quality Committee since 2025. "This enables us at Urban to contribute to quality assurance and testing, which form the basis for the RAL quality mark," explains Michael Walther.

Through exchanges within the Quality Association network, Urban can identify market and future issues at

an early stage and incorporate them into its machine concepts. "For us, participation in the quality association is much more than a formal commitment – it is an expression of our self-image: we don't just want to build machines, we want to actively shape the future of the window industry," says Martin Urban, managing partner of Urban GmbH & Co. Maschinenbau KG.

Quality counts

In addition to its active involvement in quality assurance, Urban also sets standards in quality assurance within production. "With our in-house PRD and PRZ series corner testing devices, we test and document the strength of welded corner joints with particular precision. This is an important step in ensuring that every weld on our machines meets the high requirements for dimensional accuracy and fatigue strength," explains Michael Walther.

Why window manufacturers rely on Urban's expertise

Instead of three shifts, now only one

Why window manufacturers rely on Urban's expertise

The figures are staggering: Heim & Haus has 1,200 specialist advisors, 1.4 million customers and an average of 2,500 consultations per day. This makes Heim & Haus the leading direct sales company for exclusive building components in Germany.



Sales Manager at Urban Sales.

Large buffers

The demands on the Urban team were high, as the target was 400 windows per shift. Heim & Haus also wanted to incorporate the existing production line with two rapid welding machines (AKS 6400) and a weld bead smoothing machine (SV 840) into the new plant layout. The same applies to Urban's FBA 2500 automatic sash fitting machine.

"We added a third AKS 6400 and a second SV 840 and, of course, automated a lot of the logistics," says Hermann Deller, Senior

At the heart of the logistics system is a new distribution buffer system with automatic vertical destacking and a large prefabricated part buffer with 100 compartments. It goes without saying that all the shuttles and roller conveyors required for transport and destacking are connected accordingly. Image: Logistics is key. Off to the prefabricated part buffer.

After welding, the frame and sash are each placed on



Off to the prefabricated part buffer.

More performance

"In the old hall, we had to work three shifts to be able to produce the required quantities. By moving to a newly built hall and optimising the process with our partner Urban, we can now produce more windows in one shift than we used to in three shifts," explains Markus Neukam, Product Manager for Windows and Doors at Heim & Haus.

From five to three

Gayko benefits from the diversity of Urban's CUT technology

This was a major challenge that required a great deal of planning expertise. Gayko Fenster-Türenwerk GmbH, based in Wilsdorf in the south-east of North Rhine-Westphalia, wanted to replace five existing production lines with three new lines in order to centrally integrate sash and frame production, special construction and front door production.

This is made possible by a new, fully automated production line with three AKS 9600 four-head welding machines with CUT tech-

nology, two SV 840 double-head welding bead finishing machines and sophisticated logistics with a VPA distribution buffer system, the flexible ASRflex destacking rack and the associated shuttles with through-transport buffers.

"It was important to us that the new solution would enable us to produce 500 cut-to-size units per shift. The new welding system was equipped to meet the current design requirements of national and international markets. Veka's new AluConnect profile was also integra-



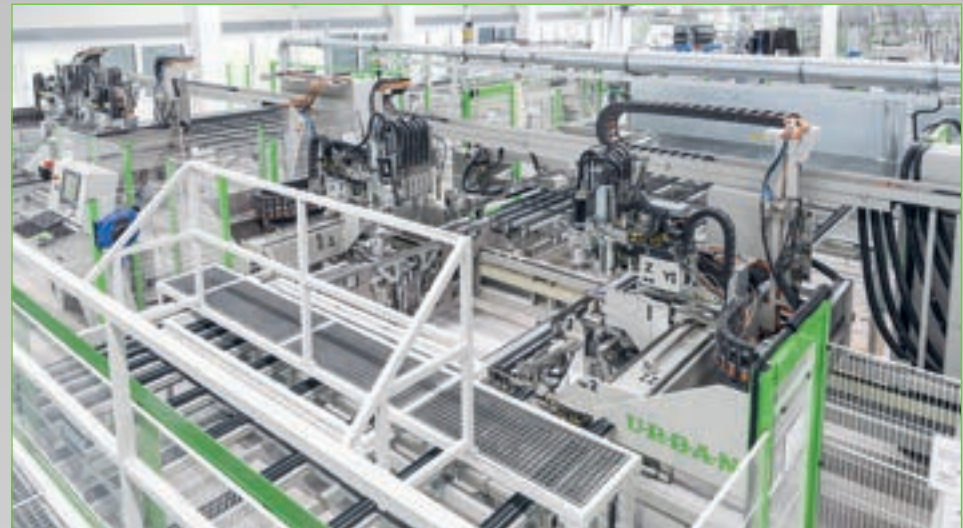
ted into the implementation of the new systems," says Dominik Bündenbender, Technical Director at Gayko Fenster-Türenwerk GmbH.

New features possible

The result was a fully automated line in which three CUT welding machines not only replace the five welding machines, but can also accommodate new features of additional profile geometries.

Flexibility is key, as Gayko also offers all construction depths from 70 to 82 mm. After welding, the products are transported in six directions, one of which is the first distribution buffer station with ASRflex destacking rack.

The special windows for international markets will continue to be manufactured on the series production line in the future. Elements smal-



Two SV 840 machines from Urban running at full speed in the Heim & Haus production facility in Auerbach.

their own conveyor belts, and there is also a separate transport system for special-design elements. Glazing is also buffered at Heim & Haus, where Urban's automatic glass logistics system (GLA) ensures that the right panes always go to the right prefabricated element.

Excellent advice

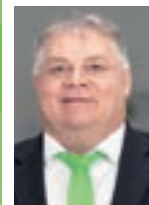
The Heim & Haus team is very satisfied with the advice

and support provided by its technology partner Urban. "We implemented the commissioning while production was ongoing. That says it all. You can simply rely on Urban," explains Jens Eberhard, Technical Managing Director of Heim & Haus at the production site in Auerbach.

The partnership has a long tradition. In 2006, Heim & Haus relocated its window production from Duisburg to Auerbach, taking Urban's

machines with it. Heim & Haus has been relying on Urban's solutions for over 40 years.

Hermann Deller is delighted "that we were once again able to play to our strengths in individual consulting and planning for this project. It's always about offering our customers the perfect manufacturing solution for their needs and optimising processes. Together with Heim & Haus, we were able to implement this ideally."



Heim & Haus is advised by Hermann Deller

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Off to Nuremberg

Visit us at Fensterbau/Frontale 2026

High-end manufacturing technology, top-level discussions with experts and perfect surfaces with beautiful corners without visible grooves: all this awaits you from 24 to 27 March at Fensterbau/Frontale 2026 in Hall 3. Visit us at our stand no. 3-117.

"We are very much looking forward to inspiring the international trade audience. All our global partners and dealers will be on site in Nuremberg and ready to engage in direct dialogue with customers, interested parties and business partners from the

PVC window industry. Fensterbau/Frontale remains the most important trade fair platform for us," says Martin Urban.

Logistics solutions

The 2026 trade fair presentation will focus not only on the SV 830's CUT welding technology optimised for composite materials and 7-axis plastering technology with "catch" option, but also on innovative logistics solutions with multiple transport, fast shuttles and automatic destacking. Urban will once



again be using innovative 3D solutions for visualisation. The popular "Urban Live" concept with expert talks and real-time presentations will also be available at the stand in Hall 3.

"Window manufacturers from all over the world have known for decades that a visit to our stand is worthwhile for them. This will also be the case in 2026," says Martin Urban.



Logistics is key.

Why window manufacturers rely on Urban's expertise

Georgi Fenster und Türen: No more painting

Window manufacturer in Saxony optimises production and also reduces the workload for employees

Modern. Friendly. Georgi. That's how Ilka Häcker and her team at Georgi Fenster und Türen in Rodewisch, Saxony, sum it up.

And they are also well equipped for the future. This is also thanks to their technology partner Urban, which has now gone one step further. Georgi Fenster's plastic window production facility recently acquired a new high-end AKS 9600 CUT welding machine from Urban and a new SV 530 weld bead smoothing machine.

High colour content

"We make 50 per cent coloured profiles, and Urban's CUT technology is indispensable if you want to work in a process-optimised manner," says Ilka Häcker, managing director at Georgi Fenster- und Türenbau GmbH in Vogtland.

Georgi Fenster und Türen has been manufacturing its high-quality windows and doors with Veka profiles for over 25 years. The new

GEORGI

AluConnect system from Veka is a new addition to the range.

"Urban's CUT is also ideal for processing the new AluConnect profiles," says Häcker, who manufactures up to 80 windows and doors a day with her team of 27 and supplies around 270 building component dealers in Saxony, Thuringia and Bavaria.

It goes without saying that Ilka Häcker also values zero

joints highly. Not only because of the appearance, but also because it reduces the workload for her employees. "Until now, we have been repainting the corners of coloured profiles manually. Thanks to CUT technology, we can now save ourselves this step. This is great for my team, because the time previously spent painting can now be used to complete other tasks," says Häcker.

To keep the production process running as smoothly as possible, the team at Georgi Fenster und Türen also installed a powerful extraction system on the Urban CUT machine.



Die CUT als Garant für schöne Ecken bei Georgi



Satisfied: Operations Manager Reinhard Schattke and Managing Director Ilka Häcker.

Full use of space

Ilka Häcker was also very satisfied with the support provided by Urban as a technology partner in the latest investment project. "Fred-Karsten Karl once again gave us excellent advice; it's a pleasure to work with him," says the Georgi boss.

The tinkerer in Urban's sales

department once again made use of every millimetre of the hall to develop a tailor-made system layout.

Fred-Karsten Karl would have liked to have implemented a logistics solution at Georgi Fenster to further optimise processes.

"Unfortunately, there really wasn't any room left because the hall is only as big as it is," smiles Karl.



Georgi Fenster und Türenbau is advised by Fred-Karsten Karl

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Venschott: Saving time and reducing the workload

The wedding is brought forward and will now take place at the window frame stop

In window and door production, too, the more structured the workflows, the more effective the processes.



Managing directors Frederik and Justin-Johann Venschott and production manager Benjamin Zackenfels from Venschott Fentersysteme GmbH, based in Greven (between Münster and Osnabrück), are well aware of this.



Neatly arranged elements at Venschott



Comfortable working at Urban's tilting tables

So the trio once again sought logistics expertise from Urban. "Fred-Karsten Karl provided us with great support and, together with him, we developed a concept that has revolutionised some of our processes," says Benjamin Zackenfels.

The biggest change in the workflow: the wing and frame are now joined directly at the frame stop, much earlier in the process chain than before. In addition, the elements are transported from the distributor to the new

tilting tables via roller conveyors and a sliding trolley. From there, they go to the glazing station.

No more searching

"It was important to us that employees did not have to carry frames and sashes manually through the hall, but instead received the elements directly at their work tables, and indeed the right elements. After all, employees should be working and not first searching for the

right element. This optimisation saves time and, of course, also reduces the physical strain on the team," says Zackenfels.

In good hands

Zackenfels and Venschott knew right from the start that Fred-Karsten Karl from Urban Sales was the right person to contact for the logistics project. "Six years ago, we worked with Fred-Karsten Karl to implement an automatic glass bon-

ding station (GVS) and a glass sorting system into the production process. Even back then, Mr Karl used his expertise

to develop a great solution that works excellently. We feel we are in really good hands with him," explains Zackenfels.

Venschott Fentersysteme



Venschott Fenster-systeme GmbH is advised by Fred-Karsten Karl

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manufactures its windows using Aluplast profiles and installs the elements itself within a radius of up to 100 km. Venschott also supplies three major distributors with its elements.



Urban's tilting tables offer a significant ergonomic advantage for the Venschott team.