

Digitalising production processes

SCHÄFER Container Systems is optimising quality assurance and investing in a digital x-ray machine

Neunkirchen, 30. March 2021. With the stationary ISOVOLT Titan series X-ray machine from General Electric, SCHÄFER Container Systems, manufacturer of beverage container systems, IBCs and customized containers, is making a significant addition to its quality assurance facilities. Switching from analogue to digital for the non-destructive testing of weld (NDT) enables more stringent quality control and is a further step in the transition towards a digital factory.

Shorter exposure times, the complete elimination of developer chemicals, a higher degree of automation and the significantly improved image quality persuaded SCHÄFER Container Systems to make the investment-intensive switch to the latest digital X-ray technology internally for NDT. SCHÄFER Container Systems will use this non-destructive test procedure to detect and make visible any unwanted contaminants, pores, cavities, cracks, incomplete welds and deviations in weld seam shape and dimensions in stainless steel IBCs and KEGs.

The new state-of-the-art X-ray machine has been installed at SCHÄFER Container Systems in a specially equipped shielded room to provide the required radiation protection. In the X-ray chamber, workpieces with external dimensions of up to 3,000 mm x 4,000 mm x 2,500 mm (width x depth x height) can undergo radiographic examination. To ensure the digital X-ray system is operated safely, SCHÄFER Container Systems had an employee trained as an X-ray specialist.

The main beneficiaries of this are all those customers whose individual quality and testing requirements are implemented, monitored and digitally logged seamlessly on site in the production plant. The efficiency gain can be quantitatively measured in terms of significantly reduced reaction times in production operations. Thanks to this digital imaging process, fully automatic image evaluation for defined fault characteristics is now possible – a notable milestone in the digitalisation of production processes.

Photos and captions:

1st. photo: Schaefer-Container-Systems-Röntgenanlage_PM1

Caption: New digital X-ray machine to optimise quality control at SCHÄFER Container Systems

2nd. photo: Röntgenkammer-mit-Industriecontainer-Schafer-Container-Systems_2

Caption: X-ray shielding room with digital evaluation at SCHÄFER Container Systems

3rd. photo: Digitales-Röntgen-Schaefer-Container-Systems_3

Caption: X-ray inspection procedure for stainless steel industrial containers

About SCHÄFER Container Systems (www.schaefer-container-systems.de):

SCHÄFER Container Systems, an innovative manufacturer of high-quality container systems (KEGs) for beverages and of IBCs and special stainless steel containers for liquids, solids and granulates, is part of the internationally successful SCHÄFER WERKE.

This owner-led enterprise is headquartered in Neunkirchen in Germany's Siegerland region and operates globally with diversified business areas: EMW Steel Service Centre, perforated sheets, expanded metal, standard and special containers in stainless steel and installations for data centres, workshops and factories, as well as data management systems for load carriers. The work of all these divisions is based on high-quality fine steel sheet. The processing of this material is one of the core competencies of this enterprise.

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