



**Lamellae production:** For the manufacture of Mafi's natural wood floors, high-quality components are cut on a five-fold thin-cutting band saw in the plant in Straßwalchen.

METAMOB

## Cheap & good – possible?

### Romanian thin-cutting saw blades impressed

If you pay noticeably less for the same quality, you have an obligation as a manager to switch suppliers, says Dzevad Cahtarevic of Mafi. The high-performance thin-cutting band saws designed by Metamob seem to have really convinced him. So much so that he intends to gradually replace all saws.

After five months of being the new manager in the Mafi plant in Straßwalchen/AT, Dzevad Cahtarevic can rightfully say he has made a difference. Under his leadership, automations have been introduced, machines are being overhauled and potential for cost-reduction found. Mafi-owner Friedrich Fillafer seems to have found the right man: Approximately 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> of wood components per week go from Straßwalchen right to the floor production in Schneegattern/AT, plus 1500 running meter of baseboards and an end-grain block floor production. Mainly spruce and oak are cut, but also cherry, ash or acacia. A bandsaw does to double-edging, the lamellae are separated on a thin-cutting horizontal bandsaw with five units.

#### Band saws manufacturers at a similar level

Currently Cahtarevic uses thin-cutting saw blades of four well-known manufacturers, including Metamob. „It's hard to say which supplier a blade comes from. Today, high-performance thin-cutting saw blades all live up to high technical standards“, he says. In his view, varying cutting results have more to do with machine setting or operator skills. „If an operator cuts first oak and then spruce with a newly sharpened saw blade, then he does not need to wonder why the average quality in spruce no longer is all that great.“ Pragmatist Cahtarevic therefore has it a simple solution: As a principle, softwood is cut first with newly sharpened blades which then go onto storage hooks marked „oak“.

**Today, high-performance thin-cutting saws** all have a similarly high level, says manager Dzevad Cahtarevic. Yet there are differences in value for money and service.



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**Oak:** After having been used on softwood the saw blades go onto hooks designated for hardwood.

The sharpening machine is right next to the five-fold band saw: „For the fine cutting performance needed in floor production, the saw must be sharp.“

#### Sharpen more often

After all, this is where the experienced production manager locates differences between the band saw manufacturers: „A Metamob blade you can sharpen more often – about eight or nine times – before having to replace the carbide tip. This means better availability and lower costs.“

Meanwhile, he sends all his saw blades to Metamob in Satu Mare/RO: „We have about 50 blades in use. Maintenance and new acquisitions are significant cost factors. Metamob does good work at reasonable prices.“

Above all, the manual alignment of the blades decides upon the longevity of a high-performance thin-cutting saw blade: „If someone does not handle that properly, the tension of the saw is gone and it cuts worse than before.“

Metamob has always returned first class serviced saws: „That’s why I started having all our saws maintained with them a while ago. The Metamob people pick up the blades at our plant and deliver back to us. Good service.“ He really appreciates the saw expertise of the Metamob crew, says Cahtarevic.

**Like new:** Metamob has always returned first class serviced saws



**Mafi-plant Straßwalchen:** the lamellae are separated on a thin-cutting horizontal bandsaw for floor production, also a baseboard- and an end-grain block floor production is situated here

#### Committed to his boss

The most significant difference between the various band saw blade manufacturers Cahtarevic spots in the price-performance ratio: „As production manager I am primarily liable to my boss, Mr. Fillafer. He trusts me that I pay strict attention to costs.“ In terms of economic efficiency Metamob clearly has the best product, says Cahtarevic: „If the saw gives me the same performance at up to a third lower costs, I’d be ill advised to do something else“, he says almost apologetically.

#### Change firmly planned

The other brands are also impeccable, he says: „But given the high cutting quality needed for Mafi’s floor production, combined with the economic pressures in the industry, there is simply no way around Metamob. In addition, the people are by no means arrogant, but extremely helpful.“ Metamob provides everything he needs: Circular saws, planer blades, inserts. The production manager of Mafi is not the only Metamob-fan, as it seems. At the plants of some prominent representatives of the European sawmill industry such as Schweighofer or Frischeis, only band saw blades made by Metamob have been running for years. Having said that one thing seems only natural: „We will gradually replace all our saws with Metamob-products“, Cahtarevic announces.

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**High-performance saw:** Five of such thin-cutting band saws are lined up in the system.

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