

AISA: constant improvement in screen printing equipment

In just under 30 years – AISA was founded in 1977 – the ability to grow and expand, while maintaining its initial quality, is exactly what this family-owned and family-run company has. Beginning with its automatic screen printing machines, which make up almost 50 per cent of the machinery of the sector, leading to complete processing lines, which are present in 36 countries of the five continents, the philosophy is the same – that of custom-made solutions to meet any production requirement.

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AISA S.P.A.

Palletizing system

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GROWTH

Who would have imagined that a small factory located in a tiny town near Milan, Italy, founded in 1977 and accustomed to producing machines for the local market would one day grow and sell all over the world.

We are talking about AISA Spa, a family-owned business which started its activity by designing and manufacturing custom-made equipment for lehr and autoclave loading, curvature inspecting, PVB profiling, palletizing and interleaving and today is a worldwide-known manufacturer of screen printing equipment on automotive, appliance and architectural flat glass. After more than 28 years of expertise, it is now the world leader in the field of automotive glass (about half of the automatic screen printing machines in this sector are manufactured by AISA) and is the preferential supplier of all the biggest glass producers in the world, with which it has established strong and continuous partnership relations.

PRODUCTION LINES

Besides automatic and semi-automatic screen printing machines, AISA's well-known range of products also includes complete processing lines, pit-free accumulators, UV and IR drying ovens, visual inspection stations, robotic loading and unloading systems, pairing, palletizing and handling equipment, as

well as other custom-made solutions to meet any production requirement. Such machines are present in 36 countries of the five continents and exports make up more than 95 per cent of AISA's turnover.

NEW MARKETS AND EXPANSION

As regards new markets, AISA is developing in India and Russia, where the major companies that produce automotive glass are already present, and in China, where several screen printing machines and complete lines have been installed in the last three years and such trend is expected to improve even further in the time to come.

QUALIFICATIONS – COMPANY AND PERSONNEL

This expansion has been made possible also thanks to AISA's prompt after-sales assistance: its qualified personnel is always available to solve any kind of servicing issue from the office (e-mail exchange, telephone calls, videoconference) or also by sending its skilled workers on the spot in any area of the world in 24 hours. This is one of the reasons why AISA's global partners keep on choosing the Italian company for their strategic investments.

AISA is an ISO 9001:2000 registered company and has always been renowned for the high accuracy and reliability of its equipment, which ensure the best printing quality and the highest productivity that can be obtained on the market

A complete line from AISA





today. These results are obtained through constant study and belief in improvement and innovation. AISA can count on a technical department which transforms innovative ideas into concrete realization and that is able to deal with whatever problem that may arise.

IMPROVEMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS

Indeed, AISA must be looked at as a “problem solver” that likes the challenge of the impossible: not only improvement of the existing machine, but invention of new models and custom-made machinery, which can be designed and manufactured either on the basis of a customer’s project, or by creating new

One of AISA's dryers

equipment from the beginning according to the customer’s specifications.

The design of AISA's screen printing machines is the result of a specific need or request, rather than the improvement or modification of already existing machines. The company has studied the parameters that lead to perfect printing and has applied them so as to create equipment that would differ from that of its competitors in what might at first sight seem small details but that in the end prove to make a big difference in results.

Original and patented applications such as the “auto-centring” printer system (backlash-free), the “edge-to-edge” printing device, the





screen extraction system (master-frame) are just some of the milestones in the company's history of success.

AISA is continuously developing and has always been committed to produce more cost-effective machinery - whilst maintaining the same characteristics and precision which AISA is known for worldwide. AISA, for instance, manufactures machines and lines that can produce a quarter-light every two and a half seconds, a back-light in 9 seconds and a windshield in 12 seconds, making them currently the fastest printing machines in the marketplace.

HIGH PRECISION

The machines produced by AISA have precision not only in respect of glass positioning, but also for its depositing. In this case, any kind of pattern can be printed without problems, and the quantity of ink that remains on the surface is completely homogeneous.

The number of controls and adjustments have considerably been reduced, thus tremendously simplifying the operator's task. What is needed is no longer skilled workers but good technicians, who follow the instructions of the worksheet reporting all the optimal parameters to print a particular glass model. As regards the automated models of AISA's machines, most functions are computerized, and data are stocked in the PLC memory to be retrieved and used later on. This feature is a considerable ben-

AISA's screen printer

efit when spare parts are produced and jobs are changed every few parts.

Particular care has been taken over energy saving, ergonomic design, improvement of safety conditions and, with the same importance, reduction of maintenance operations and downtime. AISA is committed to constant improvement. ■

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