

Issue 1/2008

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FORSTER 

aktuell

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



Individual
Print Solutions
Made by Forster

THE CHAIRMAN'S VOICE

Dear Friend,
Dear Staff Member,

In the former issue of our "Forster Aktuell" magazine, we introduced you to digital print applications for noise barriers and shelving systems. In this issue, we are pleased to present to you specimens of using the technique in advertising and building signs.

Thanks to our multiple print choices and flexible solutions for mounting and fixing systems, we are the right contact for museums, exhibitions and trade fairs – as is evidenced by the "5^e Museum" at Waidhofen/Ybbs (described on pages 4 and 5) or the Tulln Gardening Show (on page 10).

This issue also includes a feature on an interesting archive solution for the National Museum Wales (page 14) and an article on the new sign system for the Luxembourg Airport (page 12).

Last but not least we report on staff developments in our company: On 1 May 2008, the Austrian Labour Day, Friedrich Fahrnberger started into a new life phase. After 42 years of dedicated work for Forster, the managing director of Forster Metallbau entered his well-earned retirement (page 16). On behalf of the Forster family and the management of the Forster Group, I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Fahrnberger for his expert contribution, including his long years as a member of the Managing Board, his commitment and his loyalty to our enterprise.

Have fun reading the latest news!



Christian Forster
Chairman of the Managing Board, Forster AG

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NEW SUBSIDIARY

Eastward expansion

Until quite recently sales in the Slovak and Czech Republic had been handled from our headquarters at Waidhofen/Ybbs. But in May 2008, we established a new subsidiary in Bratislava which will concentrate its sales activities on noise barriers, traffic engineering and shelving systems. Through its new branch office in Slovakia, Forster is strengthening its activities in the two countries. Its management was entrusted to DI Viktor Beres.



Ing. Christian Forster (left) and DI Viktor Beres.

NOISE BARRIERS

Certified "serviceability"

Since 1 May 2007, noise barriers have been required to comply with the basic criteria of the European Construction Products Directive. The visible mark of compliance is the CE sign awarded on the basis of Austrian Standard EN 14388 (road traffic noise reducing devices). By applying this mark, the manufacturer confirms the basic serviceability of its product. A construction product is "serviceable" when the structure built from it meets the six "essential requirements" of the Construction Products Directive in the long term: mechanical resistance and stability, safety in case of fire, hygiene, health and the environment, safety in use, protection against noise, energy economy and heat retention.

CONTACTS WITH CUSTOMERS AND INDUSTRIES

Successful fairs in Düsseldorf and Amsterdam

EuroShop In February, Forster made its first appearance at the largest global retail trade fair, presenting compelling solutions for displays, digital prints, screen prints and shelving systems. More than a hundred thousand specialists attended the world's no. 1 event for retail in Düsseldorf.

Intertraffic The world's most important and largest platform for transportation infrastructure, traffic management, safety and parking sectors can be found in Amsterdam. Among its exhibitors was the Forster Group which presented products and innovations in traffic engineering, noise protection and signage. The throng of visitors underlined the great importance accorded to the event among specialists.



Intertraffic: Forster showed off its noise protection and traffic engineering products at its fair booth.

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Events in the fall of 2008

Orgatec On 21–25 October 2008, Cologne turns into the top global meeting place for office and facility. The event will assemble more than 700 exhibitors from some 40 countries in Cologne – among them almost all the market leaders in the field. The Forster Group will present its range of shelving products and guidance and information systems.

BRAU Beviale A smashing party is what the 1,400 exhibitors and 34,000 visitors look forward to when they gather at the Brau Reviale 2008 in Nuremberg between 12 and 14 November. This year's number one trade fair for the beverage industry will be used by Forster to stage its products in its advertising segment.



INDIVIDUAL PRINT SOLUTIONS

5^e Museum Waidhofen/Ybbs

Exhibitions thrive on individuality. Thanks to its extremely diverse range of print products, Forster's advertising segment is just the right partner to put style into the engineering of shows, conferences and similar events.

All of the information signs and decorative elements found in the 5^e Museum at Waidhofen/Ybbs were supplied by Forster:

- ❖ signage of a wide range of designs, from adhesive letters to digitally imprinted film with white or black lettering,
- ❖ outdoor signs on digitally imprinted long-life adhesive film,
- ❖ window covers of semi-transparent banner materials,
- ❖ tube lamp made of banner fabric for the staircase (length: 10 m),
- ❖ external window insulation by UV blocking film to protect the exhibits.

Forster also provided the routing system for the entire Rothschild castle that houses the exhibition and the new signage for the monument signs.

Interactivity and infotainment

❖ Located at Waidhofen an der Ybbs, Lower Austria's interactive family museum started out with

5 elements, 50 experiments and 500 exhibits in May 2008. "The new 5^e Museum at Waidhofen an der Ybbs constitutes a unique combination of experiments and knowledge dissemination," states Wolfgang Mair, mayor of the town, voicing his conviction that the collection in the Rothschild castle will become an absolute highlight for families and school classes: "The many experiments together with the multimedia presentation will allow all visitors to find their very own access, turning a tour of the museum into a highly individual experience."


History of a region ❖ Through organising the official successor to "Fire & Earth", the Lower Austrian State Exhibition, Waidhofen has taken a new and innovative approach. The five elements – fire, water, earth, wood and metal – have since time immemorial shaped life in the Eisenwurzen region. "A large part of the mu-





Digital prints, contour cuts and displays collude to produce unique solutions.

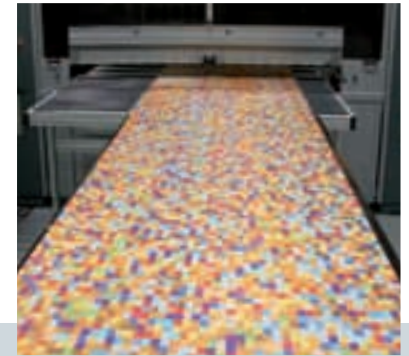


seum concept is made up by the 50 experiments attending the five elements," explains the mayor, "because they challenge children and all other interested visitors to rediscover their explorer spirit." The idea is to disseminate knowledge in a playful manner, through exciting and even startling methods. The five elements provide not just the focus for the experiments but also indicate a route to explaining power, sovereignty and religion, thus reflecting the rich history of Waidhofen and the cycles of human life. "Because it was the earth that brought wealth to the Eisenwurzen; the region's abundance of timber provided the foundation for its iron industry, fuelling the fire in the hearths of the smithies. The water of the Ybbs served to transport the goods thus produced," as Eva Zankl, scientific head of the exhibition, elucidated. 


"RATHAUS" ART PROJECT

Symbolic names

The merger of Weyer Land and Weyer Markt provided the frame for commissioning photographer Konrad Neubauer to create a work of art for the newly refurbished town hall.



Digital print made by Forster.

The entrance to the town hall is given over to a photo artwork entitled "070101". The 1,053 names of families at Weyer are alphabetically arranged. Each of the 26 letters of the alphabet is symbolised by a photographic section. Together the more than 8,500 letters combine into a colour panel 7 square metres in size, inviting visitors to search for their own family name. 



The "070101" artwork in the foyer of the Weyer town hall.



EURO CHAMPIONSHIP

Holding on to the ball

Good advertising feeds on sparkling ideas that are perfectly implemented. It is this interaction that is the greatest strength of Forster Werbetechnik, according to its managing director Hans-Peter Prüller.

Drawing on the latest technologies in the print sector and in metal and plastic processing, Forster can handle almost every advertising idea.

Forster's advertising specialists went into overdrive for the 2008 EURO Championship. In addition to furnishing the signage for Austrian Airlines aircraft, Forster printed the posters for the ASFINAG "Take the Bus and Train" information campaign and produced the signage on the ÖBB coaches. For the "2008 – Austria Holds the Ball" scheme, Forster was commis-

sioned to manufacture the local signposts, ensuring that more than 1,300 communities got ready for the EURO championship.

All-round print professional

When it comes to printing, Forster takes on everything: from simple stickers to high-quality half-tone prints. Posters, banners, illuminated signs and building signs are included in our programme, as are construction site signs, company signs, floor advertising signs and labels. Years of experience in screen and digital printing, high precision in fabrication, from cutting and punching to painting, and the prolific range of metal products, including substructures for assembly and attachment systems – all this guarantees tailor-made products exactly customised to your advertising needs.

Aircraft film Forster Verkehrs- und Werbetechnik GmbH, domiciled at Waidhofen/Ybbs, is an authorised producer of aircraft

Signage for Telekom at the game locations.



signage. Imprinted on film, aircraft signage requires superior performance from the film, the colour system, the finishing and – of course – the workmanship.

In order to meet such stringent quality requirements, the product needs to fully and totally meet the following criteria:

- ❖ Based on the quality assurance system ISO 9001:2000, only authorised producers are licensed to manufacture such products. The film may be glued on only by specially trained assembly staff
- ❖ Prerequisites are the special inspection of incoming shipments, defined storage conditions for

semi-finished products and finished products, and documentation of the production processes.

- ❖ Tests such as layer thickness checks and QUV tests need to accompany production and are carried out in-house for each order batch.

Aircraft signage finds two applications:

- ❖ For long-term use, the film is screen-printed.
- ❖ For short-term use, the film is imprinted with a special colour system using a combination of digital and screen printing (again in order to cope with the high UV exposure). ☐



The assembly substructure for the posters is also included in Forster's scope of delivery.



PRESENTATION DISPLAY FOR "SAMSUNG MP-3 PLAYERS"

Elegant sound machine

Samsung commissioned Forster to produce a new display that improves on the presentation of its new MP-3 players: "We want to stand out from our competitors, but also be the only supplier, apart from Apple, to enter the market with a large-scale POS solution. As a further requirement, the products need to be switched on at all times so that potential customers can immediately perceive the superior sound quality of our models." The displays reach a height of about 1150 mm, from a base of about 350 mm in diameter. They are deployed in Austria and Switzerland.

Manufacturing components

A combination of metal and plastic, the display has a circular base plate and pillar, made of metal and powder-coated in white aluminium RAL 9006; the front and back of the pillar "cladding" are made of white synthetic material, digitally imprinted on one side. The "control desk" is made of clear acrylic glass specially cut to shape and made from several layers (sandwich method). The customer-provided MP-3 players, power packs and loudspeakers are connected and wired by Forster.

Design The MP-3 players are arranged so that the "control desk" looks rather like a game console. The elegant and inconspicuous design of the display excellently expresses the product philosophy. The pillar was designed to easily allow the subsequent fitting of a light source, so that the front can be switched to backlighting. The "control desk" consists of several layers of acrylic glass (sandwich structure) so that the MP-3 player fitted into it is pilferproof. The print design was defined by the customer and applied directly to the synthetic materials by way of digital printing.

Customer feedback Users were unanimous in their praise, calling the product "nice and compact", "easy to use", "high design visibility" and "doesn't take up much space". ☐

NEW A6 NORTH-EASTERN MOTORWAY

Arterial road in the heart of Europe

Opened in November 2007, the new North-Eastern Motorway is the key to accessing the region in and to the east of Austria. The Forster Group contributed its specialist knowledge to ensure a smooth flow of traffic.

To meet its responsibility for road safety the highway operator needs to make ongoing efforts as well as have reliable partners known for their competence and know-how. It is part and parcel of Forster's corporate mission to ensure that every element of its service, from quotation to assembly, works to perfection.

High project competence One contributing factor is our notable project competence. Once an order has been obtained, Forster starts planning the project management, preparing the documents for release, carrying out structural analyses, organising materials and equipment, and scheduling the assembly sequence. Attendant to these processes, Forster handles the negotiations with the transport authorities, project discussions with the customer and the requisite site monitoring.

High ratio of internal production

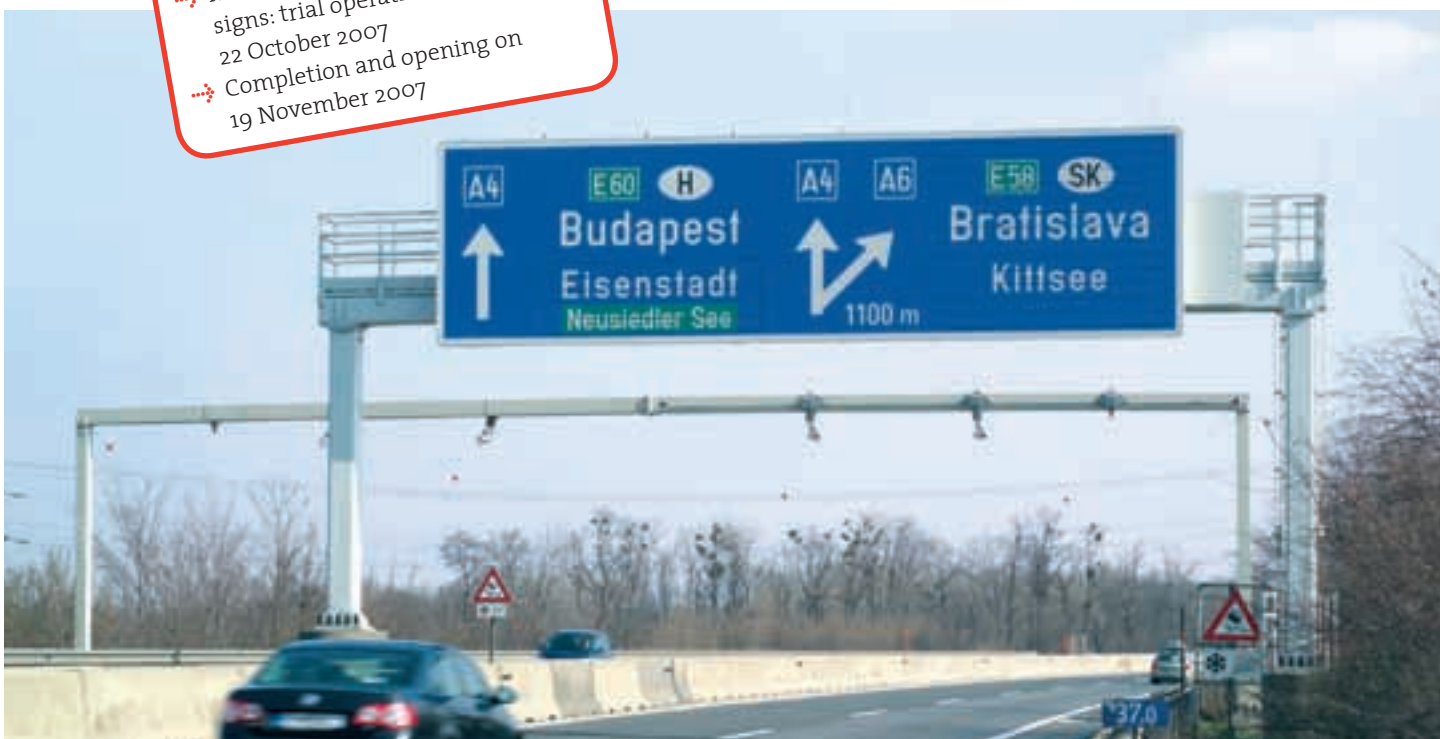
..... The Forster Group is well-known for the high ratio of its own input into the final product. Forster can tap into synergies usefully offered by its range of state-of-the-art production plants, from manufacturing supports and indicators to pre-assembling signs and installing them on site. The result of this all-out logistic effort is high-quality products, comprehensive services and, of course, customer satisfaction.

Facts and figures For the A6 section Forster delivered 7 gantries, 10 cantilevers, 130 latticed uprights, 40 trimasts, 6 cross-sections with prism-driven variable message signs, 1,400 m² of large signs, 730 standard traffic signs, 250 m² of reinforced concrete foundations, 370 m of concrete guide walls, 170 foundations for latticed uprights and 500 pipe foundations. 🏗️



Project sequence

- Contract awarded by ASFINAG in late July 2007
- Work started in early August 2007
- Milestone for variable message signs: trial operation started 22 October 2007
- Completion and opening on 19 November 2007





Escape route signs are mandatory in tunnels.

STATE OF THE ART IN ROAD SAFETY ENGINEERING

Fine-tuning for tunnels

Forster road safety products are retrofitted in existing tunnels and installed in all new tunnels.

ASFINAG currently operates 137 tunnels that together add up to a length of 296 km. Numerous international awards for Austrian tunnels are evidence of the high safety standard offered by most tunnels of the ASFINAG road network. This high standard is, i.a., due to the traffic engineering systems made by Forster.

Thus, Forster contributed to the refurbishment of the first tube of the **Tanzenberg Tunnel** along the Semmering carriageway (S6). Another tunnel along the same route known as the **Ganzstein Tunnel** was similarly fitted with safety equipment made by Forster.


Forster products are also used in the **Gräbern Tunnel** of the A2 Motorway and the second tube of the **Katschberg Tunnel** which has already gone on stream.

To fit tunnels with suitable road safety equipment, Forster has developed a broad programme of products:

On the approach to the tunnel


- advance warning of upcoming light signals (static sign with yellow flashing signals),
- static traffic signs,
- LED-based variable message signs, fitted overhead to accessible gantries or on the side of the road,
- open-type prism signs.

Inside the tunnel:

- static escape route signs,
- escape route lights,
- internally illuminated information signs ("escape route", "emergency telephone", "break-down bay"),
- internally illuminated traffic signs ("no overtaking" or danger signals),
- LED-lit round signs,
- enclosed and internally illuminated prism devices. 



LED rounds

Developed specifically for tunnels, the low-maintenance module consists of a housing, cover, electronic system and face. A flexible swivel bracket ensures that the variable traffic sign display is shown at an angle for optimal readability. Housing, bracket and quick-closing locks are made of corrosion-proof special steel. The LED display system uses either LED chains or a low-maintenance circuit board. 



LOWER AUSTRIAN GARDENING
SHOW 2008 AT TULLN



Shepherded through the gardens

Panels informing about plants, directional signs guiding visitors through the exhibition gardens and indicators for the parking lots escort visitors through the 42 garden plots.



A well-considered guiding system to indicate the themed gardens.

A sophisticated system of paths helps visitors to find their way around the vast grounds covering fully 61 hectares. An orange-coloured circular route acts as the pilot path through all the show gardens. Forster was entrusted with making the signs because outdoor performance and a long service life were the key criteria for awarding the contract. The motifs were printed directly onto the aluminium panels using our digital printing technique. A transparent powder coating further increases the useful life of the outdoor signs.

Indication The first job was to advertise the gardening show through a supraregional road guidance system: 130 signposts made of aluminium were covered with

a digitally imprinted type 1 film. The signposts were installed by the relevant highway maintenance depots. As an additional means to get the message across, eight bridge banners (8,000 x 1,000 mm and 5,000 x 1,000 mm) digitally imprinted by Forster were used.

Back to nature Once visitors have arrived at Tulln, they want to get rid of their cars in order to immerse themselves into the joys of gardening. To help them shake off the urban dust, static and dynamic overview signs to indicate access to the car parks were installed. Forster not only manufactured the signs but also put up the foundations and tubular uprights.

Hibiscus or hydrangea Outline signs and orientation signposts guide thousands of visitors through the themed gardens. The size-graded signs made of aluminium sheeting were bevelled, provided with a white coating, digitally imprinted and given a transparent finish. They were attached to their hot-galvanised posts by standard clips.

Altogether 69 gardeners from Lower Austria created 42 show gardens. Their shop signs were also made of aluminium sheeting, bevelled, coated, imprinted and given a transparent finish, after which they were anchored in the ground with a hot-galvanised tubular frame. The large map signs at the parking lots were made of Alform III, digitally imprinted and fitted to latticed uprights. Their foundation and installation were again carried out by Forster. Plants are pointed out by some 2,500 ground signs made of aluminium sheeting which were digitally imprinted with the requisite horticultural information. 



Noise pollution is high on the list of environmental factors that have the most detrimental effects on our quality of living.

FORSTER NOISE BARRIERS IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIVING

Everything for a quiet life – the competence of silence

Noise barriers made of aluminium have been found to deliver the best results. Forster Metallbau is a pioneer in the production of customised solutions.

Recreational and residential spaces are getting into ever closer proximity to busy traffic routes. In such a context, the choice of advanced noise protection systems is essential to foster human integration in the environment. Noise screens improve the quality of living along roads and railways. Forster Metallbau combines decades of experience with highly specialised expert competence to pursue its pioneering role in producing noise barrier elements.

Design options Noise barriers made of aluminium have been found to provide the best structural screen against noise. Whether integrated in their setting or consciously designed for attention, noise panels made of aluminium can accommodate both design aspects. Customised colour schemes for rail, road and residential use or imprinted noise barriers: Forster has it all, providing the optimal solution for any situation. The addition of transparent elements further extends the design variability to create visually attractive noise protection systems that enjoy a long service life.

Smart extras The barrier is fitted with doors and gates to allow direct access to plots, gardens, etc. The **doors and gates** are built to the same noise protection standards as the barriers themselves. On request, Forster adds an **anti-graffiti coating** to its panels which permits the complete and repeated removal of graffiti by commercially available cleaning agents. Some plants require a special trellis to give them a leg up. Our various **trelliswork** designs join nature to our Forster noise barriers, although small-scale greening is possible also without the use of trellises. **FF**



The new Delta element used as a barrier topping produces not just positive acoustic effects but also provides an interesting visual signal for the design of the barrier.



The new technique of making direct digital imprints on noise barriers opens up an almost infinite choice of designs, without in any way impairing the noise-screening properties of the barrier.



PROJECT COMPETENCE

Guidance system for Luxembourg Airport

Another successful item has been added to the list of reference projects implemented by Forster Verkehrs- und Werbetechnik GmbH: the signage for Luxembourg Airport was made at Waidhofen/Ybbs.



CCTV cameras and emergency lights had to be integrated in the flagpoles, as were loudspeakers for audio announcements.

In the course of enlarging the Findel Airport of Luxembourg, the generously spaced Terminal A for departures started its operations last May. The "Gate to the World", as Luxembourg's residents confidently describe the calling card of the Grand Duchy, cost € 260 million to build. Three million passengers pass through this gate every year. To ensure that their passage is smooth, a guidance system was constructed by Forster for the new Terminal A in 2007/2008.


Airport expertise Already back in 2004, Forster developed a new guidance system for Terminal B handling smaller aircraft. This was not our first cooperation with an airport: those of Frankfurt, Nuremberg, Munich and Athens had already made good use of Forster's project competence in implementing guidance and information systems.

Let there be light! The airport operator wanted a continuous level

of light in all back-lit signs, which was achieved by a special arrangement of lamps and light dissemination film applied to the glass. In fitting the suspended signs, the problem was to bypass the multitude of mechanical service installations in the ceilings. As a result it was possible only in exceptional cases to suspend the signs directly from the unplastered ceiling. Otherwise, the panels were fitted on special structures using sections and threaded rods to correctly position the signs.

Blue and grey The guiding system was planned by Interpub. All airport signs follow a routing system based on a colour scheme and are fitted at two height levels. Grey indicates information involving the infrastructure of the building, while blue signals passenger transport information.

The grey signs were made so that only the signage itself (texts, pictograms and arrows) is lit. The blue signs are illuminated across their entire face (text and background).

All signs are fitted to their substructure using a ball thrust system that provides for easy maintenance of the electronic components inside. An exception is made with the continuous light bands above the counters and shops where the signs can be lifted and tilted away from the substructure. 



FLEXIBLE ORIENTATION SYSTEM

The clever baby of the Combiflex family



Tulln Hospital

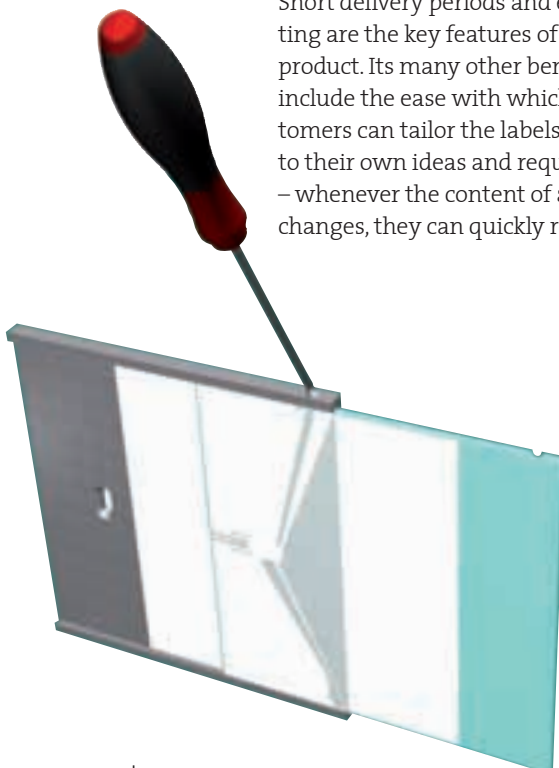
Forster is proud to announce a new addition to its Combiflex family: Combiflex Plana is the name of its new flexible signage system.

Short delivery periods and easy fitting are the key features of our new product. Its many other benefits include the ease with which our customers can tailor the labels exactly to their own ideas and requirements – whenever the content of a label changes, they can quickly respond

and update the label. Improved readability is ensured by the exclusive use of glare-free acrylic glass covers.

The extremely flat door signs made of anodised aluminium sections are available in three sizes.

Successful uptake The new signage system won converts not just at the Tulln Hospital but also at its counterpart at Melk. Forster's new Combiflex Plana was enthusiastically received at both hospitals. 🇩🇪



The acrylic glass cover and paper insert can be removed by unscrewing the arresting screw.





UNITED KINGDOM: NATIONAL MUSEUM WALES FITTED WITH FOREG 2000


Amgueddfa Cymru has everything on stock

The archives at the Amgueddfa Cymru (a.k.a. the National Museum Wales) were no longer up to requirements. The museum decided to put up an extension and to purchase new shelves.

Drawing on a budget of £ 3.5 million from the Government of Wales, the museum constructed

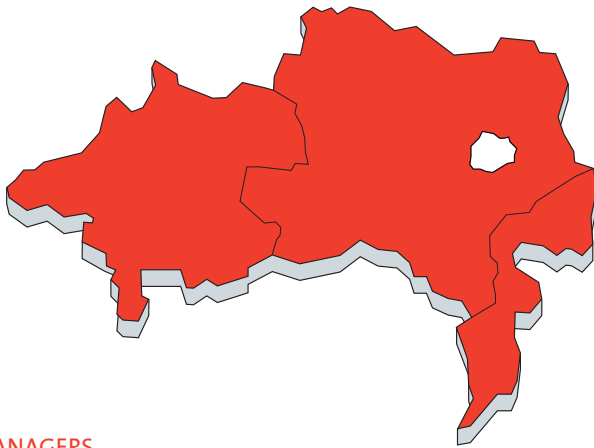
a new building of 2,500 m² in floor space. The subsequent search for a supplier of shelves aimed at finding one that was able to furnish several quite different types of high-quality shelving systems and could point at the extensive experience required to generate an ideal storage situation jointly with the museum's own project management team.

Forster-Ecospace comes out top

After the project was awarded to Forster-Ecospace in March 2006, the subsidiary of Forster Metallbau GmbH delivered and installed a large range of shelves and fittings. Both the stationary and mobile shelving are of the FOREG 2000 system, as is the picture racking. 



Perforated end panels and rod dividers to arrange the archived items – two of the many features of the shelving at the National Museum Wales.



REGIONAL SALES MANAGERS
UPPER AUSTRIA, LOWER AUSTRIA, BURGENLAND

Mileage for customer satisfaction


To serve our customers, our regional sales managers are at home on all the roads of Austria. Over the next issues of Forster Aktuell this new series introduces our field sales force to you. This time we take a look at the people responsible for sales in Upper Austria, Lower Austria and Burgenland.

Manfred Hofmacher is familiar to dedicated Forster Aktuell readers as a passionate skier and mountain biker. Part of the Forster family since 1991, he is not only a regular in the sports news, but he commits his considerable energy to serving Forster's customers. His terrain is western and central Lower Austria where he covers customer relations with regard to traffic engineering, signs and advertising products. His top priority is customer satisfaction.

Klaus Scheuchel has been devoting his time to customers in northern Lower Austria for fully 25 years – and is still enthusiastic after all these years: "I am always in contact with the customers and therefore always deal with people. And I get a lot of diversion from the diversity of our product range." If you fail to find the competent adviser on traffic engineering, signs and advertis-

ing products with his customers, you are bound to meet him hiking in the mountains.

Gerhard Tauchner is the regional sales manager for Burgenland and southern Lower Austria. After ten years in the office, he caught the "field bug" and fell for a life on the road. But wandering around is not the only fascinating aspect about his travelling job, says he: "What gets me is the fact that no two days are alike. The job is a challenge. You always get to meet new people, new faces." A self-described part-time farmer with an organic sideline, what little time is left by way of leisure he spends on skis.

Franz Desch came to Forster in 1993. After working in the office for one and a half years, the ardent cyclist exchanged it for the wide open spaces in May 1994. His job fascinates him because "in order to offer solutions to my customers I need to invest a degree of creativity." Creativity is also called for in his leisure time which he spends with a company of lay actors. Starting out with Styria as his territory, he was later given Upper Austria as an add-on. Since July 2008, the honorary fire brigade captain takes care of our customers in all of Upper Austria. 

Manfred Hofmacher knows exactly what his customers want.



Klaus Scheuchel knows his way around the forest and vineyard regions of northern Lower Austria.



Gerhard Tauchner loves to travel for his customers.



Franz Desch takes care of the concerns of our customers in Upper Austria.



Ing. Friedrich Fahrnberger has retired

After 42 years of service for the company, Friedrich Fahrnberger, member of the Managing Board of Forster AG and managing director of Forster Metallbau GmbH, retired from his life-long employment with Forster as of the end of April 2008.

In 1966, the young graduate of technical college joined a company that had offered him a first glance of corporate life as an intern two years before. He quickly grew into an indispensable co-worker who accumulated an impressive know-how in all production sectors and technologies covered by Forster. Many steps taken by the company in its development are closely linked to his person, and he was the mover behind much of the broad range of our products. His superior technical competence, expertise and experience were recognised and appreciated by all those he met in- and outside the company. Appointed managing director of Forster Metallbau in 1992, he was in charge of the engineering and production side of the noise barrier segment at the St. Peter/Au plant; in 2000 he was called upon to serve at the Managing Board



of Forster AG. Forster family members arranged a very personal celebration to show their deep respect and gratitude for his exemplary commitment, his high personal allegiance and the long years of loyal service dedicated to the company. The Supervisory Board and Managing Board of Forster AG, the managing directors of the Forster Group and all members of the staff of Forster wish him all the best for his future life and enjoyment of his newly won leisure.

Ing. Franz Forster, Erika Forster, Ing. Friedrich Fahrnberger, Ing. Christian Forster (from left to right).

Ing. Franz Forster and Ing. Friedrich Fahrnberger on the latter's start into his retirement.



His closest pals and colleagues surprised the keen model maker with a truck construction kit.

Congratulations!

❖ ANNIVERSARIES

Waidhofen/Ybbs:

40 YEARS

Johann Freudenschuß

35 YEARS

Gerhard Tauchner
Engelbert Helm
Karl Haselsteiner
Franz Kogler

30 YEARS

Walter Schreil
Hildegard Pichler
Konrad Ritt

25 YEARS

Leopold Blaimauer
Ernst Pichler

20 YEARS

Eduard Katzensteiner
Hannelore Linbacher
Josef Großauer
Franz Aspalter
Thomas Steinmetz
Günther Almer
Hermann Teufl
Harald Grünberger
Kole Laskaj
Michael Hubmann
Robert Bladerer
Emil Breg

15 YEARS

Veronika Stockinger
Wolfgang Schuller
Christina Steinmetz
Anton Pitner
Leopoldine Käfer-Schlager
Helmut Maderthaler
Sultan Galisir
Iris Bujupi-Schaar
Mehmet Gagiran
Brigitte Schörghofer
Ingrid Lumetsberger
Heinrich Lumetsberger

10 YEARS

Veronika Forster
Martin Hinterholzer
Kunigunde Härtinger
Markus Fehringer
Heinz Reiter
Robert Neunteibl
Engelbert Hartung
Hazim Avdicevic
Dagmar Herold
Irmgard Maier
Astrid Heinzl
Daniela Tatzreiter
Yvonne Farfeleder
Ioan Carabas
Helmut Mairhofer

Mehmed Ramljak
Josef Ortner
Thomas Sommer
Harald Gröbl

St. Peter/Au:

30 YEARS

Helmut Edlmayr
Rupert Steinbichler
Franz Mayr
Stefan Gutmandelberger
Franz Kirchweger

20 YEARS

Helmut Kloibhofer
Alois Wimmer
Margarita Maurerlehner
Alfred-Florian Schoberberger
Gerhard Kirschbichler
Josef Zeitlhofer

15 YEARS

Jochen Gruber
Thomas Zwettler
Frieda Eggenhofer
Robert Lakatos
Johannes Fürst
Üdler Tokmak
Maria Arthofer
Brigitte Mayer
Anita Hofer

10 YEARS

Franz Wagner
Nihad Delilovic
Erna Jechsmayr

Vienna Office:

15 YEARS

Margit Karner
Gerhard Gecil

Salzburg Office:

10 YEARS

Michael Mairroll

❖ RETIREMENTS

Waidhofen/Ybbs:

Veronika Forster
Rudolf Kandler
Heinz Wieringer
Hermann Kaltenbrunner
Lothar Kurowski

St. Peter/Au:

Friedrich Fahrnberger
Franz Fehringer
Elfriede Dostal
Hermine Hausberger

Vienna Office:

Matthias Kaiser

Forty years with Forster

Johann Freudenschuß celebrated his 40th year of service with Forster this year. He is one of the longest-serving members of the company. Starting out as a lacquerer at the Hammeggasse plant in 1968, he has remained true to his calling with the exception of a short spell in the powder-coating department.



Fifteen years with Forster

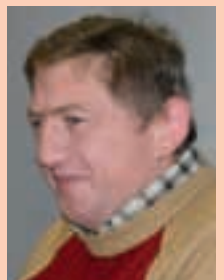
Gerhard Tauchner has been working in the company since 1972. With his 35 years of service he is one of the most experienced salesmen that Forster can boast of. Initially working in the in-house sales department, he changed to our field sales force where he rose to become regional sales manager for Southern Lower Austria and Burgenland.



Engelbert Helm marked his 35th anniversary with Forster in 2007. After a short stint as a lacquerer at the Hammeggasse plant starting in 1972 he switched to the structural steel department. Following a career with aluminium constructions he has since settled in the store management department.



Karl Haselsteiner has been a Forster mainstay for fully 35 years. A sumptuous range of colours has accompanied him throughout his work, from the mixing shop (where Forster workers get together exactly the nuance required by the customer) to the lacquering and coating of our products.



Franz Kogler can similarly account for 35 years with our company. A trained machine fitter, he has been a feature of the tools and fixtures shop ever since he joined the company. His special field is the repair and assembly of tools for our production machines and their maintenance at the Waidhofen/Ybbs plant.



Congratulations!

❖ MARRIAGES

Waidhofen/Ybbs:

Christa Stockinger (née Neidhart),
Maria Plank (née Maier-Vielhaber),
Sabine Schmid (née Stockinger),
Yvonne Farfeleder (née Boes),
Martina Sonnleitner (née Pilz),
Heide Maria Stütz (née Aigner),
Katrin Hintersonnleitner (née Käfer-
Schlager)

St. Peter/Au:

Manfred Stöger, Rosa Kern-Hoch-
strasser (née Hochstrasser), Christine
Öllinger (née Loibingdorfer), Jochen
Gruber

Arbitec:

Cornelia Kirschbaum (née Vaeßen)

❖ BIRTHS

Waidhofen/Ybbs:

Daughter Marlene for Monika Gaßner
Daughter Lauren for Hannes Stangl
Daughter Tamara for Daniela Heigl
Daughter Nora for Harald Freuden-
schuß
Daughter Leonie for Katrin Käfer-
Schlager
Daughter Lisa for Martin Bladerer
Daughter Laura for Martina Schmid
Son Muhammed for Allma Rasiti
Daughter Sara for Hamdija Avdicevic
Daughter Emilia for Helga Sonn-
leitner
Son Sandro for Elke Tatzreiter
Son Elias for Christoph Wagner
Son Felix for Dorothea Pfefferkorn
Daughter Denise for Josef Großbauer
Son Christoph for Elisabeth Hirner
Son Michael for Sonja Winter and
Walter Schmidt
Daughter Julia for Mario Fellner
Son Christoph for Thomas Sommer
Daughter Sarah for Renate Penesic
Daughter Lena for Sascha Bürbaumer
Daughter Emma for Martina
Sonnleitner
Daughter Estella for Bernd Aschauer

St. Peter/Au:

Daughter Leonie for Simone Wieser
and Gerald Prinz
Daughter Dünya for Nur Cetin
Daughter Carina for Birgit Fischer
Son Tobias for Silke Kaltenböck
Son Fabian for Sandra Wieser
Daughter Denise for Christine Feiel
Daughter Kristina Marie for Marga-
rita Maurerlehner
Son Sebastian for Arnold Schörk-
huber
Son Tobias for Rudolf Gugler

Colberg&Forster:

Son Phillip for Kai Müller

❖ OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING

Alexandra Aigner and *Tanja Kalten-
brunner* (both industrial merchant's
apprentices) graduated from the
first form; *Romana Hochpöchler* (in-
dustrial merchant's apprentice) and
Reinhard Schneckenleitner (industrial
production engineer's apprentice)
graduated from the second form;
Michaela Merkingner (screen printer's

apprentice) and *Sabrina Matzenberg-
er* (industrial merchant's apprentice)
graduated from the third form, each
of them with excellent success.

Anna-Elisabeth Forster and *Marco
Marijanovic* (both screen printer's
apprentices) graduated from the
first form, and *Simon Brunthaler*
(industrial production engineer's ap-
prentice) graduated from the second
form, each with good success.

Eva Pachler (metal designer's ap-
prentice), *Martin Stütz*, *Michael Auer*,
Bojan Glavas and *Markus Kleinhofer*
(each of them an industrial produc-
tion engineer's apprentice) success-
fully passed their apprenticeship
completion examination.

Patrick Freudenschuß (industrial
production engineer's apprentice)
graduated from the third form with
good success.

Vital statistics data as
of August 2008



Sports and leisure

Forster's Herminators

February 16, 2008: Forster easily defends its title of Lower Austrian Company Ski Champion.

The challenging giant slalom course on the Forsteralm called for a superior effort on the part of the skiers. A summary of the results of the 36th State Company Skiing Championship, organised on the Forsteralm near Waidhofen/Ybbs: titleholder Forster soundly defeated the teams Gusel from Göstling and Welser Profile AG. Manfred Hofmacher, Thomas Spacil, Raimund Hüttenbrenner and Manfred Kalkhofer once again combined into a strong and committed team that held on to the title in superior style.

Individually, Raimund Hüttenbrenner and Thomas Spacil took

first place in their respective age categories.

March 1, 2008: Forster becomes five-time Austrian champion.

Idyllic St. Ulrich am Pillersee provided the venue for Forster to once again become Austrian champion, one ski length ahead of Voglauer Möbelwerk Salzburg. The strong team performance by Raimund Hüttenbrenner, Manfred Hofmacher, Thomas Spacil and Friedrich Auer was the deciding factor at this 34th Austrian Company Ski Championship. Thanks to their team spirit, they managed to win the fifth title for Forster, after 1981, 1997, 2000 and 2003. Individually, Manfred Hofmacher finished first in the AK I category, and Raimund Hüttenbrenner took second place in the AK II category.



The winners (from left to right): Fritz Auer, Thomas Spacil, Raimund Hüttenbrenner and Manfred Hofmacher.

FORSTER COME TO THE FORE AND SCORE ONCE MORE!

At this year's AK-NÖ Company Football Championship, the Forster footballers ran away with the runner-up's title – their best result so far.

Altogether 64 teams entered the 2007/2008 Company Football Championship organised by the Lower Austrian Chamber of Labour. Wins during the preliminary rounds against Busatis Purgstall, Raiffeisenlagerhaus Zwettl and Umdasch Amstetten got the Forster footballers into the finals in St. Pölten on 1 June. By vanquishing Sparkasse NÖ with a 2:0 win in the semifinals, the Forster team entered the final. Playing an exhilarating game, Forster's men succumbed to Gebauer & Grillner



Toni Polster was among the well-wishers congratulating the Forster team on their second place.

with a score of 2:3. Vicechampion was the best result ever achieved by a Forster team at the AK-NÖ Cup. As a further triumph, Werner

Kaltenbrunner was voted goalie of the tournament, confirming the smashing success garnered by the Forster football team.

❖ Kohlmania

Thousands of jubilant fans spurred on Austria's elite bicycle racers at the Night Race of Waidhofen/Ybbs on 31 July 2008. Three Forster teams competed for the Business Race.

Tour de France King of the Mountains Bernhard Kohl won the Volksbank Night Race organised for the third time at Waidhofen/Ybbs, the capital of Lower Austria's Mostviertel. The winner of third place in the general classification of the Tour de France, Kohl distanced his break-away mate Thomas Rohregger, with third place going to Bernhard Eisel, the sprinting phenomenon from Styria.

Luxembourg's champion racer Nathalie Lamborelle won the wom-



Marcel Rijkes (left) and Hans-Peter Prüller (right) about to enter the Business Race.

en's race of the Volksbank Night Race. Competing for Uniqa Kuota Graz, the 20-year-old prevailed against former Austrian champion Daniela Pintarelli and Karin Ruso in a close race.

The Business Race, a newly introduced event, saw 16 teams compet-

ing. Forster's Team 1 (Dieter Wieser, Marcel Rijkes, Ruud Rijkes) finished an excellent fourth; Forster's Team 2 (Hans-Peter Prüller, Manfred Hofmayer, Thomas Zwettler) and Team 3 (Harald Harreither, Markus Huber, Franz Haberfellner) managed eighth and thirteenth place respectively.

Fishbones galore

The traditional club fishing event organised by the FCF once again enjoyed brilliant sunshine. And once again, the Putz family went away with the prizes.

Ten fishermen struggled to land the biggest fish. Although bites were rare this year, participants once again celebrated a smashing party.

Youth category:

1. Dominik Streißlberger 2.20 kg

Adult category:

1. Bernhard Putz 4.20 kg
2. Markus Schmitsberger 3.00 kg
3. Helmut Putz 1.20 kg

Bull's eye

The marksmen of the FCF once again displayed their accuracy at the 10th FCF gallery shooting championship at the riflemen's clubhouse of Seitenstetten.

Begun in 1999, gallery shooting for all ages has become quite a tradition with Forster.

On Saturday, 5 April 2008, its devotees assembled at the Seitenstetten riflemen's clubhouse to hold this year's company championship. Fully 36 company members competed for the hotly contested position of Schützenkönig (champion marksman). And like every year, the outcome surprised everybody.

Youth category:

1. Stefanie Henickl
2. Dino Dominik Finsel
3. Toni Sindhuber

Women:

1. Regina Grübler
2. Birgit Knoll
3. Renate Binder

Older women:

1. Elisabeth Witzlinger
2. Rosemarie Jechsmayr

Men:

1. Midhat Hodzic
2. Andreas Henickl
3. Christian Maderthaner

Older men:

1. Josef Dorfmayr
2. Leopold Berndl
3. Engelbert Zisler

Teams:

1. Jürgen Gratzner, Bernhard Mayrhofer, Martina Dorfmayr, Manuela Zeilinger **264 points**
2. Midhat Hodzic, Regina Grübler, Gerald Prinz, Ludwig Jechsmayr **257 points**
3. Josef Dorfmayr, Birgit Knoll, Engelbert Zisler, Heidi Schoberberger **257 points**

Standing without support:

1. Christian Maderthaner
2. Michael Fischer
3. Leopold Berndl

Standing with support:

1. Stefanie Henickl
2. Patrik Hofer
3. Dino Dominik Finsel



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