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**Press information**

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StrikoWestofen (Gummersbach)

**Foundry’s Little Helper**

Goodbye, ladles: The closed transport system Schnorkle 2.0 makes foundries safer.

**The handling of liquid metal requires protective measures for people and equipment. This prompted StrikoWestofen, the manufacturer of industrial furnaces, to design Schnorkle 2.0. This closed transport system keeps the melt under control as it travels to the dosing furnace, making accidental overflow or unsafe tilting a thing of the past.**

Molten aluminium with its temperature of around 720 degrees Celsius is a potential risk to life and limb. That’s why foundry suppliers strive to minimise the dangers associated with the handling of liquid metals. The safe transport of the melt poses a particular challenge. Equipment manufacturer StrikoWestofen, part of Norican Group, has come up with the answer: the optimized Schnorkle 2.0. This innovative transport system not only provides improved safety for employees and equipment – it also makes business sense. Its closed construction reduces temperature loss of the melt during transport, meaning it no longer has to be overheated beforehand. This has a positive impact on energy consumption.

**Safe Journeys through the Foundry**

A conventional forklift truck is all that’s needed to move Schnorkle 2.0 safely to the dosing furnace. In contrast to conventional transport ladles, the closed transport system does not need to be tilted at height, instead dispensing its contents via a riser pipe with the help of pneumatics. This means that a relatively low lifting height is sufficient during melt transfer, allowing Schnorkle to be used in halls with extremely low ceilings. In addition to this, its control system prevents liquid metal from splashing around uncontrollably. In the event of problems or irregularities, the transport system automatically sounds an alarm, displaying error messages to allow the operator to intervene and remedy the issue.

**Simplified processes**

User friendliness was a key factor in designing Schnorkle 2.0. To ensure a constant material flow while filling the dosing system, operators can select between two speeds at the push of a button. Schnorkle 2.0’s compact form makes it easier to manoeuvre in the foundry. “The reduced overall height makes our new transport system about 20 percent lighter than it was in the first generation. In contrast, the filling opening for the melt has become larger – in fact, it’s about 50 percent larger,” explains Florian Kulawik, Development Engineer at StrikoWestofen. The impeller can be positioned at the centre, allowing for salt or other popular melt treatments to be added. For a safe and easy heating process the burner is attached to the main cover, making a separate heating cover unnecessary. Schnorkle 2.0 can be used with all commonly used melting and dosing furnaces. When combined with the Westomat dosing furnace, however, additional benefits are unlocked for the user: “The supply station, available as an option, allows for transport and dosing processes to be synchronized. This also completely prevents overfilling,” Kulawik adds.

More details on the closed transport system are available directly from StrikoWestofen by telephone (**+49 (0)2261-70910**) or online at **www.strikowestofen.com.**

**About StrikoWestofen**

Since 2017 StrikoWestofen has been part of the Norican Group, a world leading provider of technology for the formation and enhancement of metallic parts. The Group is home to four leading, globally operating brands: DISA, Italpresse Gauss, StrikoWestofen and Wheelabrator. Together, they offer customers around the world a broad spectrum of solutions, spanning end-to-end grey iron foundry equipment, integrated light alloy casting solutions, high-end furnace technology and heat treatment solutions for light metal, as well as surface preparation technology and services. Norican Group serves a wide range of industries, including the global automotive, aerospace, foundry and aluminium sectors, through a global network of engineering expertise, manufacturing capacity and local service support.

**Captions**

**[17-10 Schnorkle 2.0]**

*Schnorkle 2.0: Occupational safety and process reliability combined.*

Image: StrikoWestofen.

**[17-10 Innovative Details]**

*User friendliness was one of the key factors in designing Schnorkle 2.0. Furthermore, its closed geometry reduces the danger of liquid metal handling.*

Image: StrikoWestofen.

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