

Faster than sound

Thailand's L Lighting Glass is well known for the production of lamps for various applications. Since early 2014, however, this is no longer the extent of the factory's activities, as Mark Ziegler explains.

L Lighting Glass has rewritten its company profile in recent months, because the business is now producing glass bottles in addition to lighting ware. This decision was driven by expanding opportunities in local and regional markets, leading the board to invest in production technology for container glass.

It is still less than two years since representatives from L Lighting Glass met Heye at glasstec 2012 to discuss their ideas. Often, it takes a long time before projects of this size really start off but not this time. Last January, two 12-section triple gob IS machines went into production for an amber furnace and in May, another 12-section triple gob machine was added in flint, all in NNPB.

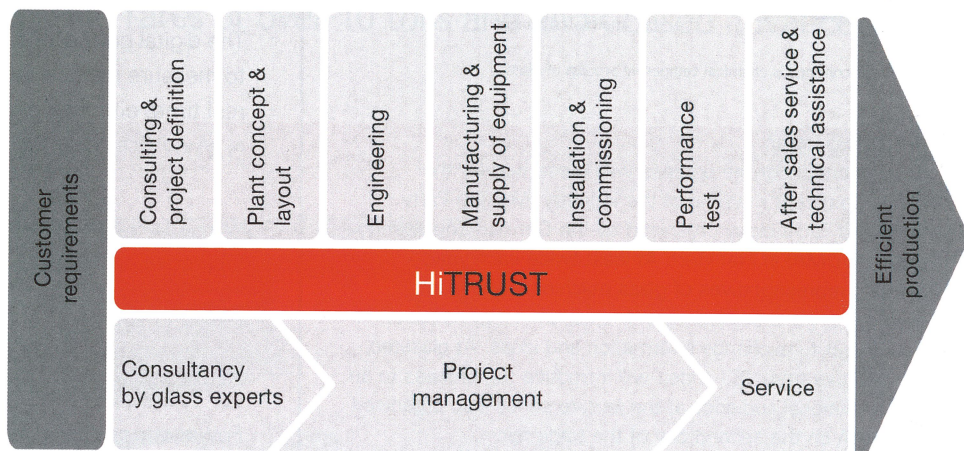
"We did not have any container glass experience" Khun Yanattha and Khun Lerdchai from Lighting Glass admit, so what was the reason for



One of the three 12-section triple gob IS machines undergoes installation at L Lighting Glass.



View of the cold end.



The Heye project management concept.

the success? It was the decision of Lighting Glass to book the full training and assistance package from Heye. From senior management to warehouse staff, everyone was trained by the Heye glass people.

Of particular importance was the team spirit generated in the common project groups. And Gregory Lecat, Sales Director Asia and Middle East at Heye, has been quick to acknowledge this exceptional co-operation and teamwork.

CLEAR STRATEGY

Behind every successful project is a clear strategy and set of methods. Heye offers dedicated solutions for project management, as well as for training and production optimisation.

The structured project management covers:

- Clear milestones.
- Defined work packages.
- A responsibility matrix.
- A project organigram, with all relevant people.

The different steps are written in a special project management handbook, called PM@Heye, which is based on international PMI rules. The project managers give continuous progress reports and are responsible for making sure that the project is finalised to quality standards, on budget and on time.

Thereafter, modern glass container production is more than just using equipment. The largest part is determined by production methods and procedures and the way all stages of the process work and fit together. Heye offers direct access to production facilities and real on-the-job training. Elements covered by the training package include:

- Raw materials and energy.
- Machine operator training.
- Production optimisation (speed and quality).
- Quality control at the cold end.
- A maintenance workshop, with special attention given to the reduction of job change times.

The result of this 360 degree view of glass container production is the ability to deliver complex projects on time and on budget. ■

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