

Giant doors for a futuristic depot

EFAFLEX supplies 22 high-speed doors for the most modern traffic depot in the city of Geneva

The planning and implementation of the "En Chardon" construction project took seven years. Six months ago, work started on the new tram and bus depot for the Geneva Public Transport Company (TPG). A total of 22 oversized high-speed doors from door specialist EFAFLEX were ordered for the 310 million Swiss Franc project.

The tram and bus depot with integrated garage for repair and maintenance work has space for 70 trams and 130 buses. The maintenance and repair facility is the most important of the three main sites in the Geneva city transport network. It is intended to support the future expansion of the TPG network at a cantonal level. Around half of all the city's trams and buses are maintained and repaired in 33,000 square metres of space. 600 employees will take care of the vehicles at this location. A total of 10,700 metres of rails with 44 points and 8 crossings were required in order to be able to accommodate the trams in the depot.

'EFAFLEX won the contract for the doors because of its broad portfolio of oversized high-speed doors,' explains a spokesperson for EFAFLEX Swiss GmbH. This subsidiary has already had a business relationship with the transport companies in the city of Geneva for years. The high quality, the various installation variants and the robustness of the doors, even with an extremely large number of opening and closing cycles, were the deciding factors for this project as well.

EFA-SFT® for immediate clear height

The entrances to the depot were equipped with EFA-SFT® high-speed folding doors. Despite their gigantic size, they blend harmoniously into the facade of the futuristic-looking building and clear the entire entrance height in a matter of seconds. Heat losses in the building are thus minimised. Cut-outs for the contact wire allow the power supply to be continued from the outside to the inside.

Doors in the F series open at high speeds and are extremely heavy-duty. They protect against noise and drafts, save energy and impress with good heat and sound insulation properties.

Due to the patented modular structure, they are easy to repair and low-maintenance. Particularly large doors are fitted with special floor stoppers, to additionally stabilise the closed wing in the middle area.

High-speed folding doors from EFAFLEX, which are primarily used in building closure, are a cornerstone of modern industrial architecture. Thanks to the extraordinary diversity of individual design, they can be adapted to any facade. Wing separation, mullion arrangement and infills are variable. The surface of the door leaf can be anodised in the colours of the Eloxal table or powder coated in any RAL colours, according to the customer's wishes.

Two promises: functionality and punctuality

Induction loops and radar sensors automatically control the doors at the eleven access points. The variety of trams and buses requires switching of the opening and closing pulses that is precisely matched to operation. The traffic flow at the depot is controlled and monitored via a higher-level control centre.

EFAFLEX has met the high demand for functionality, quality and flexible service readiness, says the EFAFLEX Swiss GmbH spokesperson. Failure of one of the doors would inevitably lead to delays in the timetable and thus call into question reliability and punctuality - the firm promise from the Geneva Public Transport Company.

EFAFLEX company information

EFAFLEX produces high-speed doors for industrial applications. Founded in 1974, the company is used by clients from industry, trades, food manufacturing and the chemical and pharmaceutical sectors. As the only manufacturer of high-speed industrial doors, EFAFLEX has been entered into the world market leader index and is thus one of the 461 top companies in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. This family company has more than 1,200 employees worldwide. With its headquarters in Bruckberg, Bavaria, EFAFLEX is firmly established as the largest employer in the region. Furthermore, with ten subsidiaries on five continents, the company is opening up international markets. More than 40 percent of EFAFLEX's revenue is generated abroad.