

## ***A 9 m long float glass sheet a world record or only just a European record?***



All over the world, Henze Glas, manufacturer of large insulating glass panes from Hoerden/Harz, was looking for a supplier and float glass manufacturer of glass sheets sized 3.21 x 9.00 m.

This looked like an easy job in the beginning, but on closer examination turned out to be rather difficult.

It seemed as if no float glass manufacturer wanted to carry out this project. Only Guardian Flachglas in Thalheim did not turn the job down from the start, as the group had already gained experience with the series manufacture of jumbo panes sized 7.20 x 3.21 m.



The ambitious plans were discussed with Henze Glas and our specialists, with the result that Guardian Flachglas could be relieved of the logistic problems of de-stacking (vacuum lifting device by Pannkoke Flachglastechnik) and transport (which was taken care of by Henze Glas). The technical staff of Guardian Flachglas quickly found a solution for cutting the giant sheets to size at the running float band.

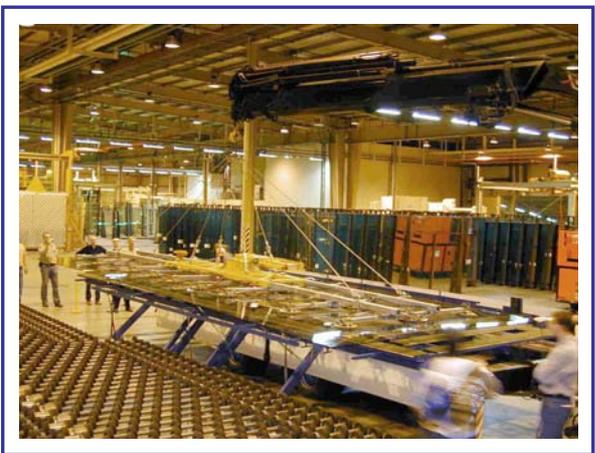
In January 2005 the time had come.

Nine large sheets sized 9.00 x 3.21 m came off the conveyor belt in Thalheim.

Now was this a world premiere or only just a European premiere?

So far it has not been possible to resolve this question among experts.

The premiere started with the morning shift on the 10th of January 2005.





The tension was great. Would everything work out well?

Under the watchful eyes of the head of the firm and initiator of this project, Dietmar Henze, the huge float glass sheets swung sheet by sheet onto the special-purpose vehicle provided by Henze Glas, suspended from our vacuum lifting device.

With many employees of Guardian Flachglas and Henze Glas taking a lively interest, it was possible to achieve what others had not dared to do or had not been able to imagine.



The engineers at Guardian Flachglas and the employees of Henze Glas made a good job of it.

However, the head of the firm, Dietmar Henze, did not give away which object this delivery was intended for. But we are sure that it will soon be possible to unveil this little secret.

Data and facts:

Guardian Flachglas GmbH, Thalheim:

Float glass with the dimensions 9 x 3.21 m - 10 mm thick

Henze Glas GmbH, Herzberg/Hoerden:

Glass transport and processing of the large panes

Pannkoke Flachglastechnik GmbH, Luebeck:

Supplier of the special-purpose vacuum lifting device in 2-circuit-technology.



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