

'The 800-tonne Taurus is my showpiece'

In the world of robust recycling equipment, Peter Beyeler of IUT Beyeler is a well-known figure. Over the years he has installed hundreds of shear-balers of the 'Made in Italy' Taurus brand. Among the latest machines is a 800 tonne cutting force shear delivered to German scrap metal recycler Theo Steil. For Beyeler and his team of dedicated engineers this was not a straightforward project.

It takes Peter Beyeler (second left) and his crew six days on average to install a shear-baler.





Peter Beyeler: 'Everybody is having issues with the supply of electronic components but we have always had plenty in stock which helps ease the pain.'

TAURUS AND IUT BEYELER: A PERFECT TEAM

For more than 38 years, Peter Beyeler has been directly associated with scrap shears from the Taurus brand. In the past decade, some 200 machines have been delivered and installed by IUT Beyeler.

With the latest development of the Taurus type ACS, especially the machines with 600 tonne, 800 tonne and 1 000 tonne cutting forces, the brand has reached another milestone: building machines that are extremely robust, combined with an availability that meets the requirements of the operator.

Replaceable wear plates for carriage guidance and in the scissor jaws, remote maintenance, HF radio control and other technical innovations are standard.

More than 20 machines of this type have been put into operation across Europe in the past three years in the home markets of Switzerland, Germany and Austria, as well as Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia among others.

The Taurus machines are known for their high technical standards. The production, which takes place in the CEG plant in Italy through CNC-controlled processing, is constantly being adapted to the latest requirements and needs.

Installation at the operator's premises is carried out by specialist Swiss staff from IUT Beyeler and its partner companies in Germany and Poland. Service and spare parts delivery time is 24-48 hours.

With Taurus, IUT Beyeler AG always adapts to the wishes and requirements of the customer. This includes the position of the lid, the loading direction, design of the cutting force, bed length and hydraulic system while the corresponding electric motors can be freely selected by the customer.

5pm: end of the working day at the yard of Theo Steil Recycling in Cologne - but not for Peter Beyeler and his crew. 'There are still some things that need to be finished today,' says Beyeler. 'Installing this baby is not a nine-to-five job.'

'This Baby' is the Taurus ACS 873. ED4L, an 800 tonne cutting force stationary shear-baler made for IUT Beyeler by the CEG manufacturing plant at Daverio in north Italy. 'We sell shears ranging from 500 to 1 400 cutting force but the 800 is without doubt my showpiece. In the past two years we've sold ten units: four to Germany, three to Poland and another three to Switzerland.'

HEAVY STUFF

It takes an exceptional transport of five trucks and three days to get the machine from Daverio to Cologne. 'Mind you, this is not just a machine, this is heavy duty equipment. We talk about almost 160 tonnes in total of which the heaviest, the one-piece undercarriage, weighs 55 tonnes. Obviously, this requires a heavy duty truck.' A second truck carries the shear, a third the wing, a fourth the motor and hydraulics, while the fifth is for smaller parts and accessories. Transport is one thing, getting the equipment up and running is another. Once a shear has arrived at its destination, it takes Beyeler and his crew six days on average to install the machine and get it ready for operation.

STOP-OVER COLOGNE

Installing the Taurus 800 at Theo Steil is no different. What is different is that the machine's stay at the Cologne scrap yard will be temporary - six to seven months - replacing Theo Steil's existing shear, undergoing maintenance. Beyeler: 'No other shear was available so ours offered a solution. Once the revision is done, we'll be back to dismantle and ship the Taurus to Theo Steil's yard at Szczecin in the north-west of Poland where again we'll carry out a full installation.' Isn't that a lot of work and energy spent on one machine? 'Sure, but

that's our job,' Beyeler replies. 'We promise to deliver high quality, custom-made solutions. If this is what the customer wants, we're there to serve his needs.'

STRONG IN EUROPE

IUT Beyeler is an established name in the world of heavyweight recycling equipment. In the past decade alone, Beyeler has installed more than 200 Taurus shear balers, mostly in Germany (40) and Poland (20) but also in his home country Switzerland. IUT Beyeler is responsible for sales, installation and technical support of the Taurus brand in the German speaking markets and Eastern Europe. Some 20 machines were delivered to customers in Russia, but 'for obvious reasons' that market has come to a standstill, says Beyeler. The company has spare part stocks and dedicated service teams in Poland, Germany and Switzerland ready to respond within 24-48 hours.

CHALLENGING TIMES

Asked how worldwide parts shortages affect his business, the shear-baler expert says: 'We hardly see any impact. Sure, everybody is having issues with the supply of electronic components but we have always had plenty of parts in stock which, crisis or no crisis, helps ease the pain.' As with fellow recycling equipment suppliers, Beyeler is seeing some delivery delays but nothing drastic. 'Compared to many others we're still doing pretty well,' he says. 'We're lucky to have a smooth and effective production. As I always say: "We always have a machine ready for shipment".'

20-30% UP

What about pricing? 'As we've all seen, resources have become more scarce and more expensive which has its impact on the cost of manufacture. For example, 10 mm steel plates used in our equipment have tripled in cost. We have no other choice than to pass on these extra costs. I dare say in two years' recycling machines will have become up to 30% more expensive.' ■

SPECIFICATIONS OF THE TAURUS ACS AT THEO STEIL

Shear cutting force	800 tonne (pusher 160 tonne)
Size box	7.2 x 2.5 m.
Loading hopper	2.4 x 7.0 m.
Drive	Four electric motors, 75 kW each (plus auxiliary drive 2 x 7.5 kW for cooling and pilot pumps)
Total weight	157 tonnes.

GERMAN ROOTS, EUROPEAN FOOTPRINT

The Steil Group consists of several independent companies in the core area of scrap metal recycling, concentrated at Theo Steil, Schrott-und Metallgroßhandel. Headquartered in Trier in western Germany, the Steil Group has 15 yards and facilities, most in Germany but also in Luxemburg, Poland, the Netherlands and Spain. The Steil Group includes the service provider Steil Entsorgung, and the transport/logistics provider Gotra.

