

# Self-assessment of Cosmina AG



## Our service goal

Cosmina AG is one of four production companies in the Frike Group. The technical area of applications covered includes chemical products, industrial and household cleaners in solid, paste, liquid or powder forms.

The aim is: Thanks to our comprehensive outsourcing system, customers can largely dispense with the development, inspection, manufacture, packaging, warehousing and logistics of their products themselves. Duplication is eliminated. Our clear target is to relieve customers of the majority of process-related working stages. This enables customers to focus on their core business to a greater degree.



## Location

Cosmina AG is located at Motorenstrasse 2a in 8623 Wetzikon in the Zurich Oberland.

Access is good. The motorway can be accessed via Uster or Hinwil. The company's premises are approximately 10 kilometres from the motorway. As Cosmina has a railhead, it can handle both liquid as well as solid materials. Covering a total area of 30,000 m<sup>2</sup>, the company premises consist of approximately 18,000 m<sup>2</sup> of usable surface area for production and approximately 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> for offices. The company was built in the mid-1950s by Colgate and continuously expanded and upgraded. It was taken over by Fritz Keller AG in 1996. The property is owned by Fritz Keller AG. Cosmina AG is a 100% subsidiary of Fritz Keller AG.

A company of the FRIKE group



## Organization / Personnel

Cosmina AG is a joint stock company that was founded in 2001. Operating for many years as a profit centre of Fritz Keller AG, the company developed into a profitable and independent company during this time. As Fritz Keller AG continues to handle certain central administrative duties, such as, for example, human resources, bookkeeping, sales and marketing etc., a very flat hierarchy was chosen for Cosmina. This provides customers with short and efficient clarification routes, which results in speedy reaction times.

The company is headed by the works manager and vigorously supported by internal sales staff, the laboratory as well as its technical service staff.



With the networking of all its computer systems, Fritz Keller AG is in a position to solve any problems speedily and efficiently. The high level of mobility of individual senior managers and members of business management, who gain on-the-spot information on a weekly basis, ensures that these people can also provide detailed information at all times.

## Environmental situation

Cosmina AG has its own waste-water collection and neutralisation systems. All waste-water is collected in a large catchment basin. This area of the plant is continuously monitored by personnel and instruments. A wide range of chemical and physical values are also subject to continuous inspection both inside and outside the plant. Production stages and processes are precisely monitored and improved on a continuous basis. This aspect receives particular attention in the case of new developments. This ensures full compliance with Switzerland's strict environmental laws.



Production and filling dust is filtered, collected individually and, whenever possible, returned to the flow of material or disposed of appropriately according to customers' requirements.

The company is subject to the Hazardous Incident Ordinance and is thus permanently monitored by Federal authorities as well.

## Purchasing / Logistics

We maintain international contacts with suppliers of raw materials and packaging. This allows our customers to leave selection and procurement to us. Alongside our wide range of raw materials and packaging, solutions can also be found for special requests. We purchase quantities ranging from minor amounts through to tanker-size volumes. Coordination within the Fritz Keller Group allows the company to purchase top-quality raw materials and packaging at appropriate market prices.

## Qualitätssicherung / Labor

The company has process-oriented certification to ISO 9001. The flow of raw materials and packaging is controlled by barcode, assuring complete traceability to the relevant delivery. This means that the corresponding batches can be easily identified and traced just by pushing a button on our sophisticated QA computer system. All QA data is stored specifically for each article and is immediately accessible for most members of staff should customers have any queries. If any discrepancies arise, this helps us not only to provide data and facts immediately and without any complications but also to take the corresponding measures. The quality assurance laboratory is headed by the laboratory manager and not by the works manager, which ensures that quality assurance meets the requirement for separate areas of authority. The laboratory is equipped so that all analyses and data required can be produced on the spot. The laboratory at Fritz Keller AG is available for special instrumental analyses. This has all the important instruments that are standard in our branch of business (HPLC, IR, UV, GC, etc.). When highly specific analyses are required, there is a wide range of contacts with different service laboratories.



For laboratory developments, we exploit the entire know-how network of all our companies to ensure that we can submit sound proposals. As we have a team of highly trained chemists in all areas and at all levels of the company, it is not difficult to implement our customers' wishes.

## Production plant

Batch sizes range from 1,000 kg to 8,000 kg; we can even produce up to 16 tons in the case of very simple mixtures. Most of the plant is made of V4A-grade steel. Synthetic materials are used for highly corrosive products. Various pieces of equipment are designed to protect against explosions.



### Process mixers

Production containers in	2 x 16.0 tons	Production containers	1 x 2.0 tons*
various sizes for liquid products	2 x 8.0 tons 1 x 5.0 to*/** 1 x 3.6 tons*/** 1 x 3.0 tons* 1 x 2.8 tons*/** 2 x 1.5 tons	for viscous to paste products	1 x 0.6 tons 1 x 0.5 tons*
Soon to be in operation with guide beam mixers	1 x 3.0 tons 1 x 5.0 tons*	Powder mixers	1 x 5.0 tons 1 x 0.6 tons 1 x 0.5 tons
		Continuous powder mixers	6 tons/hr.**

\* These mixers have heating and, in some cases, cooling systems, some with twin jackets or direct steam feed. Cooling is done via jackets or plate coolers.

\*\* These mixers are fully automatic, i.e. this plant can be used to produce major volumes speedily and precisely under computer control (with mixing report).

The powder mixers and their filling plant have separate aspiration, i.e. we can dispose of any dust that occurs separately or return it to the products.

Production capacities in the liquid sector are currently running at 30 - 50 tons per day/shift. This figure is dependent on the product, the process and, to some degree, on filling capacity, etc.

In the powder sector, we have a capacity of up to 60 tons per day. This is also dependent on the product concerned.

Of course, capacities can also be boosted at short notice by the use of additional members of staff and extended shifts.

## Filling plant

The filling facilities are designed to package anything from small runs (>1,000 units) through to large runs (>100,000 units). Roughly half of all the plant is fully automated from the filling process through to palleting. This means that we can also work in these areas on a highly cost-optimised basis. The plant is designed to handle both labelled and printed standard bottles, trigger bottles as well as specially shaped bottles. We can also manufacture shrink packs in various versions, i.e. with and without trays as well as doubles, trebles and similar.



### Liquid fillers

Rotary filler	32 heads	line 22	Output	140 bottles/min.	100 ml - 1,000 ml
Rotary filler	16 heads	line 16		100 bottles/min.	100 ml - 1,000 ml
Rotary filler	12 heads	line 15		100 bottles/min.	100 ml - 1,000 ml
Linear filler	8 heads	line 23		60 bottles/min.	500 ml - 5,000 ml
Linear filler	8 stations	line 4		70 bottles/min.	100 ml - 1,000 ml
Linear filler	4 stations	line 5		35 bottles/min.	100 ml - 1,000 ml
Linear filler	4 stations	line 6 (induct.)		45 bottles/min.	100 ml - 2,000 ml
Linear filler	4 stations	line 10		15 canisters/min.	1 l - 10 l
Linear filler	2 stations	line 8		8 canisters/min.	1 l - 10 l
Line filler	1 st.for pastes			25 tubs/min.	50 ml – 150 ml
Multipurpose fillers for bottles and pouches				25 units/min.	25 ml – 2000 ml
Manual filler	1 station volume				5 l - 30 l
Manual filler	1 station weighing				2 l - 30 l
Manual filler	1 station various volumes				100 ml - 2,000 ml

### Powder fillers

Rotary fillers	4 weighing heads, boxes/bags	30 units/min.	1.0 kg - 8.0 kg
Linear fillers	3 weighing heads, bags	25 units/min.	1.5 kg - 5.0 kg
Rotary fillers	8 filling stations, boxes	60 units/min.	0.2 kg - 1.0 kg
Screw conveyors	1 filling station, boxes/bags	6 units/min.	3.0 kg - 30.0 kg
Metering weighers	1 filling station, boxes/bags	6 units/min.	3.0 kg - 30.0 kg

## Storage tanks, storage areas and warehousing

We have a large storage tank system with storage capacities of up to 160 m<sup>3</sup> per tank as well as 15 tanks with a total volume of approximately 700 m<sup>3</sup>. Naturally, we also have a large number of interim storage tanks (approximately 30 units with capacities ranging from 1.5 m<sup>3</sup> to 20 m<sup>3</sup>). Our storage tanks still have spare capacity.

The area occupied by warehousing and handling amounts to approximately 12,000 m<sup>2</sup>, part of which uses a pallet-rack system (approximately 4,000 pallets).

For some customers, we also look after their logistics. I.e. we have a direct link to our customers computer systems and use this to handle incoming and outgoing goods. As and when required, deliveries are inspected and approved in our laboratory. As almost every customer works with a different software application, our staff are used to working with different systems.



The orders concerned (the orders placed with our customers) are collected in our offices and printed out. This order is put together by our staff within the agreed time (sometimes within 24 hours) and prepared for dispatch.

The road haulage companies concerned are informed or collect the goods from us on a regular schedule. This additional service results in tremendous savings where transport, warehousing and handling are concerned.

## Final remarks

All of the above-mentioned possibilities allow us to offer each customer an individually tailored package. All of these possibilities can be fitted together on a modular basis to meet customers' specific requirements. The system can also be changed and modified in the shortest possible time with maximum benefits for the customers.

Cosmina AG, 22 March 2002, André Keller