

Issue 2|2023

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FORSTER **FF**

# aktuell

The magazine for staff and business partners of the Forster Group



Shelving for the new  
Wien Museum...

pp. 14 - 15

## UPFRONT NEWS

Dear Staff Members,  
Dear Business Partners,

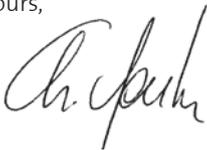
At the start of its new business year, the Forster Group initiated some personnel changes to set a new course for the future and restructure the management level of the enterprise. With this step I am gradually withdrawing from my activities within the Forster Group as well as initiating a generational transition within the family. My daughter Pamela Forster is about to undertake an active role in the company holding and extend her support to the management.

In the summer, Robert Reichartszeder will become my successor as managing director of Forster Holding while continuing to buttress the Forster companies in specific expert issues. At the same time, he is putting the responsibility for the operative companies into the hands of Andreas Grader who, since 1 May 2024, has been ensuring that business is running as usual together with his familiar management team. These changes focus not just on long-term stability and the welfare of the company but also on lean and efficient structures and decision-making processes. The transition at management level will not cause any change in our corporate identity or culture. Forster is and remains a family company that espouses sustainability, generation-spanning thinking and acting, and regional roots.

Good cooperation requires working with and for each other; it calls for responsibility, mutual care and shared values – so that people can rely on each other. Forster's competent team continues to be open to the concerns of our clients, be they small or large, no matter how seasonally hot the weather becomes.

If you have already planned your vacation, let me wish you happy holidays and a relaxing time!

Yours,



Christian Forster  
Managing Director, Forster Holding GmbH

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SUSTAINABILITY AT FORSTER

## Award from EcoVadis

In February 2020, we were one of the first enterprises in Austria to be certified under ONR 192500, the standard for sustainability and ESC management in organisations. In 2024, EcoVadis extended awards to Forster Metallbau Gesellschaft m.b.H. as well as Forster Verkehrs- und Werbetechnik GmbH in recognition of their success in implementing sustainability goals.



Award  
Forster  
Metallbau



Award  
Forster Verkehrs-  
und Werbe-  
technik

The awards in the current EcoVadis rating have put the two Forster companies among the upper 35% of the businesses assessed by EcoVadis. The EcoVadis scoring comprises 21 sustainability criteria on four core themes: environment, labour and human rights, ethics and sustainable procurement. The rating confirmed our performance and achievements with regard to sustainability.

INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

## Prize for photovoltaic road canopies

For its PV South project, Forster Verkehrs- und Werbetechnik GmbH received the 11th Innovation and Sustainability Award of the Feuerverzinken e.V. industrial association. Prof. Dr. Markus Oeser accepted the prize on behalf of the research consortium (AIT Austrian Institute of Technology GmbH, Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE, Forster). The technical properties of the hot-galvanised steel, and in particular its excellent corrosion resistance and its robust structure, have made the material an ideal choice for use in PV road canopies.

For more information on the project please check our Forster Aktuell issue 1/2021 at

<https://www.forster.at/en/news/company-newsletter>



## Trade show review:

### Marke[ding] Vienna:

The trade fair for haptic advertising and visual communication drew record crowds in 2024. Our stand offered visitors a vision of our extensive range of print and display products.

### Cultura Suisse Berne:

At the Swiss trade fair for museums, preservation of monuments and cultural heritage, Forster Archiv- und Verkehrstechnik GmbH presented solutions for shelving systems specifically designed for archiving cultural objects and paintings.

### Karriere Clubbing Hausmening:

"Find your way" was our motto for informing interested pupils of our many options of apprenticeships.

*Thank you for visiting us at these trade fairs – we always appreciate the insights and inputs gained by our talks with visitors!*

## Trade show preview:

Visit us at the following events in the autumn of 2024:

**Kommunalmesse** – trade show for municipal infrastructure requirements

Focus: traffic engineering

Date: 18 – 19 September 2024

Place: Oberwart

[diekommunalmesse.at](http://diekommunalmesse.at)

**InnoTrans** – international trade fair for transport technology

Focus: noise barriers for railways

Date: 24 – 27 September 2024

Place: Messe Berlin

[innotrans.de](http://innotrans.de)

**Karriere Clubbing Waidhofen/Ybbs** – the fair for apprenticeship slots in Western Lower Austria

Date: 25 – 27 September 2024

Place: Schloss Rothschild, Waidhofen/Ybbs

[skill-up.at](http://skill-up.at)

**Archivistica Bielefeld** – trade show for archiving (held in parallel with the 91st German Archives Day)

Focus: archiving shelves

Date: 8 – 10 October 2024

Place: Suhl

[vda.archiv.net/archivistica](http://vda.archiv.net/archivistica)

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## CIMA FLOOR DISPLAYS

# Customised and eye-catching

Knowing how to present products conspicuously and with maximum effect is crucial at the point of sale. For this reason, CIMA GmbH has opted for Forster's expert know-how to promote its MARIE brand.



Always ready to hand: the integrated feeder system automatically pushes products to the front after every removal.

A solid and long-lived metal/ synthetic structure provides the backbone for the 25 new permanent displays at CIMA. A perforated backwall with adjustable blister hooks and height-adjustable presentation tiers supplies flexibility to the arrangement of products. The integrated feeder system automatically pushes products to the front after every removal, providing easy access for the next customers.

### Convincing in their appearance .....

The turquoise powder coating, combined with the logo film, ensures a distinctive, harmonious and recognisable look. The mantle made of imprinted polycarbonate can be flexibly changed and replaced.

Thanks to our Forster production know-how, we can design and produce displays tailored exactly to our customers' requirements. 



## AD SIGNS MADE OF ACRYLIC GLASS

# High-quality solutions for in- and outdoors

Our clients love high-quality acrylic glass signs for their bright appearance and use them in all sorts of settings – for entrances, as decorative wall elements and as company signs for in- and outdoor locations.

The sparkle of acrylic glass generates a deeply gleaming effect that ensures that all printing comes alive. Acrylic glass signs are even more impressive when we highlight the digital print in white, either in part or with a film ap-



ATTENTION-GETTERS TAILORED TO YOUR WISHES

# Foil wrapping: advertising allrounders

**When indoors or outdoors advertisements or presentations are at stake, Forster has plenty of attractive solutions, one of which was chosen by Therme Wien for its thermal springs.**

Therme Wien placed a “Smart Flower” at its main entrance, which has solar modules looking like the petals of a flower. The modules automatically track the sunlight, thus generating electricity free of charge. The base of the smart flower carries an inscription visualising the climate partnership between Wien Energie and Therme Wien. Its wrapping draws on the Forster know-how. We used a high-quality synthetic foil that is predestined for outdoor use. It was digitally imprinted, laminated for protection and mounted at the base of the Smart Flower.

Generally, foil wrappings guarantee that your communication needs get the desired attention. Frequently the foil is no longer clearly recognisable as such as it becomes “greener” because Forster is prioritising PVC-free versions. Foil wrappings can be easily attached to almost every substructure. Replacing the motif is similarly easy by simply covering the old by a new foil. No matter whether clients want a permanent foil for long-term service or disposable foil for temporary use: Forster has the right foil with the right properties for every requirement. 📄



Visualising the climate partnership of Wien Energie and Therme Wien.

plied throughout. The white cover layer provides optimal saturation to the colours of the motif and adds further intensity.

**Acrylic glass signs offer many advantages because they:-**

- ... can be installed quickly and easily,
- ... are suitable for in- and outdoor use,
- ... are resistant to UV light and rough weather conditions,
- ... have a typical service life of seven or more years,
- ... are extremely versatile in terms of design.

Acrylic glass signs can be further improved by adding a screen-printed background, although this version is practical only for larger batches due to the high set-up costs. Where small quantities are called for clients usually prefer a film background. 📄



Film was the material of choice for this large-format company sign.



S7 FÜRSTENFELD DUAL CARRIAGEWAY

T-shaped brackets spanning up to 17 metres guide road users to the S7.

# Serviceable signposts right into Hungary

The S7, a dual carriageway at Fürstenfeld leading to the border crossing of Heiligenkreuz, removes the through-traffic

pressure for several communities located alongside. The signposts and noise barrier for the new road were delivered by Forster.

Last March, the western section of the newly built S7 Fürstenfeld dual carriageway was opened to traffic. The 15-km section running from the Riegersdorf junction (A2) via Fürstenfeld to Dobersdorf relieves adjoining communities from through-traffic and provides local businesses with quick and safe access to the overall road network.

**Five hundred traffic signs installed** Forster was commissioned to provide for the road signs and noise barrier. At the newly made Riegersdorf junction we installed prism-type variable message signs for a total of six cantilevers and two T-shaped brackets spanning up to 17 metres, for routing traffic to the S7. In addition to the Riegersdorf junction, the S7 will have slip roads at



Fürstenfeld, Rudersdorf, Königsdorf and Heiligenkreuz. The signs for the intersections at the western section and the five height checks were similarly made by Forster. Altogether we have already installed about 500 signs at 350 locations.

**Tunnel and subsurface route** .....

At the heart of the western section is the Rudersdorf tunnel with a length of almost three kilometres. It is the very first road tunnel in Burgenland, and Forster supplied



The subsurface structure required special designs for the gantries.



Forster also supplied the “winter equipment” for the S7, such as snow screens and snow poles.

the escape route signs and lamps. Moreover, Forster provided solutions for the tunnel aprons, such as cantilevers.

The Speltenbach subsurface route, which has a length of about one kilometre, is one of the noise screens in the completed western section. In order to ensure traffic safety in this section, three gantries holding traffic signs were installed. Fitting them into the subsurface structure required a special design to accommodate the gantries to the local terrain. For more information on the noise barriers along the S7 see page 11 of this issue.

**Completion in 2025** .....

The S7 Fürstenfeld dual carriageway is planned to connect the A2 Southern Motorway across Styria and Burgenland to Hungary. At the border crossing of Heiligenkreuz in the Lafnitz valley it will link up with its Hungarian equivalent M80. According to the Asfinag forecast, without the road some 25,000 vehicles would pass through Großwilfersdorf per day. Construction started in 2018; Forster began to plan signs and noise barriers in 2021. The project is to be completed when its eastern section is to be opened in the summer of 2025. FF

**A26 LINZ MOTORWAY**

# Less congestion in Linz

Every morning, the radio traffic service offers a live picture of the traffic problems in Linz. The A26 motorway in Linz is a key project aimed at untangling the traffic situation in the capital of Upper Austria. The project is designed to shift a large part of the traffic to the new motorway and relieve the urban streets. The first section, for which Forster is supplying its prism-type variable message signs and illuminated signs, is to be completed in October 2024. The new section is envisaged to be opened to traffic in 2025. FF





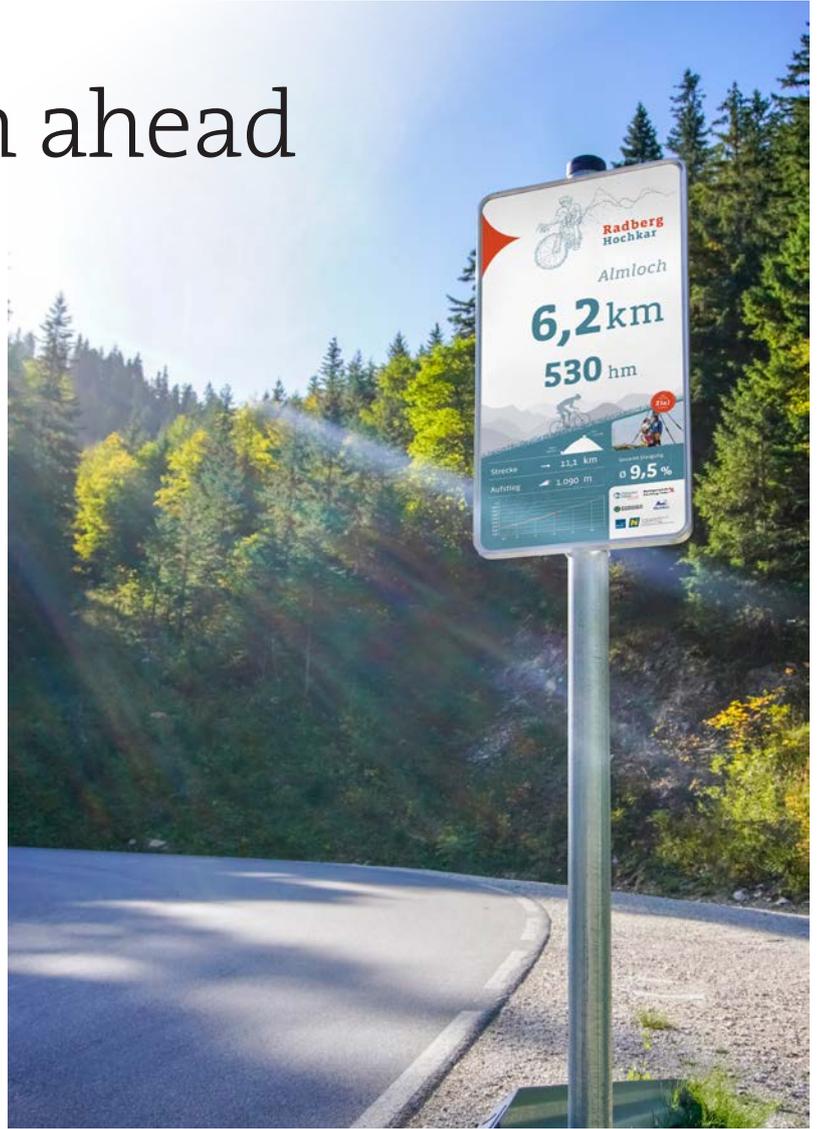
Track the progress of the construction works through site cameras on the Asfinag website.

HOCHKAR BIKE ROUTE

# Mountain ahead

The Hochkar skiing region attracts plenty of sports enthusiasts, especially in winter. In order to promote the region also in the summer months, Götting/Ybbs has set up a project to transfer the range into a “Sports Mountain”. The project includes a new bike route – with high-quality signs made by Forster.

The new route, of a length of 11.1 kilometres and covered by tarmac throughout, runs from the bottom of the valley up to the JoSchi cabin (formerly known as Geischlägerhaus) built at an altitude of 1,770 metres.



The mileage signs help bikers orient themselves on the bike route.



The new information boards are intended to appeal to bikers’ environmental consciousness.

The kilometre signs carry useful information on the route.



Along the route, signs indicate to dedicated bikers the height to which they have already climbed and the kilometres which they have put behind them. The signs, of the Alform 1 design with a border

section, are especially robust, and the type 1 film used is similarly long-lived.

The road up the Hochkar is further highlighted by our large-format information boards. They incentivise bikers to cope with the challenging route and appeal to the visitors’ environmental conscience. It is only fitting that our boards are ideally suited for long-term, ecologically sustainable use.

In addition to enjoying the gorgeous view of the Ybbstal Mountains, bikers are now informed and motivated to tackle the demanding route. We love having contributed to their achievement. FF

## IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR MUNICIPALITIES AND HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENTS

# 35th Amendment to the Highway Code: what's new?

The 35th Amendment to the Highway Code, effective as of 1 July 2024, makes it easier for public authorities to issue regulations and grants the wishes of many local authorities to have greater decision-making powers. Below find a short summary of the most important changes.



## Speed reduction in built-up areas

Local authorities may lower speed limits in built-up areas that need special protection, such as schools or kindergartens, fixing the limit at 30 km/hr. Bureaucratic hurdles, such as the need to provide expert opinions, will be eliminated. The measure aims to improve traffic safety, especially for pedestrians and cyclists.

## Monitoring of speed limit

The Amendment grants local authorities the right to spot-check reduced speed limits by, e.g., speed cameras monitoring local roads and streets. Previously, automated speed checks were the prerogative of the provinces. However, automated speed checks still require the approval of the provincial government.

## New traffic sign: underpass

A new traffic sign is being introduced on 1 July. It marks a pedestrian underpass and cancels the "underpass" sign of Section 52/18.



## Section 52/2d: marking a pedestrian underpass

As of now, you can of course order the new sign in our online shop at [shop.forster.at](https://shop.forster.at)

## Handling of short-term construction sites

Highway departments also find easier terms in the Amendment, especially with regard to the management of short-term construction sites. For a site that is active for not more than 24 hours, a highway department is now authorised to issue special traffic regulations (temporary traffic lights, traffic sign, etc.) same as if it were a government authority. 



For more information on the 35th Amendment to the Highway Code see:

[https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokumente/BgblAuth/BGBLA\\_2024\\_I\\_52/BGBLA\\_2024\\_I\\_52.pdfsig](https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/Dokumente/BgblAuth/BGBLA_2024_I_52/BGBLA_2024_I_52.pdfsig)

[https://www.oesterreich.gv.at/Gesetzliche-Neuerungen/Bundesgesetzblatt/35\\_stvo\\_novelle.html](https://www.oesterreich.gv.at/Gesetzliche-Neuerungen/Bundesgesetzblatt/35_stvo_novelle.html)

OUR LOCATION AT ST. PETER/AU

# We invest in the future

Currently, Forster is heavily investing in process transformation at its premises of St. Peter/Au. The startup of a fully automated laser cutting system marks the commencement of a new age in sheet metal working.

Automation plays an ever more important role in the world of laser cutters. Today, the units for loading, unloading and sorting need to comply with all automation requirements. Accordingly, we dismantled the dated press room at St. Peter/Au and replaced it by a new, state-of-the-art laser cutting system, which went operational in mid-April.



The laser system is fitted with a 6 KW fibre laser head that cuts all acceptable materials of thicknesses up to 20 mm.

## What are the advantages of the new plant?

- **Highly automated,**
- **improved overall handling efficiency,**
- **easy to operate,**
- **increased overall production performance,**
- **more cost efficiency.**

## Cutting with compressed air

Laser cutters normally use nitrogen and oxygen as auxiliary gasses for cutting. The producer of our machine has provided an additional option of working with processed compressed air. With this variant, productivity is about the same as when working with nitrogen, but costs are significantly lower.

**Machine vision** The machine vision systems integrated in the plant simplify several steps that cost time, cause errors and produce rejects. Thanks to the new system, leftovers can be manually placed on the easily accessible cutting grate so that the system can scan their shape and position, permitting us to respond to urgent requests and promptly produce small quantities.

**Automated sorting** The automated sorting unit quickly stacks parts of different shapes, sizes and weights. The universal portal robot takes the parts cut by the laser system from the leftover grate and stacks them without human interference. In addition to the standard sorting strategies,



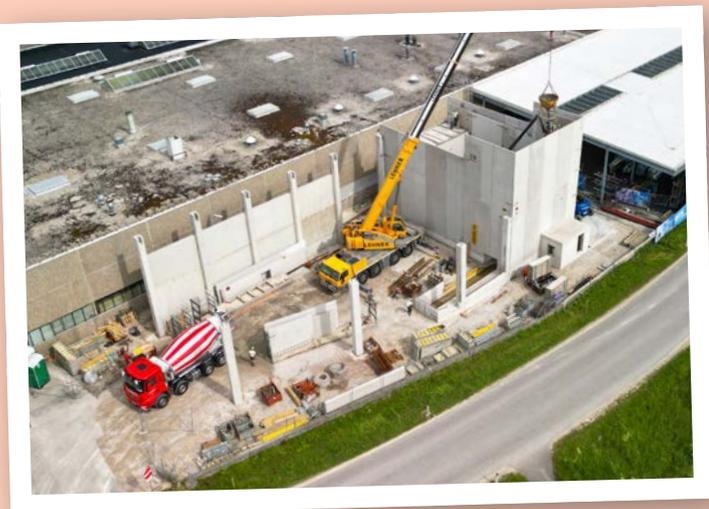
the system optionally works in multi-grip mode, taking up several sections with the same gripper or handling a long section in synchronous mode.

**Automated jet changing** ..... The system can cut different materials and sheet thicknesses without the need for interference on the

part of operators, because jets are automatically changed. 🇫🇷

GREEN ENERGY FOR THE ST. PETER/AU LOCATION

## Forster builds a biomass heating plant



In line with its group-wide sustainability strategy, Forster will wean itself from natural gas. By investing in an innovative energy concept and biomass thermal plant, we are changing over to green energy to deliver the process heat for powder coating and room heating which is required year-round. Technically, this works by using a range of heat carrier media such as heat transfer oil and water. Most of the project financing comes from own resources, with additional funds contributed by the European Union through its Recovery Instrument Next Gen EU.

Works on the biomass plant started in March 2024. Overall commissioning is envisaged for the first quarter of 2025. 🇫🇷

We will report on the project and its completion in one of the next issues of Forster Aktuell.

## UPGRADING THE VÄSTKUSTBANAN TO TWO TRACKS

# Noise screening along Sweden's western coastline

**In Sweden, Forster completed one of the country's most extensive noise barrier projects exactly on time. As a result, high-speed trains now run on 24 kilometres of track without upsetting neighbours.**

The railway line along the western coast of Sweden was upgraded by a second track between Ängelholm to the north of Helsingborg and Maria, a northern suburb of Helsingborg. The project aims to add capacity and quality to this section of the Väst kustbanan. Altogether 24 kilometres of tracks were modernised and the stations of Ängelholm Kattarp, Ödåkra and Maria were fully converted. The trains can now run on the new tracks at a speed of 200–250 km/hr, which obviously translates into more noise.



FONOCON noise barrier made by Forster are an effective means to limit the problem and provide silent spaces.

**Clear planning** Forster installed fully 11 kilometres of noise barriers along the Väst kustbanan – one of Sweden's greatest noise protection projects of all times. A project of this size requires sound planning and detailed know-how. The noise screen needs to withstand the pressure and suction loads from passing high-speed trains as well as meet structural and design criteria. Accordingly, noise screening panels which are highly absorbing on one side, transparent elements, and escape and service doors were used. For the redesigned stations in particular, see-through noise panels were chosen – with obvious benefits: transparent noise barriers offer passengers an unobstructed view of their surrounding. The combination of clear elements and aluminium panels allowed maximal freedom to creative design. 



The many design options available for the screening elements offer full-scale freedom of design creativity, particularly at the train stations.



The unobtrusive glass decoration does not obstruct the view of the scenery.

#### S7 FÜRSTENFELD DUAL CARRIAGEWAY

## New road, new noise control

March 2024 saw the completion of the western section of the S7 from Riegersdorf to the Rudersdorf junction – for more details on the project see the article in the traffic engineering section on pp. 6–7. In addition to the road traffic signs, Forster also supplied the noise panels.

A wide range of FONOCON noise control elements was used. The result is a coherent concept which gives neighbours maximum protection from the noise emitted by the dual carriageway. Unilaterally

high-absorbent elements were complemented by transparent panels which stand out by their decorative design applied by screen printing. They did not use the usual framework, but the individual glass panels were frontally clamped onto uprights made from tube sections. Another innovation can be admired at the Speltenbach subsurface structure: its noise panels are made from special steel sheeting which is given a glossy and reflective finish on the offside. Orange-coloured screen-printed strips ensure that the noise panels are fully visible. 📸



Glossy, reflective noise panels mirror the surrounding.

#### PREYERGASSE HOUSING COMPLEX

## An oasis of tranquillity in an urban context

Basically, there is no way to escape street noise in a city. Yet a noise barrier between the façades of the Preyergasse housing complex has created a quiet spot in its courtyard.



A new housing development in the 13th district of Vienna has all its flats provided with some sort of outdoor space – balconies, terraces, loggias or garden plots. The courtyards which accommodate some of these outdoor spaces are screened from urban traffic noise by a glass barrier. Its transparent design opens up an unobstructed vista of the surrounding. Altogether 700 square metres of transparent noise elements were fitted into a timber frame. 📸



Noise screens ensure tranquillity: a courtyard in Vienna's 13th district is protected from traffic noise.



## WIEN MUSEUM

# Shelving for a singular collection

**After almost four years of refurbishing works, the Wien Museum relaunched its exhibition space on 6 December 2023. The building was thoroughly renovated and an extension was added at the top. Forster supplied the shelving system for its underground depot.**

Thanks to its idiosyncratic collection of top-quality works of art as well as historic and contemporary exhibits, the Wien Museum furnishes exciting insights into the history of the city at its main building on Karlsplatz. Its constantly growing collection and

increasing number of exhibitions had made it imperative to extend its spatial resources. Also added were new underground depots whose 1200 square metres can now accommodate items such as the graphic art and photo collection.



**Safe space for precious art** ..... In furnishing its depot rooms, the Wien Museum opted for quality products made by Forster. We supplied customised products that exactly fit storage needs – from FOREG mobile and stationary shelving to cabinets and drawers to archive outside formats. Long-span shelves with timber shelf panels were used, as were shelves with swing doors and mesh panels to hold paintings. Optimal use of the

Optimal accessories: a wide range of drawers provides the best possible storage for variously formatted works of arts.



available space, flexibility in the accessories and matching of the furnishings with the diverse archived items were the criteria in choosing the modern shelving systems which will meet the requirements of a modern depot for a long time.

**Unique collection** ♦♦♦♦ The collection of the Wien Museum spans a wide and highly varied spectrum of exhibits. The new depot offers a space for them that complies with the most stringent requirements of responsible conservation. 🏠



The depot of the Wien Museum ensures safe storage for its unique collections in FOREG® shelving systems.

## Two major contracts for Forster Metallbau

**Recently Forster Metallbau landed two major contracts for shelving systems. One was for the new book depot in Vienna, the other for the Luxembourg National Archives.**

**Bücherspeicher Wien** ♦♦♦♦ The Austrian government's real estate management company BIG is currently building a new "Deposit of Knowledge" in the 21st District of Vienna, which is to hold 130,000 metres of books under sustainable conditions. For the shelving system, Forster is fitting in almost five kilometres of rails and supplying about 2,000 mobile bases. The contract involves, i.a., 150,000 shelf panels. Production has already begun at the St. Peter/Au location, and works will continue for most of this year.

**Archives nationales de Luxembourg** ♦♦♦♦ Following the Luxembourg National Library, the country's archives are the second major contract for the Forster Group in Luxembourg in just a few years. The National Archives currently face a challenge from the rapid growth of documents in need of archiving. A new building at Esch-Belval, fitted with Forster shelving, is expected to remedy the situation. Altogether, 115,000 shelf panels will be delivered, which will provide storage for 105 kilometres of archived goods. 🏠

## OTTAKRING HOSPITAL

# Visual routing system for psychiatric department

**In mid-May 2024, Vienna City Councillor for Health Peter Hacker opened the new psychiatric department at Ottakring Hospital. The timber building houses three wards with a total of 60 beds, a day care unit and a storey given over to treatment rooms. The signage for the innovative building was delivered by Forster.**

Since late 2023, the three-storeyed timber module building has been housing the new annexe to the former Third Psychiatric Department of Penzing Hospital, which is now known as the General Psychiatric Department at Ottakring Hospital. Markus Pernthaler Architekt ZT GmbH designed a neat structure that offers users a clear layout and maximum orientation. The Graz-domiciled architects also drew up the routing system.

**Precise signage** ..... Forster was appointed to fit the new building with door signs, signposts for in- and outdoors, storey navigators, wall signs and proper markings of glass doors and glass panels in accordance with ÖNORM standard B1600. For the door signs, the planners opted for the extremely flat designs of the Combiflex Plana series in A5 and A4 formats. Initial labelling by paper inserts showing room names and numbers was included in the contract. In order to clearly identify rooms and bath-



Combiflex Plana excellently meets the requirements of individualised signage.



rooms, high-visibility numbers and pictograms were attached by adhesive film.

### Choice of material is essential

The signage at the main entrance uses film for its lettering in white or colours highlighted against white. The film was attached to the inside of the glass. The various storeys were to be precisely marked already in the staircase. To this end, the doors and walls at storey level show off the relevant floor number and clearly visible pictograms emphasised by strips. To improve orientation within the building, further routing signs of several versions and designs were attached. The main floor plan at the ground floor and the storey layout plans are made of 3 mm aluminium composite with rounded edges. The signage consists of digital printing on white film covered by a matte protective laminate. The signs had to be suitable for direct attachment to timber, plasterboard and other wall panels. Those fitted between the elevators in the staircases and inside the elevators, on the other hand, are made of water-clear 4 mm acrylic glass. Floor film to distinguish the approach to the automated doors and screen markings at the windows rounded off the scope of Forster's contract. 



Adhesive signs and foils provide orientation inside the building.

## LOCAL INFORMATION BOARDS AT EICHGRABEN AND LAXENBURG

# Signs for municipalities

When it comes to signs, Forster has a wealth of know-how to offer to municipal authorities. The expertise of our staff and the vertical integration of our production provide for solutions that exactly meet our clients' requirements. Two examples:

## Display cases for Eichgraben

The municipality of Eichgraben had several display cases installed at its Freiheitsplatz. The largest one consists of three units that are 4.5 metres in overall length. We fitted the high-quality, weather-resistant display cases with a ventilation system (to prevent steaming), integrated them in our time-tested Combiflex CF40

system and gave them an RAL 7016 anthracite-grey coat. The point of this choice: it can be extended whenever necessary and spare parts will be available for a long time.



## Bus-stop uprights for Laxenburg

The municipality of Laxenburg commissioned two Combiflex bus-stop uprights from us. Our time-tested standard system allowed adjusting the uprights flexibly to individual design requirements. This model has parts of the front coated in RAL 6005 moss green. The municipal coat-of-arms applied to the upright makes

it unique, perfectly matching it with the imperial image of the town. The upright is anchored by a steel structure bolted onto anchoring rods. The delivery included the foundation layout and anchor, so that installation could proceed without a hitch. 



The journey planner is internally illuminated which facilitates reading regardless of day or night.

# News from Forster Group staff

## COURSES AND WORKSHOPS

### Basic and advanced training at Forster

#### SPRING OF 2024 REVIEW

Ongoing instruction through basic and advanced training is part and parcel of the Forster company culture. In the first five months of this year our experts held fully 26 courses and workshop, and most of them were quickly booked up in advance. The programme included, i.a., a course in cyber security, an inventor and vault training and training to become a safety officer. All our courses and workshops furnish our staff members with new knowledge and provide interesting insights into a wide range of topics. After all, basic and advanced training is a core concern at Forster.



## FORSTER LEISURE CLUB

### Interesting and full of variety

The Forster Leisure Club organised plenty of exciting and varied events already in the first half of 2024.



#### ITALIAN LANGUAGE COURSE

“Learning Italian for your holiday” was the motto of a language course booked by the Club with Ms Simone Atteneder. The group learned the basic words and phrases necessary and helpful for travelling. So there’s nothing to get in the way of a relaxing and loquacious summer holiday in Italy.



#### SCHLADMING SKIING DAY

“Get on your skis and go!” was the theme of our ski tour to the Hauser Kaibling. A large and cheerful crowd followed the call of the wild. Superb powder snow and brilliant weather combined to make the trip utterly memorable. We love it when our events meet with such overwhelming enthusiasm.

#### DART TOURNAMENT

“Good Darts” was the greeting at our first Forster dart tournament early in 2024. Our staff members let their darts fly to their hearts’ content. The award ceremony was followed by a cosy get-together to round off the evening.

#### HEALTHY EATING

How to eat properly? What is a healthy diet? What are common food myths? These and other issues focusing on healthy food were the priority of the course.

## 2024 PREVIEW

The outlook to the remaining year is full of events that are eagerly anticipated. A mountain tour, the annual company biking tour and a special course for communication management are just a few of the highlights we can look forward to. For an overview of events and simple booking see the FORSTER Go! app.

## ❖ VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

*Julian Rauner-Quietensky* (metal engineering, main module mechanical engineering) completed the fourth class with **excellent success** and also successfully passed the apprenticeship completion exam.

*Laura Springer* (metal engineering, main module mechanical engineering) successfully passed the apprenticeship completion exam.

*Jennifer Ritt* (metal engineering, main module mechanical engineering) completed the first class with **excellent success**.

*Julian Bruchmann* (metal engineering, main module mechanical engineering) completed the first class with **good success**.

*Alina Zehetner* (printing, focus on screen printing) completed the second class with **good success**.

*Isabella Lengauer* (printing, focus on screen printing) completed the fourth class and apprenticeship completion exam with **excellent success**.

*Matthias Huber* (information technology) completed the fourth class with **good success**.

*Our congratulations on their excellent performance and our best wishes for their further career!*

### WINGS FOR LIFE RUN

One of the first supporters of the Run, Forster has established a tradition of sending a team to the annual Wings for Life Run. The charity run is gaining ever greater popularity in Europe and the donations collected by it are very important for people suffering from spinal cord injury.

## Welcome at Forster!

The Onboarding Day in January 2024 was a welcome opportunity for our newly joined colleagues to obtain an overview of the Forster Group. After being welcomed by the management, they heard our sales managers deliver an interesting presentation on the various product lines. The joint lunch hour was used by the “new ones” to meet and talk. Tours of the two plants at Waidhofen/Ybbs and St. Peter/Au

gave them exciting glimpses of the production processes at Forster and marked out the know-how of the Forster Group.



### SPORTS EVENTS

## Top results

**Public sports events are sprinkled with our staff members, who keep going places.**



### LOWER AUSTRIAN COMPANY SKIING CHAMPIONSHIP

Altogether 112 participants (seven of which came from Forster) enjoyed absolutely glorious weather at the 51st Lower Austrian Company Skiing Championship at the Hochkar. In addition to Thomas Spacil winning the Masters 40, second place for Forster at the men's team contest was an impressive feat as well. Congratulations!

### TOWN RUN

Similarly notable are the performances achieved at the 39th Waidhofen Savings Bank Town Run. In their age categories, Christian Rehak placed first and Wolfgang Dürauer came in third. Second place of our men in the company run further underlined the excellent athletic performance of our staff members.



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