

Ways of gluing GRP - Composite panels



Overview



- Storage and handling
- Required equipment
- Preparation before bonding
- Bonding (Vacuum, Hydraulic Press, Mechanical Press)
- Inspection of the bonding
- Problems and causes

Storage and Handling Instructions



Storage

- LAMILUX-products should be stored indoors at room temperature in a well ventilated, dry area, at least 48 hours before gluing
- The coils should stand in a vertical position and may not lay flat.
- If it is necessary to store products outside, they must be covered and protected from weather and sunlight exposure.

Storage and Handling Instructions



Storage

- The glue should be stored within 18 23 °C in order to achieve a good wetting
- If wood or plywood is used in composite panels it must be stored at dry conditions and has to be dry for processing

Storage and Handling Instructions



- Storage time
 - Max. 6 months
 - The surface tension of corona treated products should be checked with test ink (> 38 Dyn/cm) before gluing at any time.





Vacuum table

or
Sandwich-Press
(Mechanical / Hydraulic)

- 2K-PU-Glue
- Composite-materials

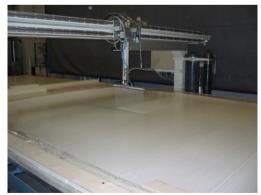






- Application-System for the 2K-PU-Glue
 - mechanical per hand with applicator roll ("Gupfo")
 - automatical with injectorline or spray-coating
 - automatical with injectorline
 - eg. Barkvall engineering www.barkvall.com



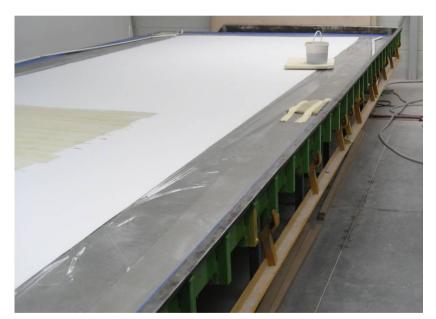




- requirements on the vacuum table
 - must have a flat and clean surface (it`s advised to use floatglas or "marothaan"® selve levelling 2K-PU)
 - constant vacuum between 150 600 mbar
 - (app. 15 60 kN/m²)
 - eg. Leybold Vacuum
 - http://www.oerlikon.com/vacuumservices/de/
 - make sure that there is no silicon, grease or oil in the near of the vacuum table



example of a vacuum table







- requirements on the sandwich-press
 - must have a flat and clean surface (it's recommended to have heatable pressing tables)
 - constant pressing between 20 50 kN/m²
 - make sure that there is no silicon, grease or oil in the near of the pressing table
 - Supplier:

Wemhöner, http://www.wemhoener.de/
Dieffenbacher, http://www.dieffenbacher.com/flash.html
Italpresse, http://www.italpresse-eng.com/



- requirements on the glue
 - 2K-PU-glue with a low viscosity and reactivity
 - long "open time" and a short "conditioning time"
 - exact type depends on
 - the materials which should be bonded
 - the required processing-time
 - the mechanical and environmental demands
 - attention: for bonding it`s important to follow the manufacturers requirements listed in the relevant glue data sheet

Preparation before Bonding



- the GRP should be stored at least 48 hours at room temperature
- the glue should have a temperature between 18 an 23 °C
- controll and clean the vacuum table the sandwich-press that it's free from scratches, dust, grease and oil

Preparation before Bonding



- vacuum clean the GRP and make sure that it`s also free from dust, grease and oil (don`t use solvents)
- check the surface energy of the corona treated GRP, that it's higher than 38 Dyn/cm with test ink







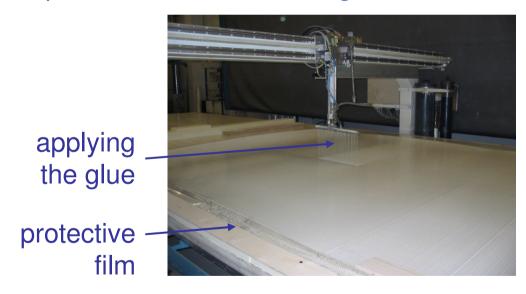


- now you are ready for start bonding (all production steps are carried out on the vacuum table)
- therefore put the GRP and the foam layer by layer in the right order on the top of each other (avoid asymmetric constructions)





 and apply the 2K-PU glue evenly distributed and in a correct amount between all layers which should be bonded; according to manufacturers requirement of the relevant glue

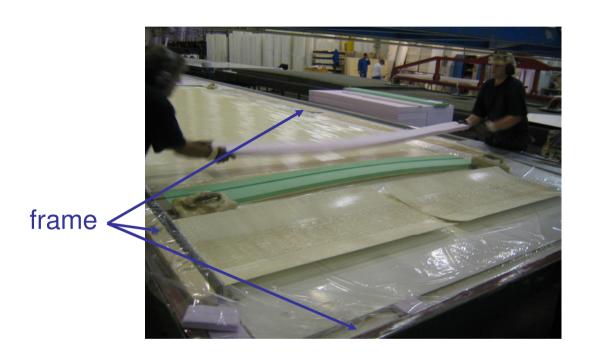


 attention: use a protective film on the vacuum table to catch excessive glue



- if the sandwich is ready put a frame or piece of foam around it
- the frame should have the same height as the sandwich
- the frame prevents the foam from being compressed at the edges
- otherwise the edges would become round





finally cover the sandwich with the vacuum foil



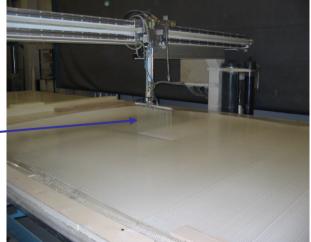
- now turn on the vacuum between 150 600 mbar (dependend on the sandwich)
- hold it constant, without loosing vacuum, until the glue reaches his handling-strength
- after reaching the handling-strength turn off the vacuum and remove the bonded composite panel from the vacuum table

Bonding on Hydraulic Sandwich Press



- therefore put the GRP and the foam layer by layer in the right order on the top of each other (avoid asymmetric constructions)
- and apply the 2K-PU glue evenly distributed and in a correct amount between all layers which should be bonded; according to manufacturers requirement of the relevant glue







Bonding on Hydraulic Sandwich Press



- if the sandwich is ready, put it in the hydraulic press
- the tables of the presse should have a temperature between 32 and 35 °C
- now you are ready to turn the press on (pressing between 20 – 50 kN/m², depending on the sandwich)
- hold the pressure for appr. 30 minutes



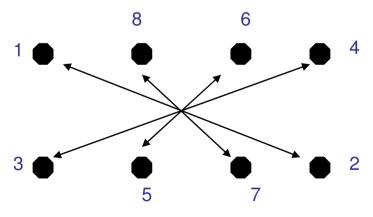
- therefore put the GRP and the foam layer by layer in the right order on the top of each other (avoid asymmetric constructions)
- and apply the 2K-PU glue evenly distributed and in a correct amount between all layers which should be bonded; according to manufacturers requirement of the relevant glue



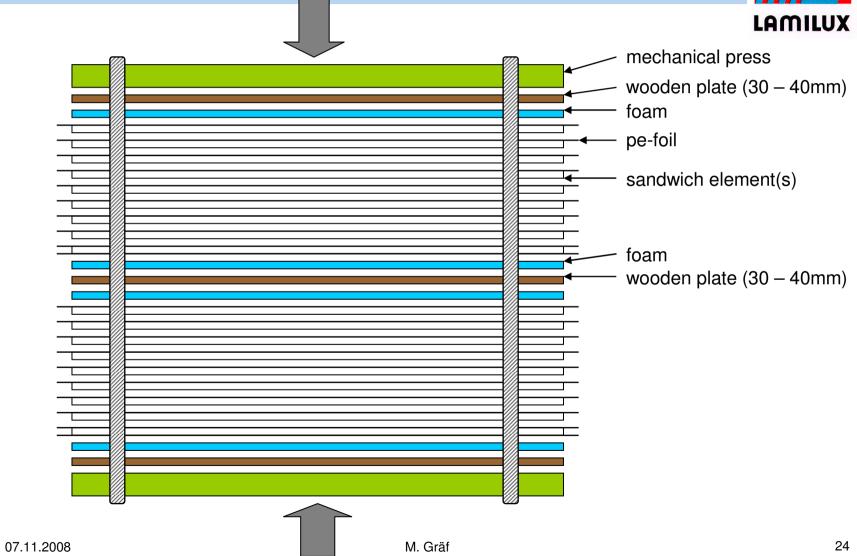
- if the sandwiches are ready, put them layer by layer in the mechanical press
- therefore be aware of the following points:
 - use a polyethylen foil between every sandwich-element
 - use wooden plates (thickness 30 40 mm) and foam after every 8 – 10 elements to have a good pressure distribution



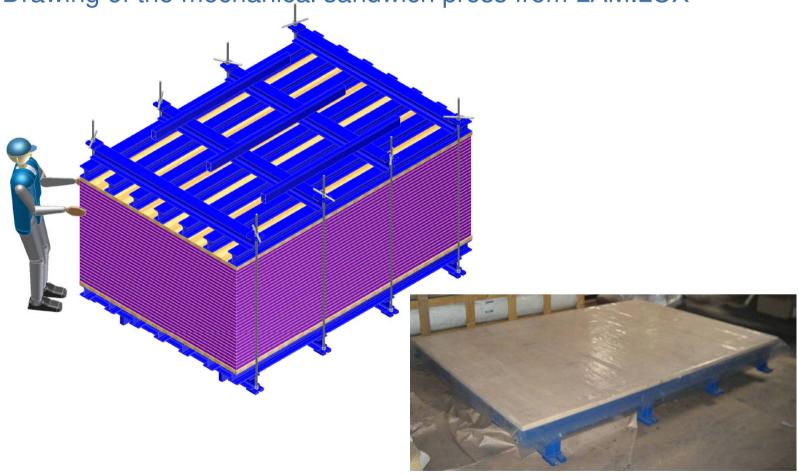
- if you fix the screw-clamps to build up the pressure on the sandwich-panels, do that always diagonal across
- start with screw 1 and go up to screw 8
- than repeat this procedure until you have the right pressure on the sandwich elements



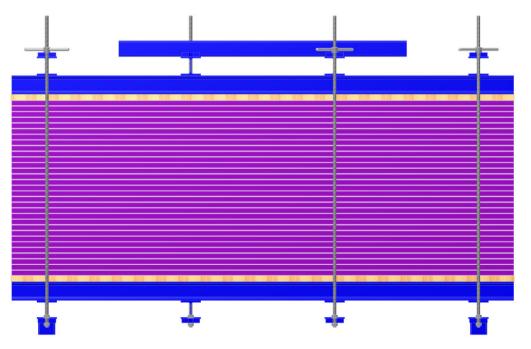






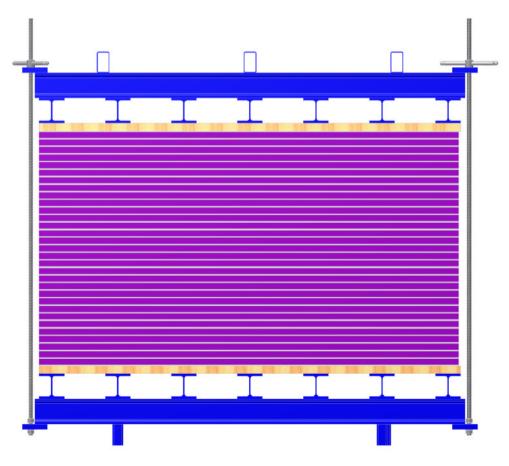




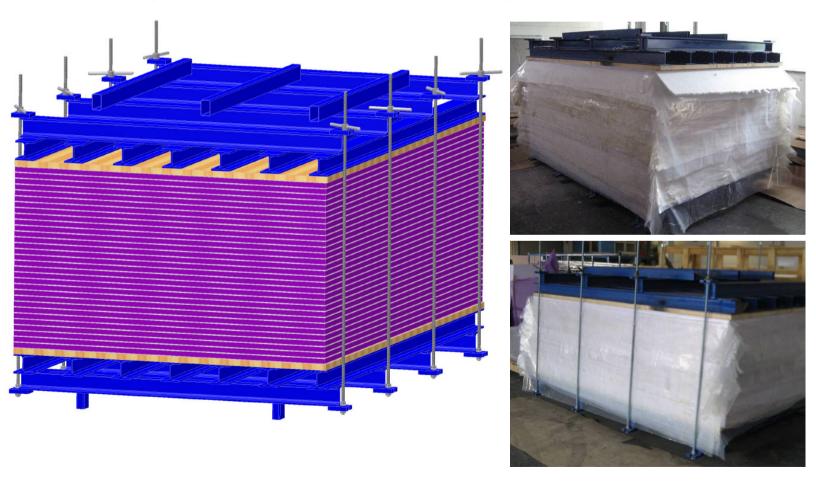






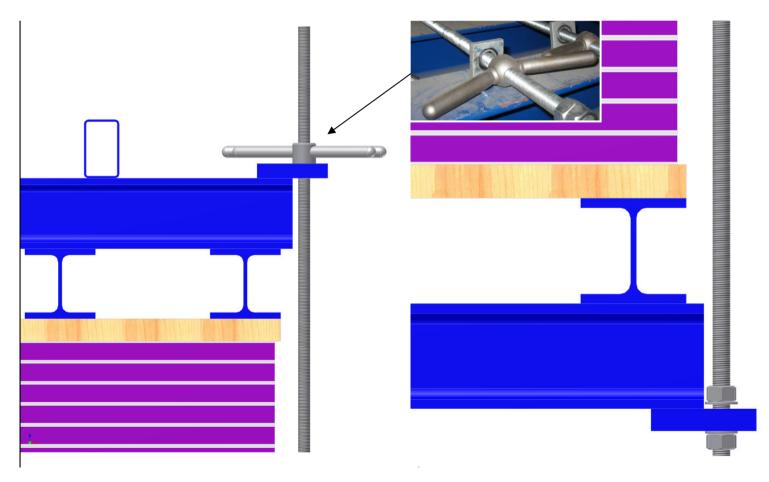








Drawing of the mechanical sandwich press from LAMILUX



07.11.2008

M. Gräf



Processing parameters:

Glue: Cosmopur 859 / Hardener 805

Amount: PU-Foam 200 – 250 g/m²

XPS-Foam 100 - 170 g/m²

Quantity: appr. 40 elements in one mechanical press

Pressing time: appr. 12 hours

Wooden plate: thickness appr. 30 – 40 mm

 the pressing time in the mechanical press with the glue listed above is appr. 12 hours

Inspection of the Bonding



- check the surface if it`s wavy
- check the adhesion between the bonded materials by trying to peel it away
- look at the glued joint if there are pores or holes in it
- inspect the edges towards edge-curling or edge-shrink

Inspection of the Bonding



- test the bonding under outside weathering conditions, for example:
 - storage under heat or cold (-30 °C up to + 80 °C)
 - or charging it with extreme sunlight or ultrared-light (surface temperatures up to 90 °C) if the material has a dark surface or dark graphics







Problem:	Causes:
missing or low adhesion between the bonded materials	dust, grease or oil on the bonded surface; no even distribution or correct amount of the glue; incorrect mixing ratio of the 2K-PU-glue; wrong glue or incorrect treatment of the 2K-PU-glue ("open time", "conditioning time"); wrong processing temperatures; incorrect vacuum; too minor surface energy



Problem:	Causes:
missing or low adhesion between the bonded materials	dust, grease or oil on the bonded surface (rubbed with acetone wetted tissue)



Problem: Causes:

Waves in the surface
Bubbles
Uneven surface



Varieties in the thickness of the core-material and the inserts or frames





Problem: Causes:

Waves in the surface Bubbles

Uneven surface



Gaps between core-materials





Problem:	Causes:
Dents and bubbles in the sandwich-panel surface	Dents in the core-material Dust on the core surface

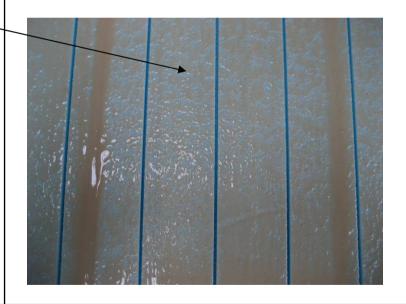


Problem: Causes:

Waviness in the panel surface Bubbles (areas with too less _ glue!)



Inconsistent glue layer thickness





Problem:	Causes:
rounded edges of the sandwich	no frame around the sandwich on the vacuum table



Problem:	Causes:
Vacuum plaid (rubber membrane) is too flexible.	Reduction of vacuum pressure

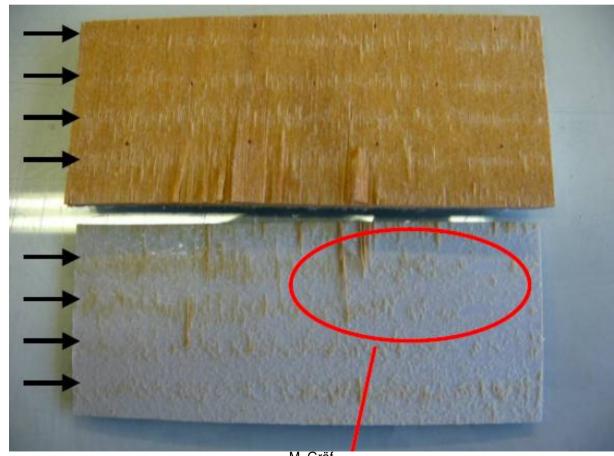


example for bad glue-distribution





example for bad adhesion and glue distribution



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example for dents in the surface

