

125 years of Döllken.

**An eventful history
with ups and downs.**

DÖLLKEN

A SURTECO COMPANY

Dear customers, business partners and friends,
dear employees of the company,

pioneering innovations, high quality levels, extensive expertise and customer-oriented service – these are the values with which Döllken has now been synonymous for 125 years. Together with you, we would like to look back on a company history packed with ups and downs whilst at the same time look forward to continued success for the future.

I trust you enjoy this exciting journey through time

Yours,



Dr. Herbert Müller
CEO SURTECO SE
Strategic Business Unit Plastics



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Innovations revolutionise the international markets.



An impressive history can
evolve from every idea.

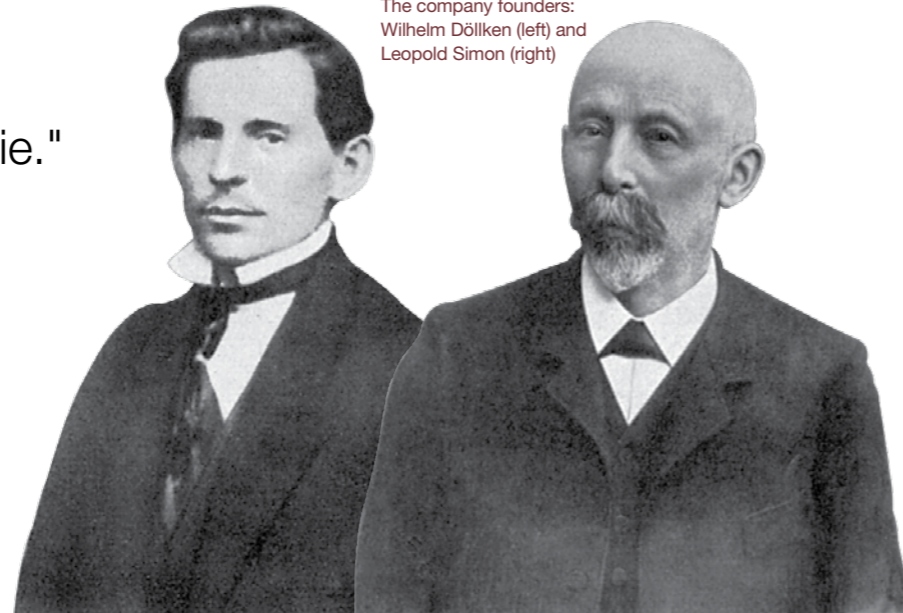
The beginnings

1887-1938

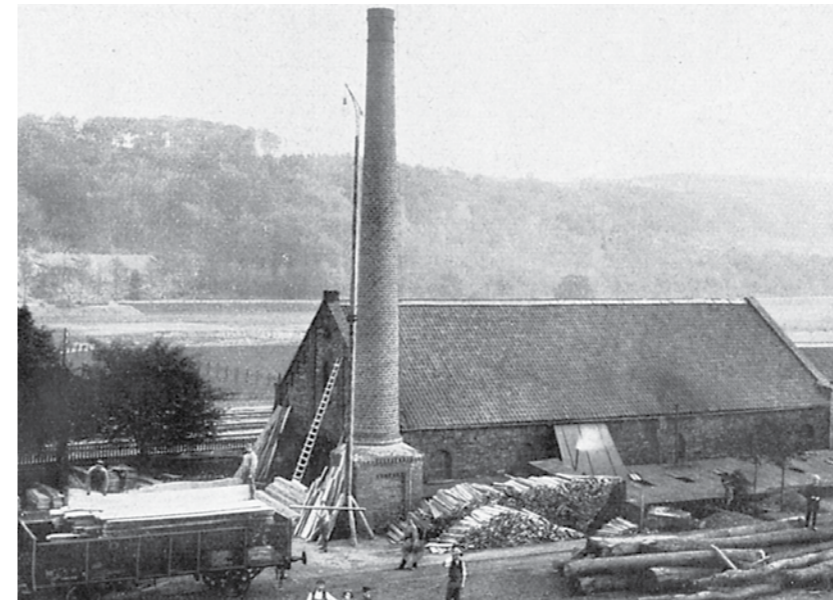
1887

Wilhelm Döllken and Leopold Simon found "W. Döllken & Cie."

The company history of Döllken has its beginnings in June 1887. This is because it was this month that sees Wilhelm Döllken and Leopold Simon establish in Essen-Werden the "W. Döllken & Cie." limited partnership for the production of wooden adornments for furniture production and the building trade. With the production of cabinet tops, panels and door and window surrounds, the business partners bring a line of business to the Ruhr previous unknown to the region.



The company founders: Wilhelm Döllken (left) and Leopold Simon (right)



Production runs at full speed at the first in-house generating plant and sawmill

1897

The first in-house generating plant and sawmill are born

The rapid growth of the company means the capacities of the Werden wood processing plant are soon reached. To be able to continue to meet demand, the first in-house generating plant and a new sawmill are built – with one special feature: The most state-of-the-art log band saw by the standards back then is imported specially from Switzerland for the sawmill. It has a daily capacity of three double wagons and is therefore unique on the market.



The company history of Döllken has its beginnings in this building

1891

A separate timber business is added

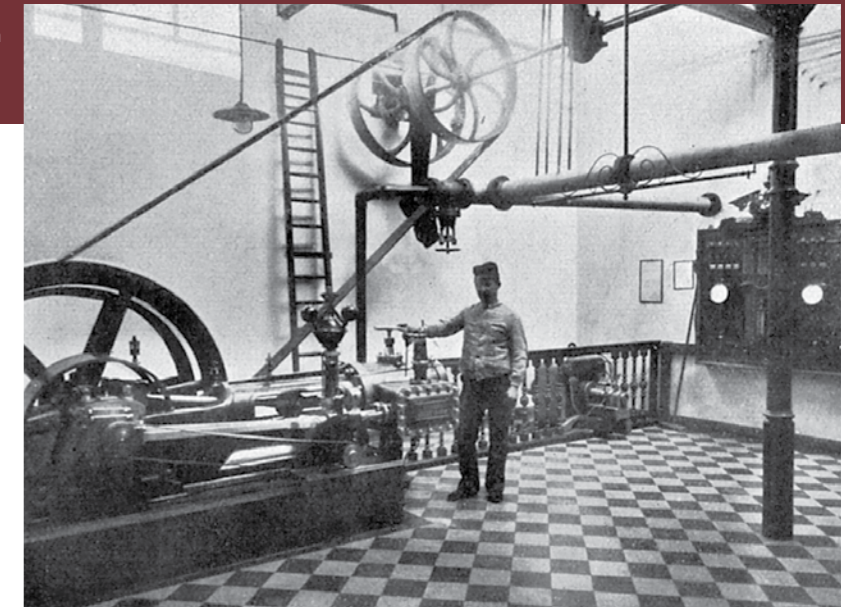
Benefitting from ever improving tools and machinery for wood processing, the business developed so positively that expansion is required very soon. A new factory building is constructed and the business is expanded by adding a separate timber business.

1893

The neighbouring steam sawmill is acquired

To expand wood processing in a targeted manner, Döllken acquires the neighbouring Stöter steam sawmill where it immediately starts cutting mine timber for coal mines.

Work on modern machines in the steam sawmill of Döllken





The rococo style experiences a renaissance in the form of grand skirting

1910–13

The industrial production of carved skirting begins

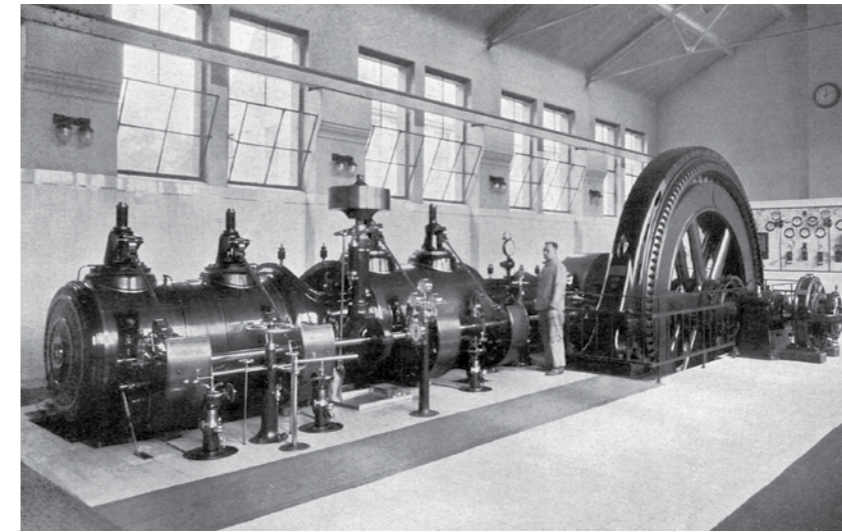
Döllken moves into the industrial production of carved skirting and continually expands capacities in subsequent years. Soon production reaches a daily volume of 11,000 metres. The self-developed machines patented for Döllken not only work quickly, they also work with extreme precision, meaning the shapes of rococo experience a renaissance and rococo strips from Döllken become big sellers. In the newly constructed gilding facility, talented craftsmen from the region find new employment.

1902–06

The Dusseldorf harbour becomes a transfer hub

A transfer hub for the wholesale trade of timber emerges on a separate site of the Dusseldorf harbour. Döllken receives a new, future-orientated legal status. The company is changed from a general partnership to a GmbH, having a share capital of 680,000 deutschmarks. The successors of the company founders decide on this legal status to equip the company well for future challenges.

About 11,000 metres of timber are processed daily at Döllken



Döllken's pride and joy: a 750 HP steam engine

1919–20

The production of picture rails, frame rails and carved skirting is resumed

After the end of the war, the production of picture rails, frame rails and carved skirting is resumed and expanded. During the course of this, a new sawmill is constructed and the wood processing plant undergoes major expansion. Power is provided by a new 750 HP steam engine with generator. Döllken also takes on the role of repairing state railway wagons, and establishes the wagon construction division for this.

1914–18

Production undergoes reorganisation because of the war

The war has a huge impact on Döllken in terms of both personnel and production. The majority of male workers are drafted into the military and the production of butts, spade handles, ammunition boxes and lightweight aircraft hangers dominates day-to-day business.

Carved skirting is manufactured again after the war



1923

Occupation of the Ruhr means severe hindrances

The occupation of the Ruhr means considerable setbacks for Döllken. Production and delivery are affected to such an extent that the company suffers a loss of over 800,000 Reichsmark.



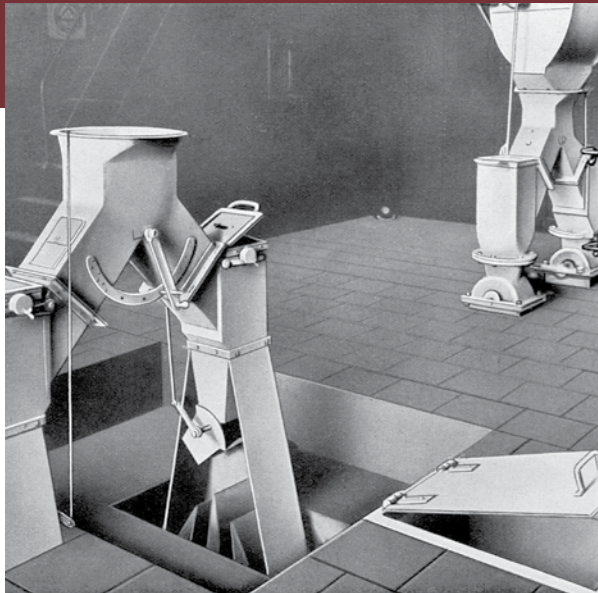
Döllken loses almost a million Reichsmark during the occupation of the Ruhr

1924

Döllken receives the patent rights for an efficiency furnace developed in-house

With an efficiency furnace built in-house, Döllken succeeds in feeding the broadly automatic steam engine with the plant's waste wood. It represents an absolute innovation at the time – the reason why Döllken is able to successfully sell the system abroad. It gains a high profile across the globe under the name "Chippings efficiency furnace for wood processing plants".

A real novelty: the efficiency furnace from Döllken



1928

Döllken employs over 600 people

Döllken has expanded in all fields in its now 40 years of company history. Over 600 people now work for the company, and 250 self-designed and manufactured machines are in use in wood processing plants alone. The works fire service, established in 1901, has also enjoyed successful growth and now has 50 members.



Döllken has long been an important employer in the region and even has its own works fire service

1934–35

The portfolio is expanded

Döllken aligns its products to the era of massmedia and makes radio cabinets for the broadcasting industry. Contacts to the invigorated automotive sector also have an effect on the portfolio: Döllken supplies bodywork structures for the Ford Eifel.

Döllken keeps up with the times and makes radio cabinets





Precision and quality
for reconstruction.

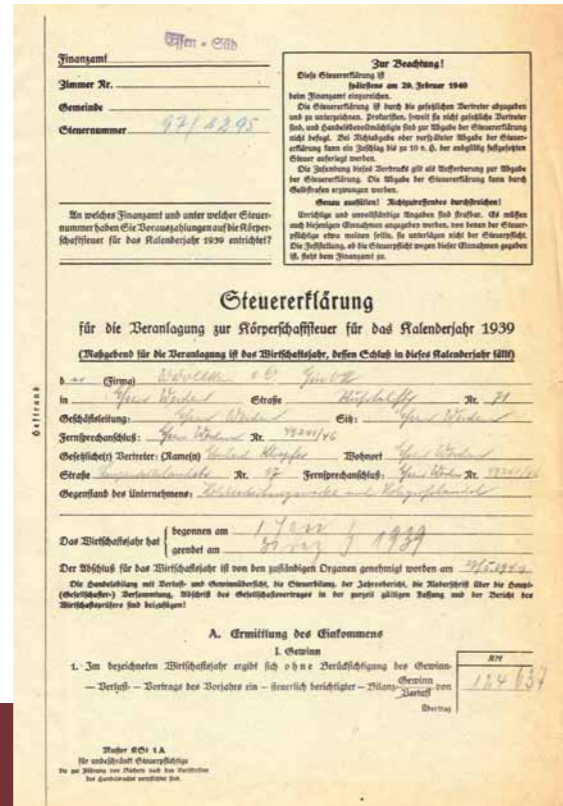
The upsurge

1939-1951

1939

The first tax return for corporate income tax is submitted

Döllken is one of the first companies in 1939 to submit a first tax return for corporate income tax.



Black on white: The first tax return for corporate income tax



Products from Döllken find their way into German living rooms

1950

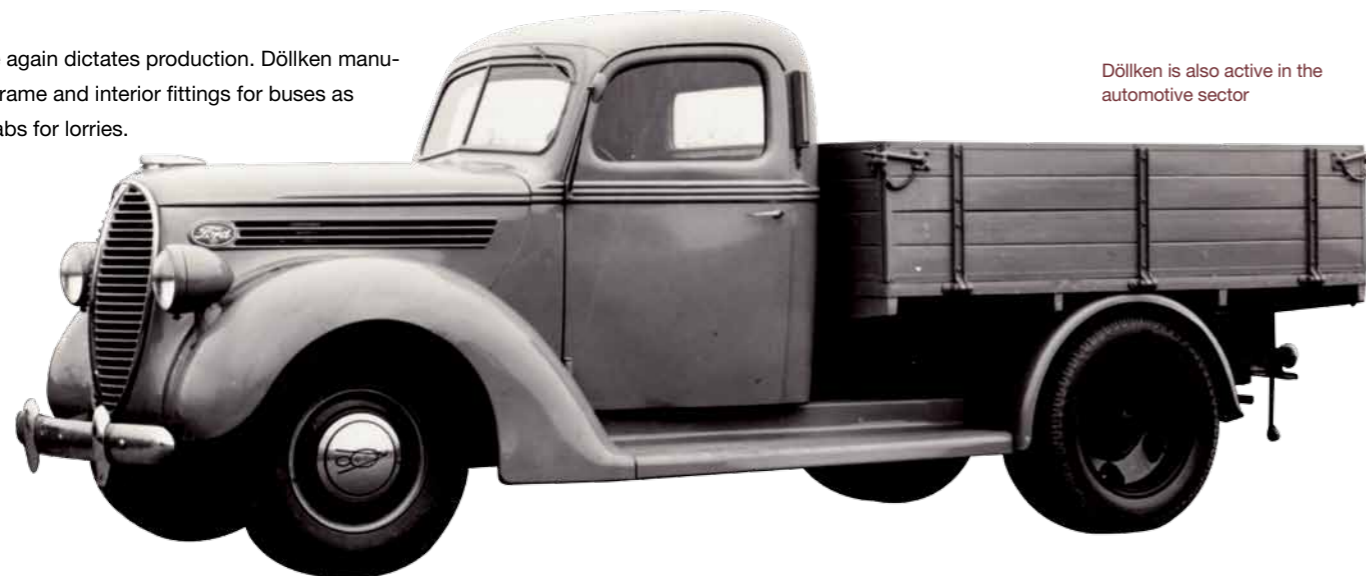
The portfolio is expanded further

An entire portfolio is manufactured at Döllken in furniture, picture, frame and gallery rails. Door structures for Mercedes ambulances and school benches are also manufactured.

1941

The war has an effect on production

War once again dictates production. Döllken manufactures frame and interior fittings for buses as well as cabs for lorries.

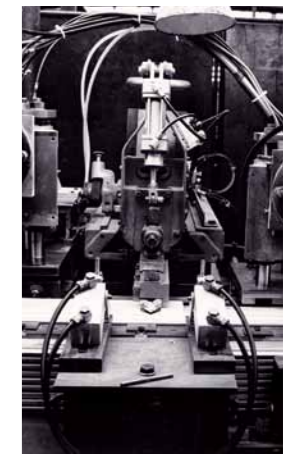


Döllken is also active in the automotive sector

1945

Döllken manufactures for reconstruction

After the end of the Second World War, Döllken aligns production to the changing needs of the markets. Wooden stools and tables, parquet blocks and roof structure for omnibuses are once again included in the portfolio. Sawn timber for use in woodgas powered vehicles is also supplied.



Production of carved skirting on systems developed in-house



"Take a different approach
and be open to the new"
is the motto.

The transition

1952-1999

1952

Plastic comes into view as a new material

Döllken soon becomes aware of the virtues of a new material called plastic. Whilst wood-working continues on as planned, initial trials are conducted on manufacturing furniture adornments made of plastic.

Döllken focuses on the new, promising material of plastic

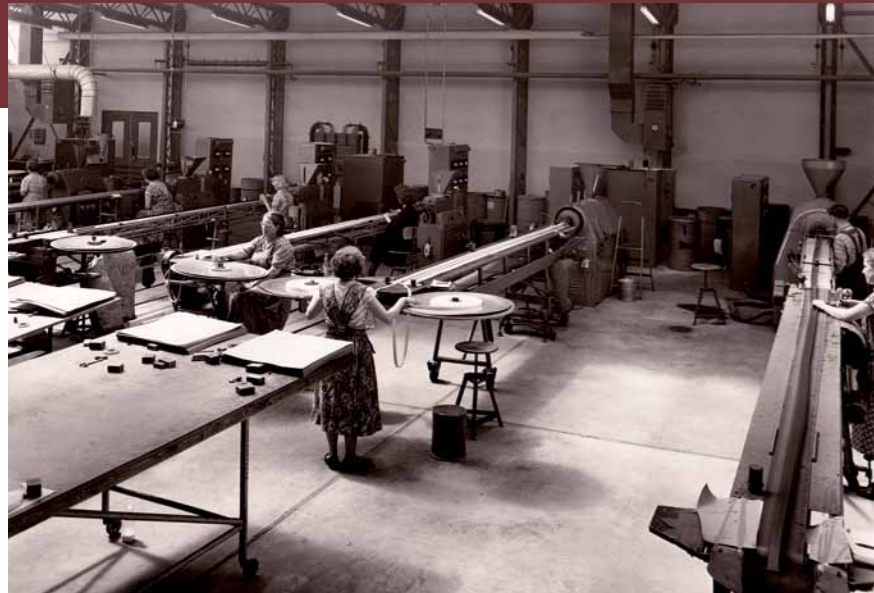


1961-68

New synthetic material products enter volume production

Plastics processing runs at full speed. New products such as wall connector strips, construction profiles and technical parts for the industry expand the portfolio. Under the "Resi Roll" brand name, Döllken manufactures window roller shutters for which also a nationwide installation service is offered.

More and more plastics products from Döllken conquer the market



The use of extruders revolutionises production

1954

The first extruder enters operation

The first extruder enters operation at Döllken with production reaching a new level of professionalism. PVC edgebanders for the furniture industry are manufactured.

State-of-the-art production at the plastics plant in Essen-Werden

1956

Essen-Werden sees construction of the first plastics plant

To be able to drive forward plastics processing in a targeted fashion, the first plastics plant is built in Essen-Werden. Döllken now manufactures skirting boards, stairway edgebands, hand rails and hula hoops.



1969-73

The economy is booming

The economic miracle makes itself felt with a continual growth in the demand for plastic profiles, necessitating the construction of a new plant. 1972 sees plastics plant II in Gladbeck in the northerly Ruhr enter operation.

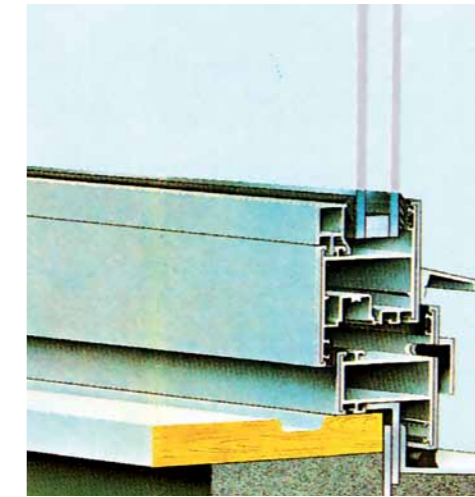


Plastics plant II in Gladbeck brings new capacities

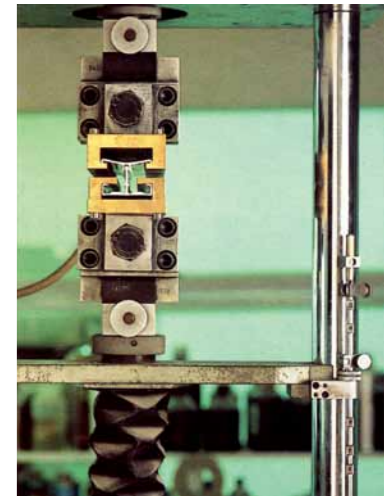
1978-79

The production of window profiles begins

Döllken has weathered the economic crisis and starts production of window profiles for the construction industry. With its successful wood and plastics production, Döllken is now turning over 67 million deutschmarks.



Window profiles broaden the portfolio

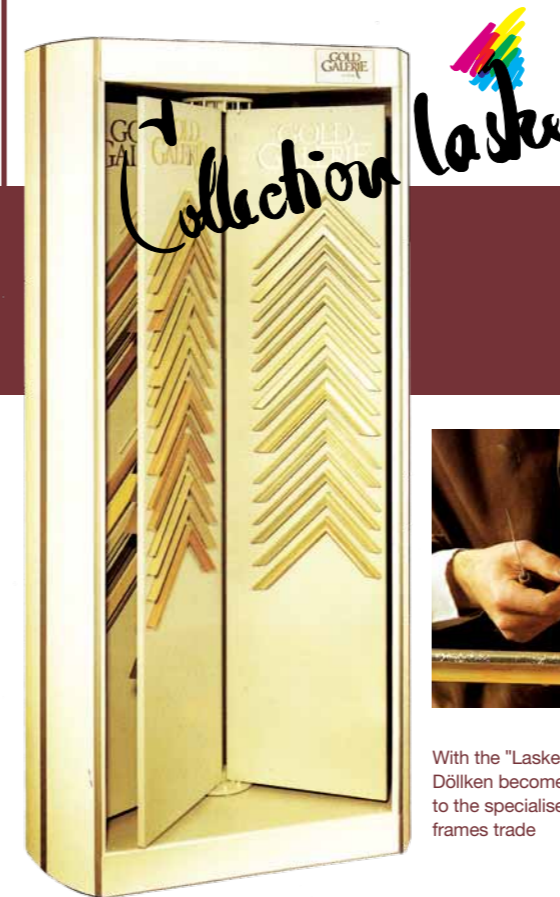


The economic situation is reflected directly on production

1974

The economic crisis is making itself felt

Following the boom is the crisis. Döllken too is hit by considerable declines in turnover and revenue due to the global economic recession and the oil crisis. Many Döllken workers lose their job.



With the "Laske Collection", Döllken becomes a partner to the specialised picture frames trade

1982-85

Döllken becomes independent of industries susceptible to crises

To be more economically independent, Döllken changes its customer and product structures. Customers from different growth industries can be won for the plastics sector. All wood processing activities are concentrated on the production of premium quality picture frame strips. With the "Laske Collection", Döllken launches the first picture frame collection with brand character.

1987

Döllken is split into two autonomous companies

Döllken is divided up. The two companies formed are W. Döllken & Co. GmbH, a specialist in profiles and technical parts made of plastic, and W. Döllken GmbH & Co. KG, a manufacturer of subtle picture rails and wooden products.



Plastics processing at W. Döllken & Co. GmbH in Essen-Werden

1990-91

New strategy: "Re-emergence 2000"

As part of the new "Re-emergence 2000" growth strategy, Döllken assumes operation of the former nationally-owned enterprise "development" in Weimar following the fall of the wall. In the newly-founded Döllken-Weimar GmbH, the focus is placed on skirting board business and is expanded.

The first turf-cutting ceremony on 24.03.1992 provides the impulse for expansion work at the Gladbeck plastics plant



The head office of Döllken-Weimar GmbH is located in Nohra near Weimar (since 1997)

1989

The capacities are expanded in Gladbeck

Opposite the production plant in Gladbeck, Döllken takes over a warehouse and an office building, and therefore responds to the continuing demand for physical capacities.

To tap into the North American market for plastic edgebands, Döllken, together with foreign sales partner Woodtape Ltd, establish the subsidiary Doellken Profiles Limited in Mississauga (Ontario/Canada).

The Gladbeck site continues to grow



1992-95

New structures at Döllken

Internal specialisation is driven forward to satisfy even better the requirements of different customer groups. Döllken-Kunststoffverarbeitung GmbH focuses on edgeband and profile extrusion for furniture manufacturers, whilst Döllken-DIY-Division GmbH aligns its portfolio to the needs of DIY stores. W. Döllken & Co. GmbH becomes a holding company.

The plastics plant in Gladbeck undergoes a massive programme of expansion. About 8,300 square metres of floor space are added, creating space for the new potential offered by plastics processing. Shortly afterwards, Döllken moves plastics processing in its entirety from Essen-Werden to Gladbeck where it bundles the whole production.

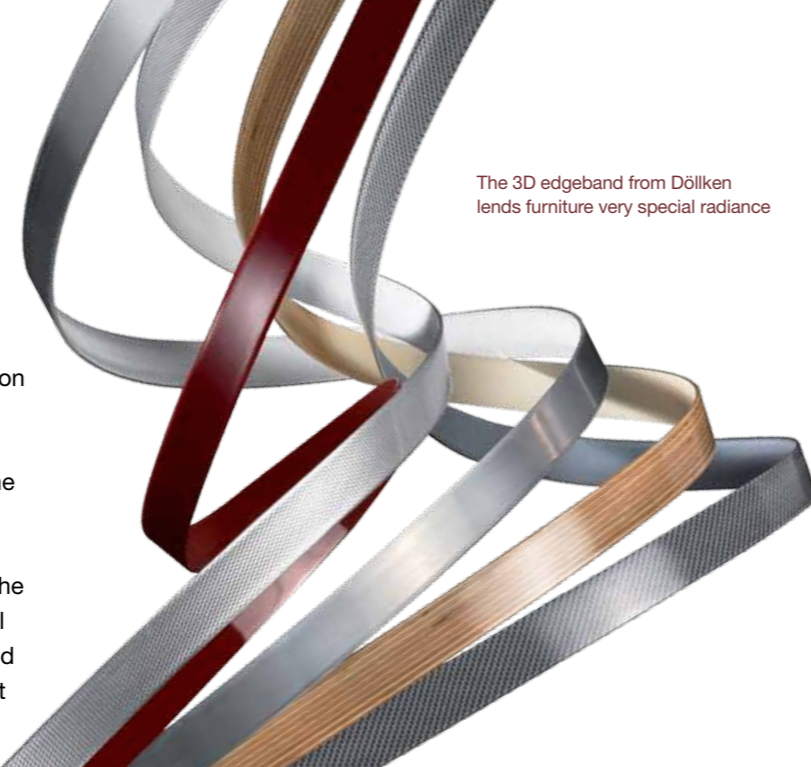
1997

Trendsetter in profile extrusion and edgeband design

By selling the picture rail factory, Döllken completed the transition to plastics only processing.

Döllken acquires the Hetal plastics plant in Dunningen, today the location of Döllken-Profiltechnik GmbH.

Döllken-Kunststoffverarbeitung introduces a real innovation in the 3D edge. By virtue of its unique colour brilliance and its unusual three-dimensional visual depth characteristics, the 3D edgeband is very popular across the globe and is established on the market within a short space of time.



The 3D edgeband from Döllken lends furniture very special radiance

1998-99

Döllken responds to the needs of the retail market with the Instant Edging Programme

The Instant Edging Programme provides a multiplicity of custom edgebands



1999

Production plant in Asia enters operation

To promote growth in Asia, Döllken founds on the island of Bintan (Indonesia) a production company for plastic edgebands whose products are sold by the newly established sales organisation in Singapore.

Döllken-DIY-Division GmbH and Praktikus GmbH, a competitor in the DIY store sector, merge. This creates Döllken & Praktikus GmbH which gradually passes over into the sole ownership of Döllken.

The 3D edgeband impresses with its unusual visual appearance

Skirtings from Döllken are synonymous with highest quality



To simplify the search of carpenters and joiners for plastic edgebands matching panel decoration, Döllken-Kunststoffverarbeitung devises the Instant Edging Programme. The Instant Edging Programme is synonymous primarily with service and logistics.

Döllken-Weimar expands and acquires the skirting board division from Schock with a production plant in Bönen/Westphalia. This later means Döllken becomes the only global manufacturer of hardcore skirtings. The new production plant in Nohra near Weimar enters operation.



The background features a complex arrangement of overlapping, glossy ribbons in shades of yellow and grey. A magnifying glass with a black handle and a clear lens is positioned on the right side, focusing on the ribbons. The overall aesthetic is modern and abstract.

Clear-cut objectives
precede continual
development.

The re-emergence

2000-2012

2000

Business in Kassel concentrates on plastic facades

Döllken acquires competitor Vinylit Fassaden and bundles the entire business with plastic facades in Kassel. Consequently Döllken becomes the sole manufacturer of facade panelling with natural stone granulate.

The head office of W. Döllken & Co. GmbH is relocated from Essen-Werden to Gladbeck.



Premium quality plastic facades are produced in Kassel



A skirting collection for the DIY business of Döllken & Praktikus

2000

Döllken broadens its presence in the worldwide market

The Döllken group acquires previous sales and joint venture partner Woodtape Ltd. in Canada and Woodtape Inc. in the U.S., as well as plastics processor A.S.L. Pty. Ltd. in Australia. This facilitates continuous expansion of the presence in worldwide markets.

The plastics plant in Gladbeck – the world's largest production facility within the Döllken group

2000-02

Integration into SURTECO AG is gradual

Bausch und Linnemann AG (later SURTECO AG) becomes the new parent company of the Döllken group. This creates a strong alliance of medium-sized companies within the furniture industry.

Incorporation into SURTECO AG raises the competitiveness of Döllken, boosts internationalisation in a targeted fashion and at the same time creates the foundations for strategic growth.

2003-05

Döllken continually expands international business

With an initial share of 25 % (Bausch GmbH 50 %), Döllken takes a stake in Italian company Arbe, later Surteco Italia.

Also, the Canadian Canplast group with plants in Montreal and Brampton (Canada), and in Greensboro (USA), is acquired. Döllken becomes market leader in plastic edgebands in North America.

In Australia, following the acquisition of a longstanding sales partner, all activities of the Surteco group are consolidated in the new Surteco Australia.



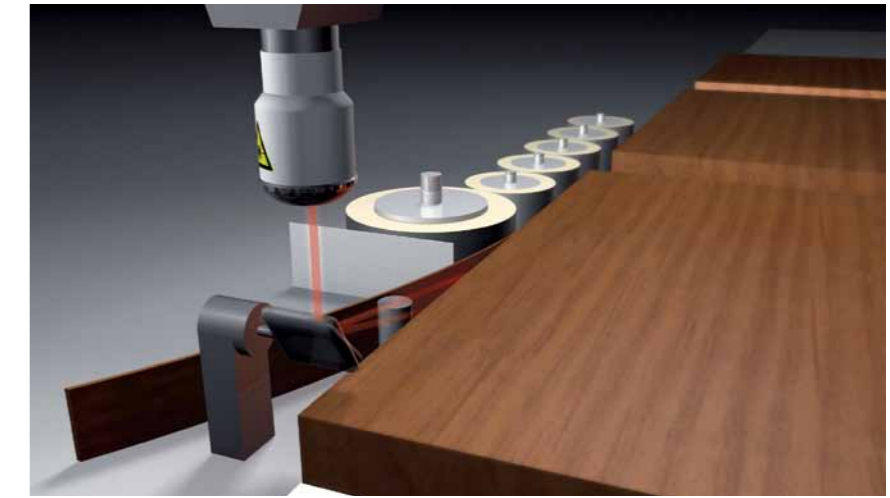


Clearly laid out and well structured – the exhibition stand reflects the professionalism of SURTECO SE

2008–09

A new era in edge processing starts with the Fusion-Edge

Döllken-Kunststoffverarbeitung devises the Fusion-Edge and with it the jointless transition between edge and decorative board. This is made possible with innovative laser technology. Döllken-Kunststoffverarbeitung wins the M TECHNOLOGY AWARD 2008 for the Fusion-Edge, and is nominated for the BRD 2009 design prize.



An innovative laser technology is used for processing plastic edging

2007

SURTECO AG receives European legal status

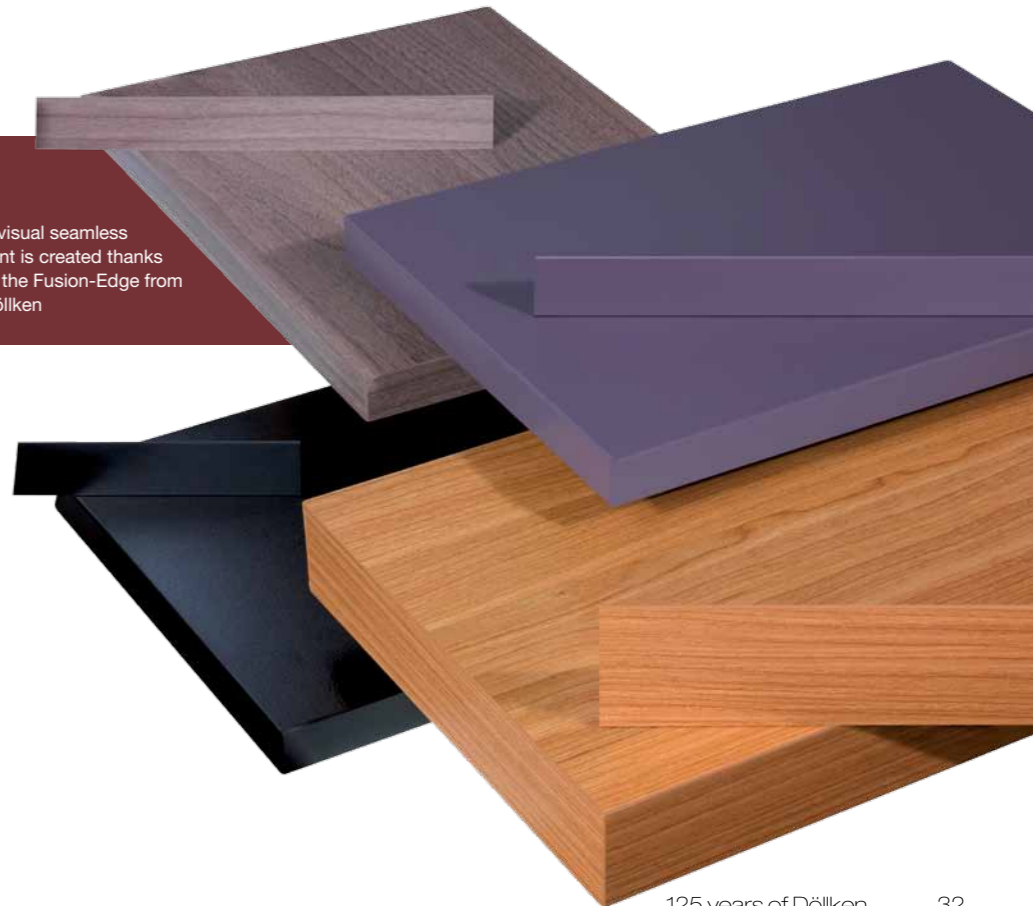
SURTECO AG is changed into a European limited company and is called from then on SURTECO SE (Societas Europaea). The change is also reflected in the logo.



2006

Döllken opens up the French market

Döllken acquires the French company SDCA. The company name is then changed to Döllken France S.A.S., later Surteco France S.A.S.



A visual seamless joint is created thanks to the Fusion-Edge from Döllken



2009-10

Digital print creates new opportunities

With the Digital-Edge, Döllken-Kunststoffverarbeitung GmbH is possible for the first time to image custom motives such as logos, photos, lettering and graphic design onto thermoplastic edgebands.

This successful principle is transferred to skirting. Customers are given unbounded freedom in the design of rooms and furniture.



Custom designs are also possible for skirting thanks to the digital print method



The Digital-Edge is synonymous with absolute flexibility in design because the possibilities for individual design are virtually unlimited



2010

Innovative plastics products are introduced

Döllken-Profiltechnik GmbH introduces its new absorber roller shutter for acoustic noise reduction, thereby completing the product portfolio for furniture roller shutters.

For their part, Vinylit Fassaden GmbH develops an intelligent attachment system for the practical installation of curtain-type, rear-ventilated facades with integrated thermal insulation, making the viability of efficient building insulation even easier.

The perfect heat insulation system with integrated attachment



Furniture roller shutters and visual eye-catchers and genuine space-savers

2011

Döllken receives global GREENGUARD® certification

The thermoplastic edging products of the Döllken group are certified to the requirements of the "GREEN-GUARD® Children & Schools" programme. All Döllken edges are emission-free as regards over 10,000 potential chemical compounds.



2009-12

New sites come online

Santiago de Chile sees the opening of a production and sales site for the South American market as part of a joint venture. At the same time, sales organisations are established in Moscow (Russia), Curitiba (Brazil) and Madrid (Spain). Also, the existing production plant on the Indonesian island of Bintan is moved to the neighbouring island of Batam, making possible a doubling of production capacity.

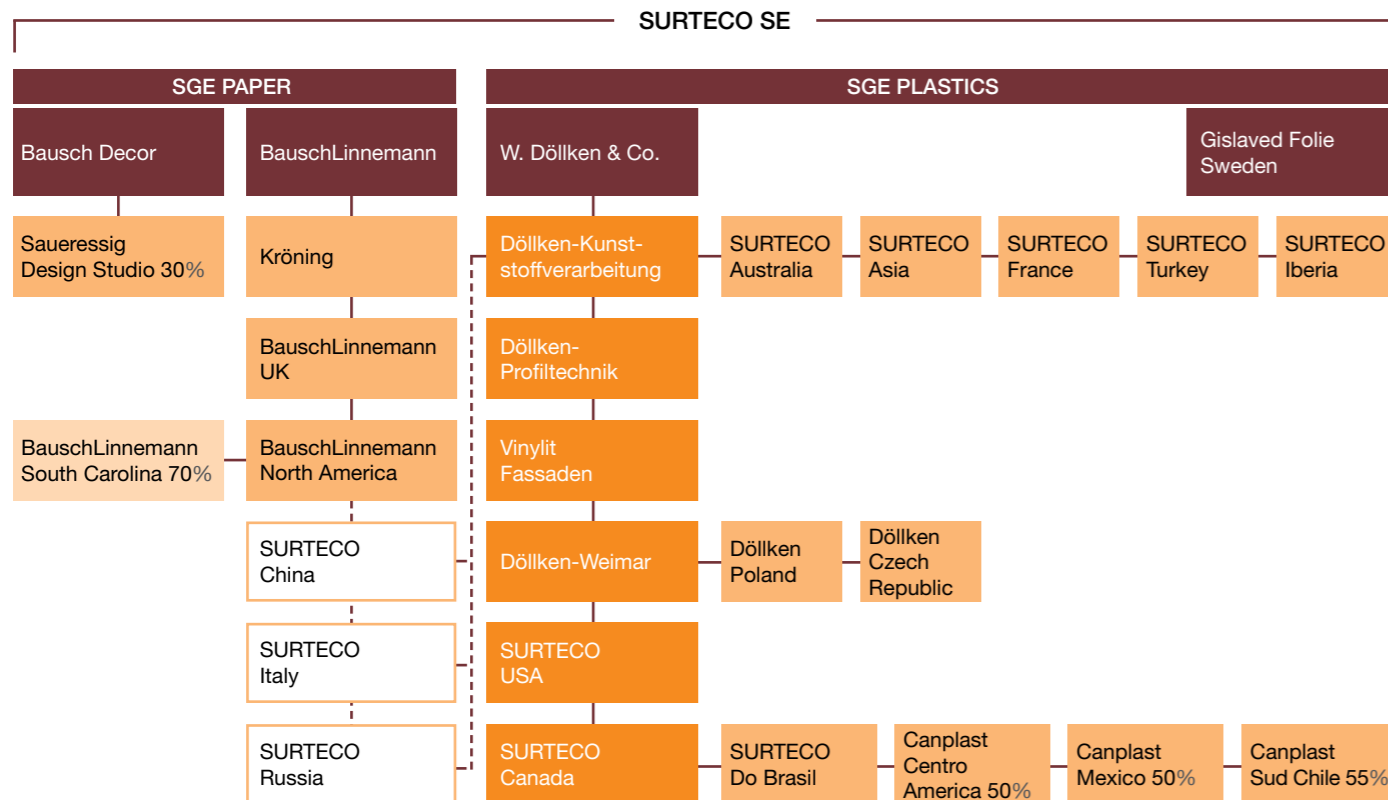
2012

125 eventful years lie behind Döllken

Today the Döllken group is able to look back on a company history full of ups and downs, on 125 years packed with challenges, the odd setback, various restructurings, international acquisitions and numerous successes.

At the same time the vision has always been forwards. Today the Döllken group employs over 1,200 people worldwide and has a turnover goal of € 230 million in its sights for 2012. The past has without doubt moved us greatly – let's take up the challenges of our time and shape the future.

W. Döllken & Co.



Döllken is on site globally



● 10 production and sales locations
● 16 additional sales locations

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DÖLLKEN

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