



Case Study

Van den Top Mechanical Engineering



From new supplier of aluminium motors
in mushroom machines to integrated drive partner

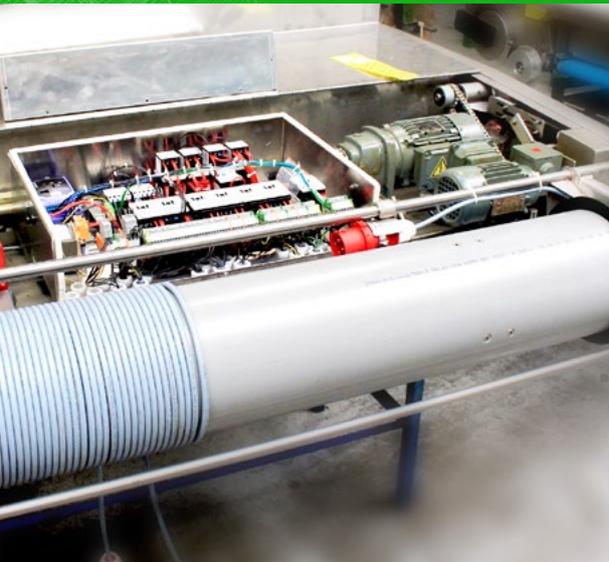
Van den Top Mechanical Engineering from Barneveld is a unique company. It is the only company in the world that develops machines for more efficient and effective harvesting and sorting of mushrooms. As a producer of mushroom harvesting machines and mushroom harvesting systems in various designs, the company provides innovative products that contribute to a new and efficient approach to harvesting mushrooms.



"If we run into a problem, we call BEGE and two minutes later we can get back to work."

Henk van den Top
CEO of Van den Top

Lightweight machines



Due to the limited space surrounding the mushroom beds, the machines that move through these beds have to be small and therefore the parts for these machines have to fit in very tight spaces. As the machines are placed in the beds by hand, it is important to keep their weight as low as possible. To reduce weight, Van den Top Mechanical Engineering uses lightweight aluminium motors and gear units.

When the previous supplier suddenly stopped producing these gear motors, Van den Top was faced with the challenge of finding another supplier who could continuously supply these types of products and who would help to optimise machine parts.

“With the expertise that BEGE has in the field of drive and control technology, they are able to support machine builders like us in both the further development and optimisation of machines and equipment.”

Van den Top was already familiar with BEGE at that time, as they purchased various drive parts there and contacted BEGE in this matter. BEGE has devoted a great deal of time and energy to adapting the standard Ströter drives in such a way that the Van den Top machines continue to function optimally.

Van den Top applies BEGE's drives in both the harvesters they sell and in the machines they develop to build their harvesters.

BEGE has been working very closely with Van den Top for more than 30 years to improve their machines. They purchase nearly everything in their entire product range and also relies on BEGE for the optimisation of drives.

BEGE guarantees continuity because the products are always available and fit into the machine, regardless of whether or not they are made to measure. The customer-supplier relationship has shifted into a close customer partnership in which cooperation and progress are central elements.

From customer to partner

Why Van den Top opted for BEGE

- ✓ BEGE's products are of high quality as they are manufactured in-house;
- ✓ Loyalty in product choice leading to a stable yet varied product portfolio;
- ✓ No long waits and fast work, thanks to the large stock in Sassenheim;
- ✓ Direct and personal contact;
- ✓ Long-term partner.

Efficiency and product optimisation



By streamlining production processes with state-of-the-art machines Van den Top makes it possible to save time and money. Innovative machines in many cases prevent human error, which benefits the quality of the end product.

Van den Top recently thought that mushroom sorting could be improved and in a short time, they developed a sorting machine for mushroom growers. In doing so, they worked closely with the engineers of BEGE.

Henk van den Top, director-owner of Van den Top, recognises this desire for innovation and efficiency: "The salespeople know their trade and they are aware of what is going on within our organisation at BEGE too.

As soon as I want to know something about a certain product, I pick up the phone and within 2 minutes I have all the information I need. And if you're struggling with an issue, they'll work with you and quickly find a solution that's relevant to your industry."

Integrated Drive Systems

As a result of continuous market-oriented process innovation, our components can be perfectly combined to form intelligent drive systems.

Van den Top is also currently working on the implementation of an integrated drive system.

Together with BEGE, Van den Top is currently developing a machine that rolls steel profiles for the steel racks. For this, they are using a large BEGE gear unit with a main motor. There is one special steel profile that has to be formed in 24 steps.

Van den Top has built a machine with a larger ctc distance between the rollers especially for this variant. However, in order to prevent this installation with 24 sets of rollers from being too long for one gear unit, Van den Top has devised an innovative solution. Each set of rollers will be driven by a separate plug-in gear motor that is fully synchronised thanks to a frequency converter and a MIG encoder.

BEGE is closely involved in this large-scale project and its implementation is progressing well. This innovative machine is expected to be commissioned very soon.

Applied components Integrated Drive Systems Van den Top

G-series gear motor



BEGE MIG flange encoder



BEGE aluminium motor



S100 frequency inverters



Result

- ✓ Rapid replacement of former supplier and implementation of a suitable solution
- ✓ Assistance with the development of an innovative sorting and rolling machine
- ✓ Technical and calculation support
- ✓ Upgrading of machines used to manufacture racks and harvesters

About BEGE

Your Drive, Our (Trans)Mission since 1950

BEGE Power Transmission creates, optimises and maintains reliable drives so that your industrial company, large or small, can focus on its core business without any worries.

We offer comprehensive, intelligent drive systems to achieve efficient, productive installations with maximum continuity. The combination of our own production lines and the acquisition of Ströter makes BEGE your ideal partner for reliable and integrated drive systems. We value quality, efficiency and product and process innovation.

Expert in Your Sector

We build long-term relationships and focus on how our drive solutions can contribute as effectively as possible to making your aspirations a reality.

We combine drive technology expertise with knowledge of the specific sector. The result is fully integrated, customer-specific drive that increase the competitive advantage of our customers' production facilities in a wide range of sectors. We have the answers to today's challenges and tomorrow's needs in industrial production.



Food & Beverages

Food-safe, efficient and hygienic in humid environments.



Agriculture & Horticulture

Energy-efficient, powerful and cost-effective under harsh conditions.



Packaging

Flexible, accurate and durable for high productivity.



Bulk & Solids

Sturdy and certified for a safe, productive environment.



Marine & Offshore

Corrosion-resistant and reliable in demanding or extreme situations.

Want to find out more?

Would you like to find out what BEGE can do for you?

[Contact us](#). We love sharing our knowledge.



BEGE develops and optimises sector-specific drive systems



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OUR TRANSMISSION