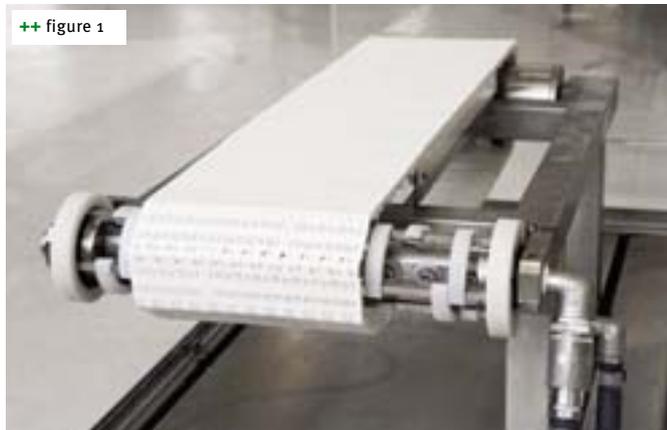


# New plastic belt for tight transfers

HABASIT IS ONE OF THE WORLDWIDE LEADING PRODUCERS OF CONVEYOR, PROCESS AND TRANSMISSION BELTS FOR FOOD, TEXTILE, PAPER, AND MANY OTHER INDUSTRIES



++ figure 1



++ figure 2



++ figure 3

## ++ figures 1 – 3

At the new testing facility, existing belts are examined in practical settings for permissible load, easy cleaning and belt tension consistency. At the same time, a great deal of research and development work is conducted here: washing test station, spiral test conveyor, fatigue test

**+** At the end of June 2007, Habasit opened the “Modular Belt Innovation Center” at its headquarters in Reinach, near Basel (Switzerland). The building is equipped with state-of-the-art technology for researching and developing plastic modular belts. Conveyor belts are tested in practical settings and are examined thoroughly so that unexpected problems during the start-up phase can be prevented as much as possible.

On the opening days of the new „Modular Belt Innovation Center“, Habasit also presented a completely new plastic modular belt for extremely tight transfers named Micropitch to invited customers and journalists. It allows small products to be moved safely from one belt to another. Damage and losses are therefore reduced to a minimum, which is of particular interest to various industries, including the bakery industry.

According to CEO Giovanni Volpi, who voiced his comments on the event, the food industry covers about one quarter of Habasit’s turnover, and is therefore a dominant focus of attention. “The main concern of the food industry today is to meet the stringent regulatory specifications. The impact of legislation is growing. Regulations are increasing globally and we therefore ensure that Habasit is complying. Unfortunately, there is no harmonization and in some cases regulations are lacking transparency, e.g. for biocides in the EU. This could be a significant barrier to global trade. Food customers demand high quality, low maintenance, and easy, effective and efficient sanitation with a low consumption of water. To meet these needs, Habasit designed products that allow complete access to all surface parts for wash-down, including a new integrated cleaning system which uses new plastic compounds, preventing the growth of microorganisms on the surface of the material.” +++



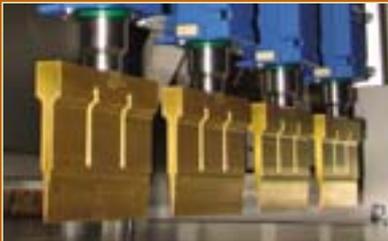
++ Giovanni Volpi, CEO of Habasit

## Habasit

Habasit is a family-owned shareholder company founded in 1946. In 2006, the company’s turnover increased by almost 14 percent and reached CHF 711 million (EUR 442 million). Investments increased by 304 percent to CHF 155 million (EUR 96.5 million). After the acquisition of Summa Industries by Habasit in 2006, two of Summa’s sub-divisions that had nothing to do with the belt business were sold. As explained by the top management of the group, disinvestments of Aquaris, sold in February 2007, and Spectrus, sold in June 2007, ran satisfactorily for Habasit. KVP Inc., principal business unit of Summa and leading manufacturer of modular belts, has been successfully integrated into the Habasit Group. From 1st Aug 2007, Habasit will be selling their modular belts in Europe and Asia. +++



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