



Interview with Martin Mons



Heroes without cape the KEGRO Improvement Team!



Groesbeeks Gruwelijkste MTB Tour

AND FURTHER:

Joys and sorrows

KEGRO in the media

The number 50

Puzzle

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Product news

Groesbeek Dialect

PV Activity

Seniorcluk



Dear Colleagues,

With the holidays at the 'door'step that also means a new edition of the Door Post. It has again become a beautiful and interesting edition, partly due to the help of a large number of enthusiastic colleagues. Thanks to everyone for their cooperation on this edition.

Over the past period we have made a strong effort to take the design of our doors to a higher level. It is great to see that this has resulted in the new Architectura door line, but certainly also the fantastic "Nieuw Kralingen" project. These developments require close and intensive cooperation from various departments within Kegro as well as with the clients.

We are and remain a truly Groesbeek company. That is why it is good to see that we also "train" our employees in this dialect. Unfortunately I don't speak this dialect, but many of the expressions I got from my grandfather, so I understand most of it.

The period after the vacations began for us in a minor way. The death of Pieter de Kleijn had and has a huge impact on all of us and we still miss his positivism and enthusiasm every day.

Our operational performance continues to improve. Delivery reliability is back on track and several initiatives have already been launched to further improve quality. An essential component to achieve this is everyone's participation in iSeeiKnow. I discuss this in more detail in the "the road to 2030" section. The biggest challenge for the coming period is to maintain our order intake, but I am convinced that we are taking the right steps to achieve this.

I would like to thank everyone for their efforts over the past period. Everyone is always willing to help each other and put their shoulders to the wheel when necessary. For now I would like to wish you a happy vacation, enjoy the pleasant days with your loved ones in good health!

Koen

In this section, we put 10 questions to a member of KEGRO staff. In this edition, we let Berrie Wolff have his say.



Employed since? April 1989 with a 4-year hiatus.

Function at KEGRO?
Production planning/purchasing DCM

If you could change the colour of the doors in your house, which

colour would you choose?

For me, it doesn't matter much. Am more for warm colours though, cosy and cozy.

Which sport is your favourite?

Football and ice hockey are my sports. I had a season ticket with NEC for 40 years, and in my younger years also a season ticket with Ice Hockey. But now I'm really done with it, everything is only about money. For me, the experience has disappeared.

Who is your favourite player in the above sport?

My favourite remains Romario de Souza Faria. Great player with those short legs, a real ball artist.

In your opinion, what is the most beautiful holiday country?

That is, of course, Thailand, as my wife is Thai. Every 2 years I go there again, how lucky can you get. Truly a great country!

What food can we wake you up for at night?

If you can wake me up at all I certainly won't be shy, but red cabbage with hachee is my favourite.



you think has the best sense of humour?

That can only be one; Jeroen van Leeuwen of course. We are on the same wavelength in terms of jokes and humour.

Great!

Where do you live?

I was born and raised in Nijmegen. The city of Gelderland! Seeing the Waalbrug always gives a good feeling.

Do you have pets and if so, what kind of pet and what is its name?

We would like a pet, but we both work full-time. We feel that is sad for the animal. So we decided together, no dog or cat.

What was the last thing that made you laugh immensely?

I haven't watched News for years. So my world looks a bit different.
I can see the humour in many things.
And.....a day without a laugh is a day not lived.

What do you get really excited about?

About those guys who swindle the savings of the elderly. Not only do you have no brains, you certainly have no heart. In this country you are not allowed to act as your own judge but I wouldn't put my hand in the fire that this will happen one day. Disgusting characters!

KEGRO PUZZLE

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CHOCOLADEMELK SKIEEN ERWTENSOEP SLEE HANDSCHOENEN SNEEUW SNEEUWBAL **IJSBAAN** SNEEUWPOP KOUD SNEEUWYLOK KRUIK VORST LANGLAUFEN WINTER MUTS WINTERJAS OORWARMERS WINTERPRET SCHAATSEN WINTERSLAAP SJAAL



Oplossing

A regular item in this staff magazine is the KEGRO puzzle! In this fourth edition, we present you with a word search puzzle. With it you can keep your gray matter sharp during the vacations! This word search puzzle is not only fun to solve, you can also win something: submit the solved puzzle to the personnel department before Friday 19 January and who knows, you could soon be the lucky winner of a dinner voucher worth € 50.

Good luck solving this puzzle!

WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN IN THE NEAR FUTURE?

- Dec. 15 Christmas drinks at 't Zwaantje from 4:30 8 p.m.
- ▶ Happy Hour: Friday, January 26, February 23, March 29, April 26, May 24, June 28
- ▶ In 2024, Kegro will celebrate its 50th anniversary! More information about the anniversary will follow later

Colophon

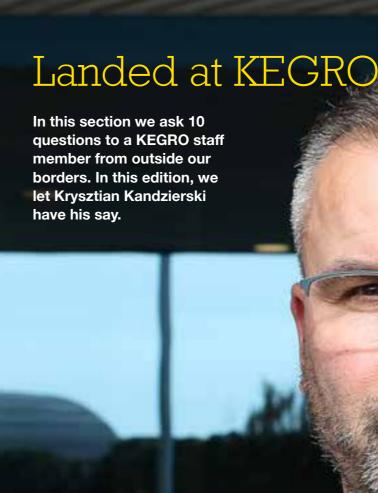
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Employed since? February 16, 2017.

Function at KEGRO?

I am a shipping and warehouse assistant.

In which country were you born?
In Poland, in the city of Gdansk to be exact.

What brought you to the Netherlands?
I live in Germany and work in the Netherlands. The jobs in the Netherlands are good and so are the earnings.

How did you end up at KEGRO?

First I worked elsewhere, but through a colleague I came in contact with an employment agency. They had a good vacancy at KEGRO and I applied.

What do you think is typically Dutch?

I think the way everything is arranged in this country is

typically Dutch. Well-kept cities, with nice houses. A big difference from Poland.

In your opinion, what is the biggest cultural difference between the Netherlands and your native country?

The Dutch are generally more light-hearted in their dealings, very controlled. In Poland there is much more temperament among people. Dutch people are mostly nice towards other -foreign- people, in Poland it is much less.

In which place do you live now?
Since 2014 I have been living in the German town of Weeze, known for its airport.

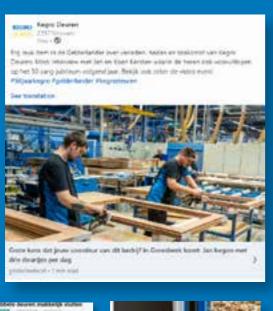
What dish or snack from your home country is your favorite?

Bigos! a kind of hunter's stew, of white cabbage, sauerkraut, carrots, onion, and different kinds of meat, such as Polish sausage, beef, pork, bacon, lamb and/or game. Preferably a mix of different meats, so pork and beef and lamb. I also love the dish Golonka. It is made with pork shank, the back of the leg. It is delicious with bread and beer. My mother and grandfather taught me how to cook these dishes myself.

What Dutch dish or snack do you like best? I am a fan of all Dutch cheeses! Then add a Hertog Jan beer to it as well.

How do you perceive the Dutch in general? Dutch people are generally good, likable people.

What Dutch custom did you have to get used to? I mainly had to get used to the fact that the Dutch have no problem working with many different nationalities. It is easily dealt with, the Dutch communicate well and have no problem with cultural differences. What also strikes me is that there is a different standard of quality in the Netherlands. The nice thing is that all the nationalities at work enrich the cooperation and create mutual understanding. I do have to get used to the Dutch language, which is so different. Still a challenge, but we do our best.









De nieuwe standaard

Kegro komt met nieuwe liin Architectura designdeuren

Goede geluidisolatie in huis vergroot het wooncomfort. Geluidsdichte deuren en kozijne leveren daar een grote bijdrage

KEGRO DELHENS



THE ROAD **TO 2030**



As you know, in this column I take you through the journey to achieve our strategic goals in 2030. Safety and quality in the broadest sense are an important element of these goals. Quality or also "getting it right the first time," we have broken down into several sub-goals:

- Deliveries in the quality ordered
- Without internal or external recovery
- With a delivery reliability of at least 98%

By focusing on safety and quality, we are convinced that this will further increase employee and customer satisfaction. For now, I will explain the actions we are taking to improve quality and reduce internal and external recovery orders.

Root Cause Analysis

At the beginning of September a project group was started to analyze the complaint reports and identify the root cause. The focus of this project group is on:

- Red receipts (including new doors).
 - > These are all internal recovery orders
- Complaints from shipping or assembly receipts
 - > All complaint reports that lead to an external recovery order

The analyses show that the cause of the problems is very diverse. New errors are made all the time, so we cannot identify causes that we can address immediately to prevent many of the errors. Also, the root causes of these issues arise in all departments (sales, work preparation, surveying, production and assembly). However, two organization-wide causes have been identified:

- Our processes have grown organically and are insufficiently documented so that it is unclear what the process to follow is.
- We have a huge diversity of products and operations that we sell (about 7,000 different items). As a result, it is not clear to everyone what the properties are and how it should be processed.

The "root cause" analysis shows in which department an error occurred and what the reason is. If this requires a process adjustment, this will initially be taken up by the improvement team. You can read more about the improvement team in this Door Post. If this turns out to be a lack of knowledge, the department in question will be trained on the specific issues. To train employees and departments we use "iSeeiKnow" at Kegro.

iSeeiKnow

The common thread for increasing quality and safety within Kegro is awareness and training. The tool we use for this is "iSeeiKnow". In the coming years, all our employees will be required to participate in this and it will also become an essential part of the evaluation moments. Employees are categorized by department which allows us to produce very targeted training material. The root cause analysis will show, for example, that in a certain department many errors are made regarding the direction of rotation of doors. Questions will then be created for that specific department so that that knowledge is increased. There are also general questions to be answered by everyone, these are mainly those related to safety.

We are confident that we will increase our quality by focusing on process improvements and training our employees. This will go step by step but is an essential part of achieving our strategic goals for 2030.

Koen



'If you don't grant another anything, you won't be granted anything' yourself'

Interview with Martin Mons

With "almost three years of KEGRO under his belt," Martin Mons shines in this episode of "KEGRO in the country. Moving from Kinderdijk to Afferden to live closer to KEGRO, Martin enjoys working in a combined position. He is a service worker, both inside and outside, he does inspections outside and is often called in to scrutinize complex complaints. His work requires intensive liaison between residents, contractors and KEGRO customers. He can really enjoy this, because Martin is a 'connector' at heart, with a keen eye for detail.

'A complaint is not a complaint until I have observed it myself'

"Complaints that are reported and blamed on the door, in many cases do not find their cause at the door," he opens the conversation. "With more than 15 years of experience assessing and resolving complaints in the carpentry industry, I'm used to looking at the bigger picture. When you get to the bottom of everything and get to the real cause of a complaint, everyone learns from that. I think that's important, because that's how you avoid mistakes in the future and save each other a lot of unnecessary work."

Martin obviously works in the interests of KEGRO, but does so in a very solution-oriented way. "If you look at my work from a distance, it may involve doors, but my focus is also on the person in the situation in question. Due to the fact that KEGRO supplies and replaces many doors in social housing projects, you get to deal with a very diverse composition of residents in social housing. Projects where I have to inspect 50 to 100 doors are not unusual and I can tell you that a unique story unfolds behind every door. You will find a colorful mix of cultures. living conditions and ages. As soon as I press a doorbell, my antennae turn on: as I open the door. I "scan" the situation. How does the resident react? What do I see first? For example, if there is high-pile carpet that was saved hard for, I take off my shoes. If I see a mirror-smooth tile floor and a very precisely ordered interior, I move very carefully. And if there is a chain on the door and the resident first peeks through a crack to see who is at the door, I respectfully step back."

Stuffed cake as old as the resident herself

A nice practical example follows. Martin laughingly explains, "Despite the fact that we announce our arrival by letter, you see that in social rental neighborhoods residents often do not respond to our letter. So we sometimes drop in by surprise. So too in a neighborhood in Diemen, full of social housing. When we rang the bell, the door was opened by a very sweet lady with a Turkish background. However, this lady was already about 80 years old and had lived there since the completion of the neighborhood. Due to old age she was walking all crooked, but I was cordially invited to come in. With much hand and footwork, I explained what I had come to do, but the lady was mostly concerned if I had had any coffee that day. First, I had to sit down for a nice cup of coffee together. She turned out to be a widow: her children had long since left home. On the cupboard were pictures of her late husband, her children and grandchildren. While talking, she tried to get the sugar from an upper cupboard in the kitchen,

but she couldn't because she was too bent over to do it. Immediately I came to her aid and after handing over the sugar bowl, she pointed to a kitchen drawer: "You should get a cake!" she offered sweetly. The drawer was full of them and I grabbed a filled cake. With the coffee in front of us. I listened to her stories: she was clearly lonely and enjoyed having a chance to express herself. Meanwhile, I had a big problem: the filled cake was probably as old as the woman herself, because there was no getting through. With two hands, I broke off pieces of the prehistoric baked goods to soak them in the coffee. Thus I worked the whole cake down, while listening to her life story. Finally I said goodbye to her, after which I checked with the neighbors to see if this dear grandmother was being looked after. I had genuine concerns about it. The neighbors were able to reassure me: the children really did look after her. Her home was also neat and clean."

A world of contrasts

Martin continues his story, "In the same row, I came across a house whose front and back doors had cast iron security gates. Inside it was complete chaos, there was laundry everywhere, it was extremely messy, and the cheerful occupant didn't seem bothered by it. There was no more than a bare bulb of lighting. At times like that you realize that the line between 'ha-

ving things together' and 'losing control' is sometimes wafer-thin. You encounter no greater contrasts than when you get to come into people's homes."

Distinguishing between 'good' and 'help wanted'

Of course Martin has a focus on his work for KEGRO, but person-to-person issues don't leave him cold. Isn't it hard not to take home the problems you see? Martin answers, "No, I really see everything, with a keen eye for detail. However, I have learned to distinguish between things I have to let go of and things I have to deal with. If an unusual living situation is unfolding before my eyes, I look at people, especially children, if there are any. If I feel there are major problems, then I notify the Housing Association afterwards. I see that as my moral and social duty."

'If you don't grant another anything, you won't be granted anything yourself'

A truism and the life motto of Martin and his wife. He takes that to work every day. "We work to live right? I want to do that work to the best of my ability, taking into account people's well-being. You have to give each other something. That could be a compliment, a pat on the back or a kind word. Think with people, put yourself in their situation and always remain respectful. After all, you don't know what heavy

baggage people sometimes carry."
The best example of this way of working?
If Martin has to send a "bad news" email to a resident, contractor or client, by definition he never does it on a Friday. "You know, someone is glad it's the weekend. I allow everyone a weekend of rest and relaxation. That pithy email can cause someone to go into the weekend less happy or keep running around with it in his or her head when the focus should be on family or friends. By sending that email Monday morning, no time is lost, but a weekend is saved. It can be that simple to make a

The magic number

In this regular column, KEGRO looks at the number 50, in the broadest sense of the word. We do so to take a sneak preview of our own anniversary: in 2024, our company will be 50 years old! A great milestone, this magical 50 years. This edition we post some more fun facts about the number 50, to get completely in the mood for 50 years of KEGRO together! Now, in 2023, we look back in time 50 years, to the year 1973.

Januari 14 1973 | Elvis Presley's 'Aloha From Hawaii via Satellite' is 50 years old Elvis Presley's concert in Hawaii is the first worldwide broadcast of an entertainer watched by more people than the Apollo moon landings.

June 4 1973 | The first ATM makes its appearance

A US patent for the Docutel ATM is granted to Donald Wetzel, Tom Barnes and George Chastain. An automated teller machine (ATM) is an electronic telecommunications device that allows customers of financial institutions to conduct financial transactions, at any time without direct interaction with bank personnel.

May 14 1973 | Skylab, the United States' first space station, is launched

Skylab was the United States' first space station, launched by NASA, which operated for about 24 weeks between May 1973 and February 1974. Its main operations were orbital workshop, solar observatory, Earth observation and hundreds of experiments.

October 1973 | How car-free Sundays just led to major oil storage

October 1973 War breaks out again between Israel and its Arab neighbors. The Arab states punish the United States and the Netherlands for supporting Israel. They boycott the export of oil to our country. The ban on driving a car on Sundays is just one of the measures.

April 2 1973 | Radio Veronica's ship runs aground near Scheveningen

In a heavy storm Radio Veronica's transmitter ship Norderney is thrown onto the beach near Scheveningen. The ship gets stuck.

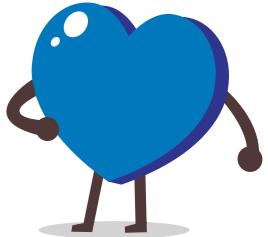
1973 | Invention of the Compact Disc

In a basement room at the bottom of Philips' famous Natlab building, two employees began cautiously experimenting with what would later become known as the Compact Disc.



JOYS & SORROWS

In the regular column 'Joy & Sorrows' we give everyone an overview of the ups and downs surrounding KEGRO staff members. We show who has an anniversary to celebrate, who has just started at KEGRO, who has left KEGRO, we show who has just become a father or mother and - unfortunately we also have to deal with this - who has passed away. As KEGRO staff, we are one big family and that means we like to know how things are going. Did we not know something, or did we forget vou? Then just let us know!



In service

September

October

October

November

December

December

Anniversaries

(1-1-2024 through 30-6-2024)

Ahmida Coucou

January 4 25 years in service

Rob Peek

March 29 25 years in service

Rene van Kesteren

12.5 years in service



Born

Sepp, on August 24: son of Robin de Bruin

Kian and Enja, on Sept. 14: son and daughter of Birgit Smaling

Norah, on September 19: daughter of Koen Filius

Anything to report? Pass it on to the editor!

Adress: redactie@kegro.nl

In Service

Name Department Jeroen Hermens financial adm. Martijn van Alphen Cindy Liebers assembly/service

Eric Meeusen Richard Cornelisse project management

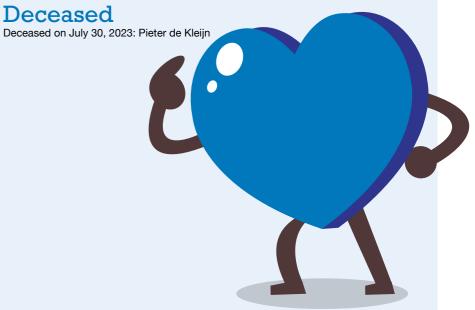
Out of service

Name Department Out of service Jeroen Lith assembly planning August R&D Tom Arens September Marius Nonu assembly October Rene Seabers warehouse/expedition October Ingo Schmeetz flat doors October Guido Olfen October Jean Louis Küster assembly October Erwin Hokke project management October Marvin Küster November Theo Arns project management November Leo Cuijpers December

DCM

Deceased

Nikolai Küster



Kegro has set the new standard in locking hardware for double doors. With Kegro DuoLock, double doors close in an unprecedented way. Easy, stable and over the entire door height. Traditionally, double doors do not close as easily as single doors. There is a lack of stability in the middle, which can make • A unique solution that is the new standard for double doors closing problematic when the doors are affected by movement (shrinking, swelling or warping). The doors may pinch or tighten, and traditional locking hardware then has limited reach. If seams are made larger to accommodate swelling, then problems arise with shrinkage. Conversely, if the seam is too small, swelling problems arise. Traditional locks can suffer a real wear and tear by forcing the doors and operation will be extremely heavy. Kegro has an innovative solution for this problem: Duo-Lock. This new and unique locking system locks the fixed door and the wicket door over the entire height.

The technology behind DuoLock is revolutionary. When closing the wicket door, a vertical locking bar is pushed over the full height of the door set into a recess in the fixed door. In addition to this lateral closure, the closing beam also shoots upward and downward into locking plates in the lintel and lower lintel. This locks the entire closing seam and corrects any curvature in the fixed door. Operation is by means of a door handle turned 90 degrees. Then the door set is locked with a cylinder. The large crank movement creates a leverage effect that allows the user to close both doors without much effort, even if the door is warped. This crank operation is not the same as a traditional crank operated lock. This solution is also ideal for French balcony doors, in which case the handle is mounted blind and located only on the inside.

Kegro DuoLock was developed to solve an existing problem with double doors once and for all.

The advantages of the DuoLock system:

- Great distinctiveness for the joinery manufacturer with attractive, new opportunities in the market
- Easy assembly for the joinery manufacturer, he only needs to install locking plates in the middle in the lintel and lower lintel
- Easy operation by the end user, the lock works lightly and only in one way
- Warped door parts no longer affect the closing performance of the door set
- Good burglary resistance
- Proven (by extensive testing) wind and water tightness
- A closing seam that is nominally 6 mm and therefore virtually problem-free
- Economically interesting, because less time required for assembly and fewer failure costs
- · Longer lifetime of doors and hardware
- The perfect solution for double French balcony doors
- Made by Kegro, so good.
- · Doors delivered with certification



New Architectura door line

In the previous edition of the Doorpost, we updated you on the new door line developed together with 5 leading architectural firms. Meanwhile, the teaser campaign on social media has been completed and we will actually introduce it in 2024. We have launched a new website especially for this door line: www. kegro-architectura.nl.

On this website you will find all information about the new Architectura door line, background on the architects involved, videos and of course the visual presentation of the door line and atmospheric images.

We will also be physically exhibiting the doors in the showroom. We will keep you posted about the introduction in 2024! Complete with ambience images!



KD Hardware

Kegro stands for quality doors. Doors that deliver the performance you can expect under all circumstances. Of course, not only the door plays an important role in this; but also the interaction between door, frame and hardware.

Over the past 50 years, Kegro has processed many hardware products in all possible frame rebates. These have included extremely successful combinations, but there have also been combinations that function less well or not at all, resulting in high failure costs; those combinations we no longer want to supply.

All these experiences have led to a collection of preferred products, under the KD brand. This allows us to guarantee performance and we are sure that the customer gets the quality they can expect from us.

ASSORTMENT

We start with:

- Front door hinge, handle/handle
- Rear door hinge, handle/handle

After which we quickly expand with:

- Project locks (and locking devices)
- Hardware (inside and outside)
- Hinges

KD assortment principles:

- Complete program
- Standard fire resistance 60 min
- Stainless steel front plate
- European production
- Rocker with spring clip
- Standard whisper latch
- With drilling bushings
- 6 Year warranty







From the archives

Groesbeek waer het hart van de holding

Op naar het eerste lustrum!

De Rugby Championsleague aflevering 1998 bood Kegro opnieuw vele kansen.

Om te beginnen was er de kans zich opnieuw te manifesteren door een voortreffelijke organisatie. Dat gebeurde dan ook, maar daarmee kon feitelijk niets over iets nieuws onder de zon gesproken worden.

Daarnaast was er de kans op sportieve revanche. En die kans greep Kegro in dubbel opzicht. De beker werd heroverd en als de voortekenen ons niet bedriegen, dan komt die beker na het eerste lustrum-toemooi, afgezien van een incidentele expositie hier of daar, Groesbeek ook niet meer uit. Minstens even mooi was het dat Kegro ook in andere zin sportief revanche nam: niet alleen kreeg Kegro 2 de sportiviteitsprijs, maar ook op de instelling van Kegro 1 viel dit jaar niets aan te merken.

Ook van redactie-zijde een hartelijke groet aan Bartje Kersten, de gewonde krijger. Je collega's hopen je spoedig terug te zien en hopen dat je met een regelmatig ververste consumptie onder handbereik van de WK genoten hebt.

Op 5 juni 1999 staat het vijfde toernooi gepland. Niets is natuurlijk verplicht, maar jezelf zo'n feestdag door de neus te boren, is ernstiger dan een verzuim, het is zonde, doodzonde zelfs.







Monet James heef een enrechminging in grotechmin



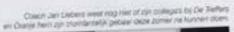


Mark de Beyer ontrecet op weg maar het doef van De Wess Teoporn de konkelke van Mart, Overma





Jack Recoton, instrutions of oxiding de annual Judy Judy Her den ing season or plasts vertigen hand die beker geven





Heroes without a cape:

the KEGRO Improvement Team!

Due to the fact that KEGRO has been around for so long and many business processes have developed naturally, not all processes within the company have grown with it over the years. The argument "we've been doing this for years" is in many cases not enough and can stand in the way of optimization. This optimization is badly needed to keep everything running smoothly and streamlined. KEGRO appointed colleagues Frank Bögels (purchasing manager) and Axel Everaert (process analyst) to map current processes, make plans for redesigning processes for optimization and get knowledge that is in the heads of employees on paper. A huge job, but these heroes do it. For Frank and Axel, one thing is certain: we cannot do this without the cooperation of all our colleagues.

The need to professionalize even further

"What we look at is which processes are already in place and whether they are still optimal for our current situation, also we look at which processes once arose naturally but are not described," Frank explains, "Many of these kinds of processes are recurring actions where the knowledge of them is mainly in the heads of employees. This knowledge is then transferred to newcomers one on one. without actually having any of it on paper. It is important that all internal processes are known, put on paper and examined for their applicability." Axel adds. "We want to move toward a situation where all the processes that are in place are described and optimized."

The need to professionalize even further is driven by KEGRO's growth and position in the market. At the time of this interview, Frank and Axel are in the process of defining processes related to the various flows of goods: outgoing flows of goods, i.e. the doors leaving the factory, incoming flows of goods, especially the entry of raw materials and the internal flows of goods, between the various departments. "The focus was and is on production and quality, but our customers demand and expect more from us today. They themselves have become

more professional, more and more data is being exchanged and systems are increasingly linked in the customer-supplier relationship. This is only possible if you know exactly how work is done," Frank explains.

Each process often involves several internal departments

Axel has the necessary knowledge and experience in logistics and warehousing. "A process often runs across several departments, because that is how it has grown. That means information has to move with it to each subsequent department. What is also interesting is mapping the activities within a departmental process: the main question is then whether certain activities (still) belong to the department in question. Because there is a lot of overlap, it may be that certain operation could be better done in a previous or in the next department. If that is properly mapped out and good changes are made, then more efficient - and thus more sustainable - work will automatically be done."

So it is important that all departments within KEGRO know what is expected of them and what each step in the process entails. "This applies to office and factory, in all layers of the company," Frank said.

The improvement process is basically infinite

Axel indicates that the work of the Improvement Team is also facilitative: "By asking questions, we also find out what employees need in order to do their work optimally. Sometimes employees solve problems on their own initiative, which could perhaps be solved in a structured way in the organization. Furthermore, the improvement process is a "never-ending" process. Processes must be continuously tested against current events and must grow with KEGRO."

Frank: "Our customers are always asking us new questions and assume that we, as an expertise company, have an answer to everything. For us, that means doing more work or doing work differently. That also has to be approached process-wise. Sometimes it is easier to learn something new than to unlearn a habit. Ultimately, we want to arrive at a streamlined organization with fewer failure costs, better facilitation of our customers and employees, an even better working atmosphere and we want to eliminate professional blindness." About the latter. Axel can give a good example: "Transport carts in use were in many cases broken due to age. This happened so gradually that people who had to work with them adapted to the broken cart.



However, the opposite was desirable: we should adapt the cart to people. That kind of thing is coming to light now, and we can address it immediately. We have asked employees what, based on their experience, the ideal cart should look like. We can do something with that info. New, optimized carts are then the logical consequence."

The art of making it simple

The Improvement Team has created flow charts of processes within departments and discusses them with all involved.

These flow charts show what role each

department plays and what steps are taken in each department. Together we check whether each step belongs to the relevant department. Good improvements have already resulted from this, such as the card system for the glass slats. Axel shows a few cards and explains: "If a certain consumable item is running out on the shop floor, you will come across the card belonging to this item. This can be handed in to the hardware warehouse, and then this product is automatically replenished." It's the art of making it simple, Frank believes.

In conclusion, the gentlemen indicate that the work of the Improvement Team is very satisfying. "You get everywhere and speak to everyone," says Frank. "With this, we have a connecting role within KEGRO, we provide a piece of communication. This creates mutual understanding and makes cooperation even better. Understanding and awareness are therefore indispensable first steps on the way to better."

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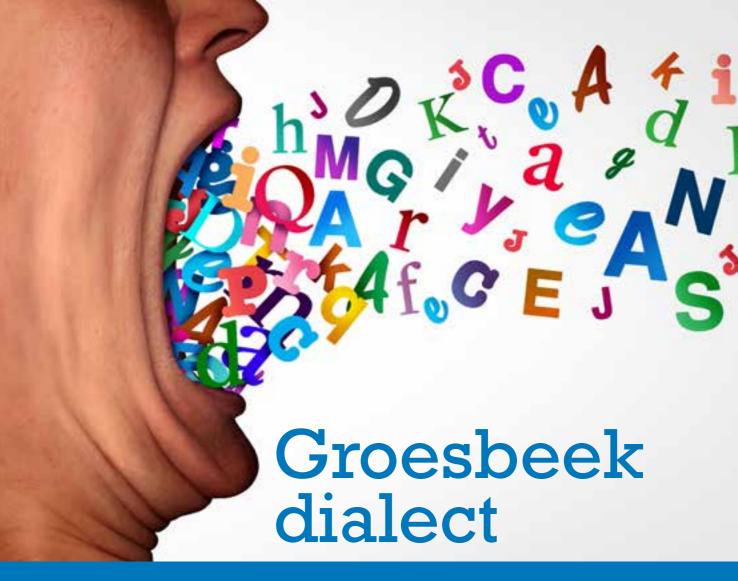
On 17 September, we again participated with 24 relations in 2 company teams in the MTB tour Groesbeeks Gruwelijkste. What tough guys they are! They covered no less than 50, 75 and even 100 km. And all to raise funds for the ROAd4energy foundation, which works to fight energy metabolism disease. What a success it was again! Over € 24,000 was raised. Thanks to all the enthusiastic participants, sponsors and the great organisation.

#GroesbeeksGruwelijkste #ROAd4energy #wecare #charities









KEGRO is a purebred Groesbeek company. Some of the colleagues from Groesbeek will therefore talk the Groesbeek dialect among themselves. It's almost a secret language, for the rest of the world. We want to give everyone who does not master the Groesbeek language the opportunity to brush up their knowledge. Herewith the first Groesbeek course!

Groesbeek sayings:

English:

Are you the dentist's son I've done that so many times

Sometimes it happens

A mean woman

A cool bunch of people

What the hell

Someone who doesn't like anything

I'm broke

I'm first

I'll smack you in the mouth

I'll kick your ass tomorrow!

Don't leave

Oh what have you done now

How pathetic

Don't moan

Groesbeeks:

Ziede gee d'r enne van de moelsmit

Dah hek nie duk gedoan

Da hedde mèj

En laaker troeske

Enne kloe-ke trop

Keh, keh, keh (3x)

Unne tetmoel

Ik zie keps Stuut

Hol mien vast, hol mien vast

Maan zie-de de man!

Blieve plekke

Ge bakt mar koie

Ag aarum

Nöl mar nie

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Fire doors, what is that and how do you test it?

Rubriek: an inside look at door technology Jeroen Lückers

In this semi-annual column, I provide a view and explanation of a technical characteristic of a product or product group. This edition focuses on an insight into the development of the new fire-resistant 60-min doors. You may have seen the updates on Bundling, but what does it all entail, a fire test, and why do we do so many, and what can you do after successfully passing a test result?

In the Doorpost of Christmas 2022, I already wrote a piece about the interior doors in Kegro's range. Our interior doors are indoor functional doors for general areas and house entrances in apartment buildings. These doors are used in stairwells, basements, as apartment entrance doors and double escape doors in corridors. They often have a fire and/or smoke separation function in addition to pure separation of passages. Simply put, they serve to keep a fire in the building confined to the room where the fire is as long as possible. Not the entire building should burn down, and not the entire building should be filled with smoke so that you can no longer escape. A good fire and smoke resistant door has demonstrable test evidence. We colloquially call this a certificate.

In the European classification for fire-resistant doors we know E, EW, El, El, From light to heavy this means:

- E stands for flameproof, so an E separation is only rated for flameproofness. The performance E is achieved as long as no flame passes through the element continuously for more than 10 sec.
- EW stands for flameproof and radiation-tight. In addition to the flame density criterion, the through heat radiation is measured and may not exceed 15 KW.
- EI1/2 stands for Flameproof and Insulating. In addition to the flame density criterion, the surface temperature of the element is measured, which may not exceed an average of 140°C, with a point maximum of 180°C. For class EI, that temperature is measured 25 mm from the edge of the door and glass, and for EI, 100 mm from the edge.

The building code mentions 20-min, 30-min and 60-min WBD-BO (resistance to fire penetration and flash-over). For doors, this complies with European performance classification EW20/EW30/EW60. Only for special applications, such as the storage of hazardous materials, El30 or El60 is required. Private law may deviate from this. The Building Code is a minimum requirement, sometimes a higher performance is required, in very tall buildings, or buildings with very large areas of use, for example, 90-min may be required. Walls with a WBDBO requirement of 30 or 60 min must always comply with El30/El60. But a glass wall or window frame in a fire separation has an El performance requirement.

The countries around us use the same European classification, but not on the same level. For example, Feuerschutz Türen in Germany are at least $\rm El_230 / El_260$ and $\rm El_290$. And in Belgium, B-standard fire-resistant doors are at least $\rm El_30$ or $\rm El_260$.

Fire-resistant performance is a performance of a total door set. So not only the door leaf, but the total of door leaf, frame, wall connection and all glazing, hardware and seals included in that element. The performance is determined according to the NEN-EN 1634-1 standard. In practical terms, this means that you place a frame with a door in a standardized wall. If you later wish to apply side and/or top panels or lights, you must include these in the frame element. After this element is built, after a drying period, it is fully measured, checked for function, documented and fitted with thermosensors. The wall that contains the door element is made in a mobile frame, this mobile frame of often 4 x 4 m is placed in its entirety in front of a gas-fired furnace. This oven is heated under standardized conditions of oxygen content and pressure according to a slowly increasing temperature curve. After 5-min the temperature is already 500°C. After 30-min the temperature is ca 850°C and after 60-min the temperature has risen to ca 950°C.

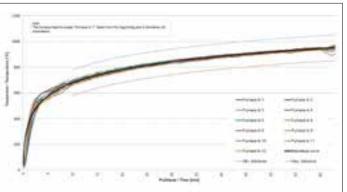


The test is terminated when the desired criterion is no longer met. If your goal is 30-min you have a result if at least that 30-min you have no flame, radiant power or temperature overshoot on the unexposed side. But rather you achieve an excess value. 36-min gives broader application permissions. Thus you may then enlarge and add or remove certain elements. A positive result gives a report of the tested element with a direct scope of application. In short: DiAp. As a rule this indicates that what you have tested may be applied, with some minor changes such as direction of rotation and the type of wall used.

With 1 or more test results you can also have an extended scope assessed. The ExAp is formed in addition to the rules given in Standard NEN-EN 15269-3. Per point which ranges from construction of the door leaf, rebates of door and frame, type and size of glass to type number and material of the hinges and locks, it is indicated what may be changed based on the standard and tested information. The ExAp report, along with the test reports, can be summarized in a classification report. This classification report then thus contains all the conditions for which the performance is valid.

As a manufacturer of only the door leaf, Kegro thus actually has only part of the fire-resistant door element in its hands. Nevertheless, we try to classify as wide an area of application as possible for 30 and 60-min. With our classification reports, we can properly substantiate whether situations are met in the renovation market, but we can also support the joinery factories and contractors who buy our products. We unburden the customer with our substantiation. Provided the frame, wall and all connections comply with what is stated in the classification report, the door elements with our door leafs in them are substantiated 30 or 60-min (popularly: complies with certificate).

In practical terms, the work of R&D involves organizing and incorporating elements into the test wall. This is done with great precision and attention to detail. After weeks of preparation in Groesbeek and 1 or 2 days on location, when we have delivered the elements perfectly, the test often follows a week later. Those are then 30 or 60 very long exciting minutes that I usually spend pacing and nail-biting through.



The temperature curve



The wall in the test frame, in which we have to build the door elements



Building-in process



Final installation



Successful 60 min. Fire test KegaPro BW60 56mm, 30-11-2023

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On Wednesday, Oct. 18, the Senior Citizens' Club for Wood visited Kegro Doors.

Members of this club are current and former owners, directors and managers who have worked in the softwood, hardwood and sheet metal business. Each year the club tries to hold two meetings, preferably combined with a company visit, linking the past, present and future of the wood business. This time we were able to host.

We can look back on a very successful day!

After the welcome, Jan Kersten gave a beautiful and candid story about the history of Kegro Deuren and his role in it. After the tour and all the knowledge and experience we shared with these seasoned wood professionals, we enjoyed lunch together.

Nathalie Bluiminck, editor of trade magazine the Houtwereld, was also present and placed a nice item about the visit in the trade magazine.







Retrospective PV Activity

At KEGRO, we are always up for a little action, fun and good food and drink. On November 10, a group of door specialists enjoyed making Planet Awesome unsafe by participating in Glow in the Dark Golf and Laser gaming. Of course, all that effort makes you thirsty and hungry. That was made up for by a delicious buffet that was waiting for us! Enjoy the pictures!

