

Custom Glass installs Domino's flexible laser marking solution



Introduction

Custom Glass has been one of the leading independent glass manufacturers in the UK for over 30 years. With an ever-growing portfolio of quality and specialist glazed products, the company recently installed Domino's **DI 20i** laser and Mobile Glass Coding Table in order to handle complex glass marking applications.

“Acquiring a new laser marking technology was a big step for Custom Glass, so we needed to be impressed by what Domino had to offer. Fortunately, what they put forward was a combined solution that meets our needs and is durable enough to be future proof.”

Fast facts

- Successful UK glass manufacturer
- Produces over 12,000 units per week
- 68,000 sq. ft. facility, 4 automated production lines
- Installed **DI 20i** Laser and Mobile Glass Coding Table



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Domino’s singular Mobile Glass Coding Table and D120i i-Tech laser coder have been installed at Custom Glass, one of the leading UK manufacturers in the sector. The company is active in a wide range of markets, including domestic, residential and commercial, and required a flexible solution that was capable of marking glass surfaces of varying shapes and sizes.

Established in 1982 and based in Liverpool, Custom Glass manufactures sealed units and toughened safety glass products. The company’s 68,000 sq. ft. facility comprises four fully automated production lines that produce in excess of 12,000 insulated glass units per week.

For track and traceability reasons, coding and marking technologies are an essential component in Custom Glass’ production environment. Jeff Hooson, Managing Director at Custom Glass, explains what led the company to employ Domino’s services: “It all began when we made the decision to create

a second processing line for our toughened glass, which comprise 55% of our output, and we needed to look into a coding solution for this line of products. Originally, we thought of using ink for our coding needs, but this did not prove to be viable as our glass sheets are washed throughout the production process. We agreed that laser would be a far more efficient option, as it leaves a permanent mark.”

Jeff subsequently approached Domino on the advice of a third party and explained in detail what kind of solution he had in mind. “Acquiring a new laser marking technology was a big step for Custom Glass, so we needed to be impressed by what Domino had to offer. Fortunately, what they put forward was a combined solution that meets our needs and is durable enough to be future proof.”

The D120i laser system is ideal for coding at low and high line speeds, while the small footprint of the flexible i-Tech scan head saves space and makes it simple to integrate into production lines. In Custom Glass’ case, the laser scribes a high quality code onto the corner of the glass prior to the toughening process and allows variable traceability information to be added. The visibility of the code is not affected by the toughening process.

However, with the varying shapes and sizes of the glass products that go through Custom Glass’ lines, further flexibility is required. This is where the Mobile Glass Coding Table comes into play. By vertically mounting the D120i laser at the bottom of the table, the system is able to code in designated corners of the glass as it is being smoothly moved across the industry rollers that are fitted onto the table’s surface.

“It is a highly effective arrangement,” continues Jeff. “We use the table for different sizes of glass and the laser efficiently manages to code in the required position each and every time. The flexibility of the coding table certainly gives us a clear advantage over our competitors.”

He concludes: “Domino has managed to come up with a solution that is reliable and consistent. We are very pleased with the end result and would not hesitate to recommend Domino’s offering and services.”



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Domino glass coding
solutions

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