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Arizona Cabinetmaker Has High Praise for His Striebig Automatic Vertical Panel Saw



For 33 years, central Arizona builders and homebuyers have looked to D. Porter & Company Cabinetmakers for the highest quality in custom cabinets. The company specializes in “frameless” full overlay cabinets, with hidden hinges and clean, elegant lines.

Owner Cord Smith, who is the son-in-law of founder Dale Porter, takes pride in upholding the company’s reputation for meeting deadlines. His success, he says, is due in part to his 20-year-old Striebig Automatic Vertical Panel Saw, **which can cut up to six panels at a time.**

“For a small shop like ours, it is perfect,” says Smith. “It takes up very little space, and the operator needs no help - my guy can go through 40 sheets before lunchtime.”

Striebig Vertical Panel Saws have long been the benchmark by which competing models are measured. Manufactured in Switzerland, they are legendary for their smooth-cutting dependability and were the first such saws to feature pivoting saw heads to allow horizontal ripping as well as vertical cutting. Their sturdy yet precise support rollers permit the positioning of multiple heavy panels (up to 1200 lbs.) with minimal lifting.



Because the saw blade moves while the material is locked squarely in place, a vertical panel saw has several advantages over a table saw, Smith explains. In addition to efficiency and ease of use, it is safer because the blade is enclosed. Smith can also use his 7.5HP Striebig for V-grooving.

“You just push a button or step on a pedal, and away it goes,” he says. “The saw is cutting, and you turn to get a fresh sheet. It becomes kind of a game to bring the material into position before the blade returns - you develop a rhythm. You’re working with the saw instead of working the saw.”

In addition to wood, Striebig saws cut melamine, solid surface, particle board, plastics, composites, and nonferrous metals. Their fully welded, heavy-duty frames stay square over time. The controls are simple and logical. Each saw is tested at the factory to ensure its accuracy to .004”. Striebig engineers are focused on vertical panel saws because the company produces no other products.



Many Striebig models are now available with performance-enhancing options such as digital measuring, split-blade scoring, programmable electronic positioning, angle cutting, dado cutting, V-grooving, and a two-speed motor. Striebig’s TRK dust-extraction system keeps dust to an absolute minimum, and a new vacuum system allows bottom-edge trimming without flipping the panel.

“Another major consideration is the durability of Striebig saws,” the enthusiastic Smith told our interviewer. **“In 20 years, ours has required very little maintenance.** You can’t find used Striebigs for sale because if you have one, you hold onto it.”