

Opera and Self Locking System for worldwide market

Propositional and innovative as per tradition, with a careful eye on the European market, FAP srl shows baggage lock OPERA as well as the final production version of the "self closing system"

Words Giorgio Carpi



More and more involved in investigating the global market, but still keeping deep roots in the Italian and European markets where business started over 40 years ago: this is the strategy of the Florentine FAP srl proving undoubtedly his worldwide leadership in the market of locks for R.V. The landing in the N. America market is achieved: since end of 2013 FAP srl lead this market to a big change starting the supply of plastic made locks instead of conventional metal types.

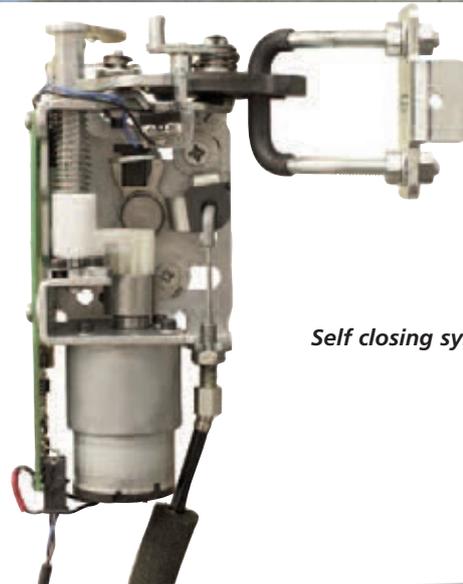
Now the Company is following with great attention the Asian continent "China is in this stage still a small market, a few hundreds sets per year – explain Mr. Lapo Ermini, FAP General Manager and grandson of the Company founder – but once it starts will have enormous growing possibilities.

This is the reason why we attend AIC Exhibition in Beijing for the second time: last year was only a first trip as "visitor", but in 2015 we were there with our own both being able to better understand the market, establish new contacts and collect orders"

Back to the old continent, also for FAP srl Caravan Salon in Dusseldorf is not only an exceptional show room but even a testing event thanks to the huge amount of visitors and qualified attendants.

What's new from the Florentine Company? We start with Opera, a lock for baggage doors so called "garages". It is a new and patent concept of lock. Existing baggage locks are "trigging" or "compression" or "push" type. New engineered model Opera does not need any escutcheon on the door frame, it is working on a "hook" concept. This gives a double advantage: cost reduction and assembling simplicity. The assembling is easy and fast, four screws only with no adjustment. Opera is actioned simply by a finger. Engineered for all different thickness of doors, Opera is for the whole range of R.V. either for the low or for high cost section. All different tests have been completed and is now in the final production stage.

We then refer to the "self closing System", shown in a prototype stage during last Dusseldorf Salon in 2014, and dedicated mainly to the top section of R.V. market. Taking input by the high class automotive market, FAP engineered an automatic closing system to be combined with "Ghost" lock. By means of sensors, with Self Closing System, is enough to gently bring door close to the frame



Self closing system



On Top



Opera

and it closes automatically by its self. Big advantages for the user. No noises. No smashes. Longer life for the whole door. In addition the system gives to the user the fine feeling of high quality.

It is enough to approach door to the frame, then job is automatically completed by a servomechanism: a sensor activates the electric motor driving door forward escutcheon and blocking it. No needs to touch handle for closing the door: operator with full hands or even a child not tall enough, can arrange closing with no problem. FAP is the first Company to apply such technology in the R.V. field and we are confident of the positive market reaction as already experienced for the Ghost lock.

Operated by electric power, has an irrelevant consumption. For safety reason, lock can be operated also in the event of auxiliary battery completely discharged. No chance for the user to be locked in or out of the R.V.

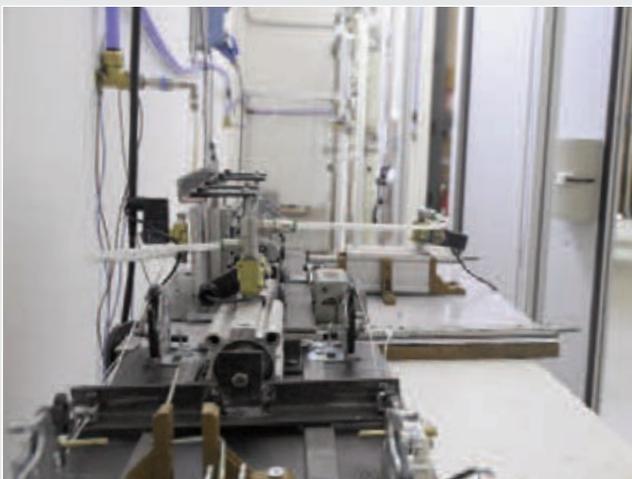
With this device FAP maintain its tradition and strategy to be always one step ahead thanks to an advanced engineering team.

To be seen also the new type of internal lock called "On Top". Name identify the product, on top thanks to quality. But not only this. FAP srl has been able to engineer the product in such a way that quality is combined with a very competitive cost, making such lock available for the different price level of R.V. market.

Test, control and R&D

For a leading Company as FAP srl, quality and reliability are vital factors. Quality Control and tests on all different articles during prototypes and production stage are regularly performed. Recently FAP srl installed in its Florence facility a special room as "laboratory" where all those tests are performed. Modern instruments and specialized staff dedicated only to this duty, operating in a temperature controlled room, are granting FAP's Quality.

We are very proud of our "lab - confirm us Mr. Lapo Ermini FAP srl General Manager - where all our products are carefully controlled before entering production. Different stress tests are performed on different articles. Simulation of 15.000/20.000, equal to years and years of life, are performed on different door locks. Special cabinet using pressure spray water nozzles is used to test water proof condition. In connection with "lab" new computer program has been installed in order to keep proper record of all different results and comments.



Company Profile

Since nearly half century, FAP is involved in the production of plastic accessories, but not only. The founder approached R.V. market in 1968, listening suggestion of two entrepreneurs (namely Mr. Luano Niccolai from Rimor and Mr. Giovanbattista Moscardini from Laika) that made history on this field. In 1982 FAP entered

also the rail way sector supplying interior decoration. Production and ware house is located in Florence in a building of 4.000 covered square meter. FAP is today covering 80% of European market needs for R.V. door locks, having good and friendly connection with door manufacturers and Motor home manufacturers.



Lapo Ermini