

SOLUTIONS.

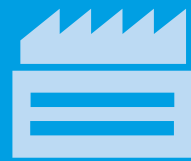
The company magazine of the Blumenbecker Group





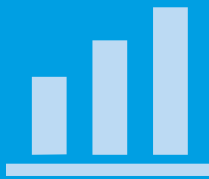
1230

STAFF



19

COMPANIES



177

MILLION € TURNOVER

A STRONG **GROUP**

With a wide range of products and services, the Blumenbecker Group assists you in achieving your goals. All of our activities, including the automation of plants and machinery, the development of innovative robotics solutions, the supply of products from C parts to machine tools, the inspection, maintenance and repair of your plants, and special-purpose machine building, are supplied from a single source – wherever you are in the world.

WE DELIVER SOLUTIONS

Surviving in today's globally competitive market means producing goods in a way that is flexible, reliable, fast and cost-effective. As an **international industry** service provider we have made it our mission to support our customers in this in the best possible way. We see ourselves as **a partner to our clients** and base our approach on intensive dialogue in line with the company philosophy: **listening carefully, finding the right answers and putting these into practice reliably and on-time.**



8

COUNTRIES



>30

LOCATIONS

B.

The figures are from 2020.

EDITORIAL



Dear customers and partners,

Welcome to the fourth edition of our corporate magazine SOLUTIONS.

The last two years have demonstrated how few things can be predicted about the future and how quickly things can change fundamentally from one day to the next. We were and are all challenged to shape our living and working together in a different way than we have known so far. This requires new insights, a lot of flexibility and creativity.

In this edition, we would like to introduce you to digital ways in which we support our customers personally, even over long distances. You will get to know our new virtual factory tours (page 38) and learn about an Australian intralogistics project in which 37 intelligent vehicles were commissioned 'remotely' via remote access (page 34).

We also report on clever digital tools and their use in practice. For example, what experience Miele Professional in Lehrte has had with the Blumenbecker customer portal for maintenance (page 06), how the PDF editor for circuit diagrams 'skemdit' is changing the electrical engineering workflow at the plant manufacturer Göpfert (page 42), or how 'eproc.III' is succeeding in optimising the procurement processes for C-parts at Weimar-Werk GmbH (page 30).

Would you like to go on a short trip? Then accompany us to India, to the 'City of Dreams' Mumbai (page 12) and then to Pune, where you will get to know 'Blumenbecker India' as well as tourist highlights (page 16). For all those who feel like taking a slightly different wooden path, we recommend pages 22 to 29.

In any case, we wish you lots of inspiration!


Olaf Lingnau


Richard Mayer


Harald Golombek

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Göpfert Maschinen GmbH digitises manufacturing

Cover photo:

Remote commissioning of conveyor technology in Australia



Carsten Manthey has been servicing cranes and much more at the Miele plant in Lehrte since 2013.

Digital customer portal simplifies maintenance

OVERVIEW AT ONE CLICK

Has ladder 87 already been inspected? When will crane 4 be repaired? And what about the power tools? Instead of going through a lot of paperwork, Miele Professional in Lehrte has the answer digitally. The household appliance manufacturer monitors the maintenance and inspection status of most of its equipment using Blumenbecker's customer portal for maintenance.



Carsten Manthey stands in the production area of the Miele Professional Competence Centre in Lehrte. He is surrounded by impressively large commercial washing machines weighing up to 32 kilograms. The Blumenbecker service technician knows almost every ladder by name here, as he does in the neighbouring halls and offices. He also knows the names of the cranes, load handling attachments and other equipment, as Blumenbecker has been responsible for their maintenance, testing and servicing since 2013. Since 2020, Miele Professional in Lehrte has also been using Blumenbecker's customer portal for maintenance. This digital solution has made work much easier for Michael Arning, Head of Maintenance Lehrte Plant Business Unit Professional.

The test status of all equipment at a glance

By law, every employer is obliged to provide safe work equipment. To this end, inspection intervals must be observed and equipment must be maintained in time. Carsten Manthey inspects several hundred systems and objects in Lehrte. There is a test certificate for every single piece of equipment. »In the past, all of them had to be signed and filed by hand by the customer,« says Manthey. For maintenance manager Arning, this meant a lot of time and a flood of paper: »Everything had to be looked through by hand,« says Arning, »now I have an overview - quickly, without gaps and without errors.«





» A large advantage of the customer portal is the transparency. In the past, I had to go through piles of paper to see where something was wrong. With the traffic light function, it only takes seconds. That saves us time and money. «

Michael Arning, Head of Maintenance Lehrte
Plant Business Unit Professional, Miele & Cie. KG



All test reports are automatically transferred to the customer portal

Service technician Manthey has just completed his latest inspection. The corresponding inspection reports are available digitally in the customer portal immediately after approval, where Arning can access them via a protected access point using a smartphone, notebook or PC. The well-structured user interface makes it easy to find one's way around. »Absolutely manager-friendly«, as Arning himself describes it. The status of the checked objects can be seen at a glance: Passed (green), failed (red) and passed with complaints (yellow). »Instead of rolling through piles of paper, it only takes seconds with the traffic light function to see where something is faulty. This saves us time and money.« The enquiries, orders and repairs necessary for rectification can also be initiated directly via the portal.

A tool that saves time and money

»The Blumenbecker customer portal provides complete and legally compliant digital documentation,« continues service technician Manthey. Audits can be prepared in no time at all. The filter and search function makes it possible to find the objects quickly. In the expansion stage, it is also possible to deposit photos and other documents, such as operating manuals, for each inspected object. Equipment that is inspected by other service providers or by the customer himself can also be integrated. »In this way, the customer would have all objects digitally united in one place,« says Manthey. An idea that also appeals to maintenance manager Arning.

Blumenbecker's customer portal for maintenance enables clear and legally compliant management of the legally required inspections of mechanical, electrical and fire protection equipment. Even several thousand objects and systems can be easily monitored with the online tool.

The advantages at a glance:

- | Clear, complete and legally compliant documentation
- | All relevant data and documents available at all times
- | Location-independent access via smartphone, notebook or PC
- | All important information at a glance
- | Process optimisation through integrated enquiry and order processes

Contact person



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The traffic light function provides a quick overview of completed and upcoming exams.



MUMBAI – CITY OF DREAMS

Mumbai, formerly Bombay - the melodious metropolis of 20 million people on the Arabian Sea. A place of longing and attraction for fortune seekers and visitors from all over the world. Here, magnificent Victorian buildings meet glass skyscrapers, slums and markets meet glittering Bollywood. A flying visit to the City of Dreams.

The Colaba district is the ideal starting point for exploring the city's colonial heritage on foot. From there, the Gateway of India, Mumbai's landmark, is quickly reached. The monumental triumphal arch right on the harbour commemorates the first visit of the British King George V and his wife Mary in 1911. Despite the early morning hour, the place is teeming with people: Businessmen, beggars, street vendors and tourists combine to form a lively, colourful mix.

Colonial heritage

One more glance at the world-famous Taj Mahal Palace Hotel opposite and we continue – past the Prince of Wales Museum with its impressive dome and the wonderfully peaceful park, along Mahatma Gandhi Road to the university, whose 80-metre-high bell tower is reminiscent of Big Ben and also plays the same tune as its British model. Right next door is the Bombay High Court, which at 170 metres long and almost 60 metres high is one of the largest Victorian Gothic buildings in the city. But the most beautiful monument with a colonial past is the Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST). Built on the model of St. Pancras in London, the station, which was initially called Victoria Station and was only named after the great Maratha warrior king in 1996, has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2004.

Meeting place Chowpatty

If you want to enjoy the sunset on the beach, you will definitely not be alone. Juhu Chowpatty, Mumbai's largest beach, is a popular meeting place in the evening and densely populated with families, lovers and, of course, tourists. By the way, the tourists seem to be the only ones who are bothered by the rubbish lying around everywhere.

Sea promenade with art nouveau flair

A hop-on-hop-off tour by taxi is a good way to explore the gigantic metropolis individually. A trip along the 3.6-kilometre-long Marine Drive, also called Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Road, is not to be missed. With its wide beach promenade on one side and the beautiful Art Deco-style buildings on the other, the street has a very special flair. On top of all this, there is an unobstructed view of Mumbai's skyline.

Mumbai's harbour with the Gateway of India triumphal arch and the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel



Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus station by night



Hanging Gardens

The largest open-air laundry in the world



From Malabar Hill to Gandhi

If you wish, you can take a detour through the noble and pleasantly quiet residential area on Malabar Hill and make a short stop at the Hanging Gardens. Then you have already reached the Mani Bhavan. Mahatma Gandhi lived and worked in this residential building from 1919 to 1934, and it was from here that he launched his first mass movement for freedom. The house has retained its original condition and provides an interesting insight into the various stages of his life. It is worthwhile to be there early in the morning before the tourist buses arrive.

The largest laundry in the world

From the bridge at Mahalaxmi Station, the world's largest open-air laundry is at your feet. At Dhobi Ghat, almost 1,000 stone washbasins line up. There are huge industrial dryers and an impressive tangle of washing lines on which trousers, shirts, bed sheets, towels, work clothes for waiters and cooks and even police uniforms flutter around colourfully. More than 5,000 people work here and wash all the clothes by hand. It is unbelievable that with such quantities of laundry, the individual items find their way back to their owners.

A market for everything and a legendary café

A very interesting experience is the Crawford Market. In this Norman Neo-Gothic market hall dating from 1871, there is just about everything that the inhabitants of this city of millions need, from fruit and vegetables to household goods, shoes, toys and live animals. There is an exotic atmosphere beyond all European animal welfare and hygiene rules. If the noise, heat and crowds are too much for you, you can take a taxi to the legendary 'Leopold Café', well-known from the novel 'Shantaram', and end the day with a cool drink and a 'pav bhaji', a spicy potato curry.

'Pav bhaji': A spicy potato curry



BLUMENBECKER IN INDIA'S BOOMTOWN PUNE

Situated on a high plateau, Pune is called the soul of the western Indian state of Maharashtra. It was and is a centre with cultural, political and economic radiance. From the Shaniwar Wada Palace, the so-called Peshwas ruled the Mararathen Empire, which existed from 1674 to 1818. Later, the British colonial rulers made the city into their second capital because of its pleasant climate. A well-known landmark is the Aga

Khan Palace. The original residence of the Ismaili Bohras was a prison under British rule, where Mahatma Gandhi and his wife Kastruba were imprisoned from 1942 to 1944 and where Kastruba and a secretary of Gandhi died. Today, the magnificent palace is a memorial to the freedom activist and also delights with its beautifully landscaped grounds.



INSIDER TIPS

Bremen-Pune-Friendship Square

The twinning between Pune and Bremen was established in 1997. To celebrate this event, a large roundabout next to the University of Pune in the heart of the city was christened 'Bremen Circle' and inaugurated. The artistic installation includes covers of the Bremen Town Musicians as a parable for solidarity and hope. The 'Bremen Circle' remains a monument to friendship, while the Bremen City Hall houses a white marble bust of Mahatma Gandhi, donated by the Indian government to commemorate three decades of solidarity between the two cities.



MADHURI KONKAR
Commercial Manager
Blumenbecker
KAT Automation

Sinhagad (Lion's Fort)

The Sinhagad Fort is located a bit outside of Pune and was built more than 2000 years ago. It was an important centre during the reign of King Shivaji as part of the Maratha Empire. The fort got its name based on the legendary battle of King Shivaji's army led by Tanaji Malusare, who fought like a lion (hence the name) against a much larger army of Mughals, but he lost his life during the battle. Today, climbing or cycling to the top of the fort is popular with fitness enthusiasts and a great place to get a panoramic view and enjoy some local delicacies.



VISHWESH KATAKKAR
CEO & General Manager
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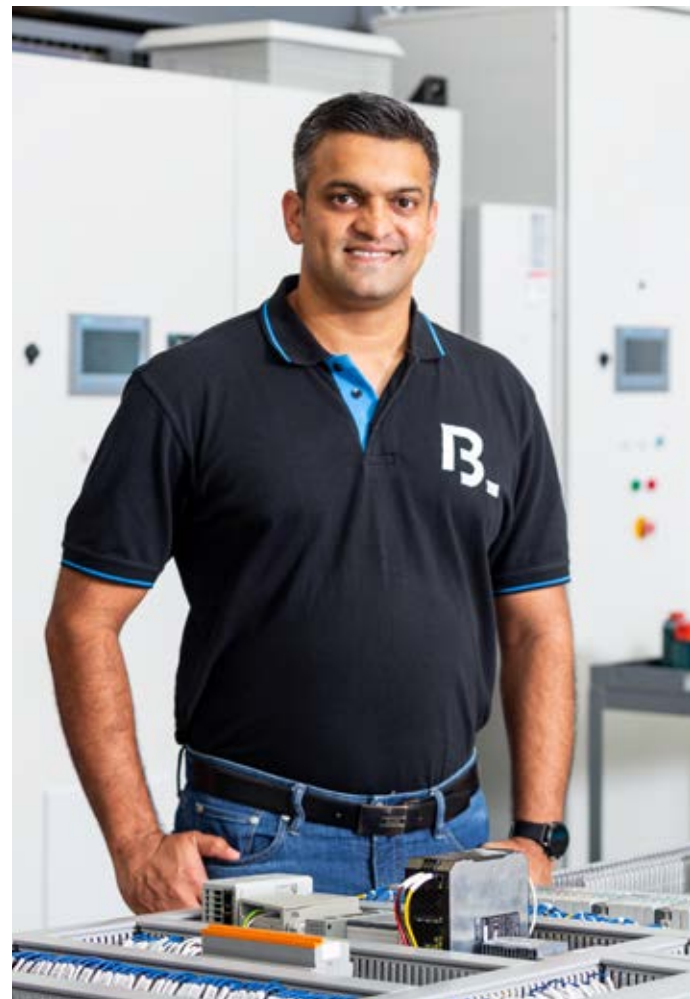
Business metropolis on course for growth

Everywhere in Pune, visitors look into young faces. No wonder, because the average age of the metropolis of three million inhabitants is under 25. With more than half a million students, the university city is considered the 'Oxford of the East'. And as a city that opens attractive career opportunities for its more than 15,000 graduates every year. Because: Pune is a sought-after business location for globally active companies. From the Indian market leader Tata to Hyundai, Fiat, General Motors, Mercedes and Volkswagen, many international automobile companies are represented here. This has attracted numerous suppliers as well as companies from the mechanical engineering and IT sectors and other industries. With more than 250 company entries, German companies form the largest foreign business community, so that there are now direct flight connections between Germany and Pune.



Blumenbecker – in India since 2010

The Blumenbecker Group is represented by a joint venture in Pune since 2010. In addition to the first location, another was opened in 2013 in the Indo German Technology Park 25 kilometres west of Pune. This gives Blumenbecker KAT Automation a total production sprpace of 4,000 square metres: »The best conditions for quickly processing the steadily growing number of customer orders,« explains Vishwesh Katakkar, CEO and General Manager. At Blumenbecker India, 31 employees develop and manufacture customised control solutions for a wide range of requirements and industries.





» We have the best conditions to quickly process the constantly growing number of customer orders. «

Vishwesh Katakhar, CEO & General Manager,
Blumenbecker KAT Automation Pvt. Ltd.



Individual solutions for international customers

Customers are international companies from the renewable energy, packaging, food and automotive industries as well as the pharmaceutical sector. These include a number of companies with German DNA that have been working with Blumenbecker for years at both national and international level and also rely on the partner's proximity and proven quality in India. Blumenbecker India is ISO 9001:2015 certified and a CE- and UL-listed company that covers the entire automation spectrum. From engineering, manufacturing and assembly to maintenance and spare parts procurement, customers receive all services from a single source.

Services

Blumenbecker India

- | Production of switchgear cabinets, control panels, VFD, MCC, PCC, instrumentation panels, etc.
- | Project planning in EPLAN P8 and EPLAN Propanel
- | Programming (online and offline) of PLC, SCADA and HMI
- | Spare parts procurement
- | On-site service





31

Staff



1

Million €
Turnover



2010

Year of
Foundation

4000 m²
PRODUCTION
SPACE



THE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT 'WOODEN PATH'

Switchgear construction for
a wood extraction plant



What do food for breeding animals and railway wagons have in common? Nothing, you think. Nothing yet, we say.



The Bern University of Applied Sciences is researching how low-emission adhesives with high fire resistance can be obtained from wood. These can be used in the construction of railway carriages. In addition, wood ingredients can be used as additives in animal food. There they lead to a reduction in bacterial growth and

reduce parasite infestation in breeding animals. A wood extraction plant is used to extract the ingredients from the bark of the wood. Blumenbecker supplied the switchgear cabinet and software for this pilot plant in Switzerland.



Experience and competences secure initial order

Blumenbecker can refer back to decades of experience in the chemical and explosion-proof sectors. Testing and manufacturing is done according to the UL 508A and UL 698 standards. This was one of the decisive factors for this first order, explains electrical engineer Petar Petrov at DEVEX Verfahrenstechnik GmbH. »Blumenbecker's quality and competence are convincing,« he adds.

DEVEX designs and builds turnkey factories, machines and plants. One focus is the manufacture of extraction plants used to extract essential oils, oil resins, flavours, natural extracts and proteins. For this project, DEVEX received all automation solutions from Blumenbecker from a single source: engineering, switchgear construction, software, visualisation and commissioning.



» Blumenbecker convinces
with quality and competence.
We can recommend
Blumenbecker in any case.«

Petar Petrov, Electrical Engineer, DEVEX Verfahrenstechnik GmbH



Marco Taddeo (Blumenbecker Automatisierungstechnik, left) and Petar Petrov (DEVEX) in front of the wood extraction plant with Blumenbecker switchgear cabinet

»The wood extraction plant itself has actuators and sensors with different types of explosion protection. The challenge was to combine everything in a switch-gear cabinet. The system can be operated via a touch screen, which is also approved for the explosion area«, explains project manager Uwe Podlich.

App for digital plant documentation EIP.mobile

The Blumenbecker app EIP.mobile was integrated in the realisation of the project. This is an app for digital plant documentation. Components of a system can be clearly identified and digitally retrieved via the equipment identification code or the QR code applied. From there, you can access the entire assembly, its components and the associated manuals. In addition, the circuit diagram, the assembly plan or the layout plan is displayed directly in EIP.mobile.

Kai Philipp Schmidt (Blumenbecker Automatisierungstechnik, right) demonstrates how to use the plant via touchscreen.



Originally, the use of EIP.mobile was only planned for the components of the Blumenbecker switchgear cabinet. »We presented the mobile solution to DEVEX. The customer was so enthusiastic that we were asked to extend the app to the entire plant,« says Podlich happily. For this purpose, the components of the plant were marked with QR codes. Thanks to EIP.mobile, all information about the plant is directly available digitally.

From the wooden path to practice

The switchgear was built at Blumenbecker's modern production facility in Beckum. Since November 2020, the switchgear cabinet, including the operating portal and the associated wood extraction plant, has been in the Bern University of Applied Sciences - to the customer's satisfaction: »We can definitely recommend Blumenbecker to others,« says Petrov.

Who knows? Maybe we will soon be sitting in railway carriages which are held together with adhesives manufactured from local woods. Away from normal wood processing to a 'wood path' of a different kind.

Thanks to EIP.mobile, all information about the plant is directly available digitally.



Contact person



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E-procurement for Weimar-Werk GmbH

SHOP DIGITAL AND SAVE

C-parts are cheap, but cost a lot. This wisdom is not new and is well-known and unpopular, especially among buyers. Thomas Stegmann, authorised officer at Weimar-Werk GmbH, is also a little annoyed by the costs of so-called 'low-value goods'. To get over this, he opted for Blumenbecker's e-procurement system. Since then, he has been able to keep an eye on the costs of C-parts and sees many advantages.

Weimar, in the heart of Thuringia. Here is where the Weimar-Werk GmbH is located. Screening and crushing technology, conveyor technology, mechanical engineering and steel construction are among the business areas of this medium-sized company. Mainly, assemblies made of stainless steel are manufactured for the food industry. Thomas Stegmann was looking for ways to improve the procurement of C-parts. »When I was researching on the Internet, I noticed Blumenbecker,« he says.



Weimar-Werk GmbH

E-procurement brings light into the darkness

After the first contact with Matthias Starkmann, Key Account Industrial Customers at Blumenbecker Industriebedarf, the solution was quickly apparent: e-procurement. With electronic procurement (e-procurement), a large part of the administrative work is eliminated because the requester in the company is also the orderer. Erroneous orders, wrong numbers or wrong orders are a thing of the past; ordering times are shortened.

C-PARTS
ARE CHEAP,
**BUT COST
A LOT.**



Benefits of the e-procurement solution



Reduce
**PROCUREMENT
COSTS**



Reduce
STOCKS



Analyse
EXPENSES



Reduce
MAVERICK BUYING



Meet
LIMITS & BUDGETS



Reduce
**NUMBER OF
SUPPLIERS**



Reduce
ORDERING TIME



Extend
**END-TO-END
DATA INTEGRATION**



Reduce
SUPPLIER RISK



» When problems arise,
Blumenbecker reacts quickly,
with a lot of ambition and commitment.«

Thomas Stegmann, Authorised Officer, Weimar-Werk GmbH



Everything in focus

Starkmann analysed the purchasing processes, classified the requirements and thus determined the suitable e-procurement solution for his customer: »eproc. III offers the possibility of structuring the entire procurement area in a modern way, of evaluating it very well and of a good cost analysis in the project business«, Starkmann explains his decision. eproc. III is an Internet-based 'on-demand solution' and therefore does not bind any IT capacities. A connection to the customer's existing ERP system is also possible. Thomas Stegmann also saw the advantages and was immediately trained as an administrator. He tested the system himself and examined it from all angles, set up employee accesses and stored the various authorisations. »He turned out to be a real natural,« Starkmann grins.

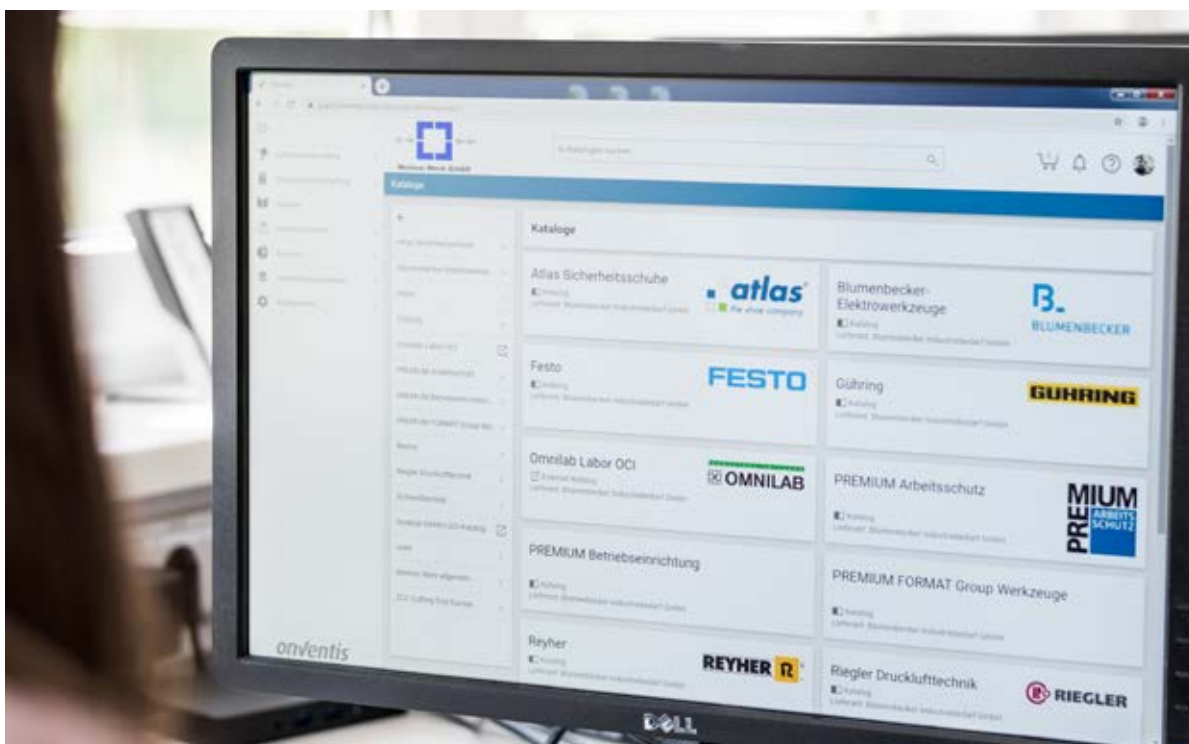
But Matthias Starkmann is not the only one involved in the project. Henrik Spiske is a service provider and supports Weimar-Werk in the office. If the customer has any questions about the system, or if data has to be entered, he is the contact person.

More than 50,000 articles

Several employees at Weimar-Werk are equipped with the eproc. III licence. In the individually created web shop, they can access more than 50,000 articles and order them directly. The complete C-parts supply is handled via this, including special parts such as chemicals. A workflow ensures that the supervisor is notified when a certain amount is reached. Blumenbecker currently receives orders three to four times a week. Most of the orders are for protective work equipment, such as gloves and welding protection. Consumables, such as drills and abrasives, are also often included.

»The decisive factor in choosing Blumenbecker over other suppliers was the connection to our existing ERP system. The mapping of cost centres and the paperless invoices are further advantages,« explains Stegmann. In general, he appreciates Blumenbecker's open and uncomplicated approach. The authorised officer is no friend of bureaucracy and says openly when something doesn't fit. »When problems arise, Blumenbecker reacts quickly, with a lot of ambition and commitment. That's what I expect,« says Thomas Stegmann about the cooperation.

The individual e-procurement solution for Weimar-Werk



Optimise processes and save costs.

The benefits at a glance:

- | Reduction of the administrative effort, because the requester at Weimar-Werk GmbH is also the orderer
- | Reduction in ordering times
- | Minimisation of errors in the ordering process
- | Connection to the existing ERP system and mapping of cost centres
- | Paperless invoices

Contact person



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eproc.III

Blumenbecker supports small, medium-sized and large companies in setting up individual e-procurement systems:

- | Advice on the design of the item master
- | Linking the e-procurement software to the relevant ERP system
- | Entering the data
- | Training of employees
- | Assistance with the integration of different suppliers
- | Multi-supplier catalogue under one user interface with integration of almost all suppliers into the order processing system
- | Linking to SAP, for example with transfer of the order or budget limits centrally stored there
- | Connection to existing e-procurement systems via OCI interface
- | Data transfer optionally via Edifact, e-mail, FTP or web services
- | Scalability: eproc.III grows with requirements
- | Expansion stage: integration into the all-in-one procurement solution Oventis

Commissioning via remote access

REMOTE TO SUCCESS

»There is always a solution. Sometimes it just needs new ways of doing things.« And that's what Blumenbecker's engineering specialists found when the Corona pandemic slowed down the commissioning of an Australian intralogistics project. Without further ado, the German-Polish team commissioned the system with 37 intelligent vehicles remotely – by remote access.

»Many companies would have invoked force majeure and suspended their projects during the pandemic. But that was out of the question for us«, explains Marco Mertins, technical branch manager at Blumenbecker Engineering Germany and project coordinator. Since mid-2018, Blumenbecker Germany and Poland have been working on the intralogistics project for Australian beverage wholesaler BevChain.

Transport system with 37 vehicles for the transport of beverages

In the new built warehouse of the industry leader in Sydney, a transport system for beverage promotion was to be realised. At the centre of the system are 37 vehicles that travel in a circuit and supply all important logistics areas from incoming goods to order picking and storage to outgoing goods. Each of the intelli-

gent vehicles, which travel 120 metres per minute, has a switch cabinet with PLC control and can transport up to 480 one-litre bottles or 16 beer kegs on its storage surface. Via a head control, the vehicle receives the information when and where it has to pick up and deliver which goods.

Commissioning over 15,800 kilometre distance

Blumenbecker was responsible for designing and programming the software and installing and commissioning the system on behalf of UP Universelle Förder-technik. Everything was going according to plan until the end of February 2020, when the incidence of corona in Australia soared. The associated travel restrictions forced Blumenbecker to cancel the commissioning in Sydney which had just begun. The question arose:

»Flexibility and extraordinary commitment are the success factors in international plant construction! Blumenbecker and its committed employees have been able to prove this in recent projects! The success of each project once again confirms our choice of partner. «

Fabian Pietsch, Managing Director, UP Universelle Fördertechnik GmbH





These 37 intelligent vehicles receive their orders via a static head control. They find their way by scanning barcodes on the system.

The end customer: BevChain

BevChain is the wholly owned subsidiary of Australian logistics and supply chain company Linfox and specialises in the storage and distribution of alcoholic beverages in New Zealand and Australia. As the industry leader in Australia, BevChain supplies more than 25,000 pubs and outlets across the country. Two of three beverages in Down Under find their way to the end consumer through the logistics company.

»What now?« The engineering specialists decided to continue the project 'remote' by remote access. They quickly found an Australian engineer to take over the operational part on site. The Blumenbecker technicians in Katowice, 15,800 kilometres away, formed the 'head' of the operation. As part of this 'remote relationship', commissioning work was resumed just one week after the interruption.

Working with an eight-hour time difference

From Poland, the Blumenbecker specialists connected to the Australian technician's laptop, which was connected to the system. The Australian technician's head-mounted camera provided the necessary image information, and communication took place via Microsoft Teams. Step by step, the Polish 'brain' guided the Australian 'eyes and hands' through the commissioning process. A teamwork at a distance that worked very well. And so the plant was up and running on time for the handover in May 2021 - an adherence to schedules that is important to project coordinator Mertins and was only possible through the committed cooperation of everyone involved. He particularly praises »the commitment of the Polish remote team, which worked two months in night shifts due to the eight-hour time difference.«

Remote commissioning and remote maintenance added to the portfolio

At the same time as the BevChain project, Blumenbecker Engineering also commissioned an intralogistics system for IKEA Malaysia by remote access; this project, as well, to the absolute satisfaction of the client, UP Universelle Fördertechnik. Based on the positive experience, remote commissioning will have a permanent place in Blumenbecker's portfolio in future. According to Mertins, remote maintenance of intralogistics systems will also be added to the range of services. The first enquiries have already been received.

The client: UP Universelle Fördertechnik

UP Universelle Fördertechnik has proven expertise in the transport, sorting, storage, buffering and provision of components and goods. For more than 15 years, the company has been developing, manufacturing and assembling individual conveyor technology solutions primarily for the automotive and logistics industries. In addition to its headquarters in Schopfheim/Germany, the materials handling specialist has another production location in Shanghai.

Contact person



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A different kind of factory tour

A DIGITAL VISIT

Real impressions digitally packaged. Blumenbecker is launching a new tour format. As an alternative to the classic factory tour, there are personally guided virtual tours of Blumenbecker's production facility.

It all started in 2016, when Blumenbecker published some 360-degree photos of the switchgear production in Beckum on its website. This approach has now resulted in the virtual factory tours that Blumenbecker Automatisierungstechnik has been organising since the beginning of the year. »We want to give customers, interested people and applicants the opportunity to meet us in person, even from a great distance, and to get a realistic insight into our work,« explains Thomas Schmitz, Head of Global Key Account Management, who moderates the tours.

Virtual tours for small and large groups of visitors

This morning, almost 20 people turned up on the video meeting platform Teams for the digital factory tour. On some dates there were even more than 40, according to Schmitz. In principle, the number of participants is open to increase. »This is a declared advantage of the digital format,« says Schmitz. He first welcomes the visitors in front of a photo of the main entrance. After he has introduced the outside area via a 360-degree pan, he switches to the next view. The group of visitors is now in the reception area, from where, after a few introductory words, they continue into the office wing.





Selective involvement of experts

It quickly becomes clear that the presentation is more than just a series of photographic panoramas. On the screens of the office workplaces shown are presentations, graphics and drawings that can be called up or played back. Schmitz uses them to illustrate the work of the individual departments - from CAD design to the software department to work preparation. In response to a participant's question about the enrichment of article master data records, Schmitz quickly connects his colleague from the software department, who has developed the software and is now explaining it. After this excursion, the group switches to production with another click and is guided through all the production areas from materials management to loading, just like in a classic factory tour.

3D animations, photos and film sequences convey additional information

Repeatedly, 3D animations, photos and short film sequences supplement the 360-degree insights to illustrate work steps and processes or to deepen individual topics. The product film 'Digital Order Picking', for example, takes visitors to a customer's construction site. They see how the components, which are marked with a QR code in advance at Blumenbecker and in some cases pre-assembled, simplify the electrical installation on site. The internal electronic customs clearance and the documentation of load securing are also explained with film sequences.

Responding to individual needs

Schmitz particularly appreciates the flexibility of the digital format: »I can react quickly and tailor the presentation exactly to the interests of the group of visitors.« This also means overcoming spatial distances with a click, switching back and forth between parts of the building or presenting the international locations or individual customer projects as needed. Questions are answered verbally or via the chat function.

Digital tour format arrives

The question is how the digital tour is received by the visitors. The feedback from the group is positive. »The participants get a realistic and varied impression of the company, but the media options cannot always replace a personal encounter,« Schmitz sums up. For this reason, Blumenbecker will offer both tour formats in parallel in future.



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skemdit wants to make working digitally as easy and intuitive as working with paper electrical circuit diagrams.

Göpfert Maschinen GmbH
digitises manufacturing



CLEVER UNDER ELECTRICITY

Sometimes it's the small, clever solutions that make the big difference. Like the PDF editor for circuit diagrams skemdit, which helps the plant manufacturer Göpfert to structure its electrical engineering workflow more transparently and effectively.

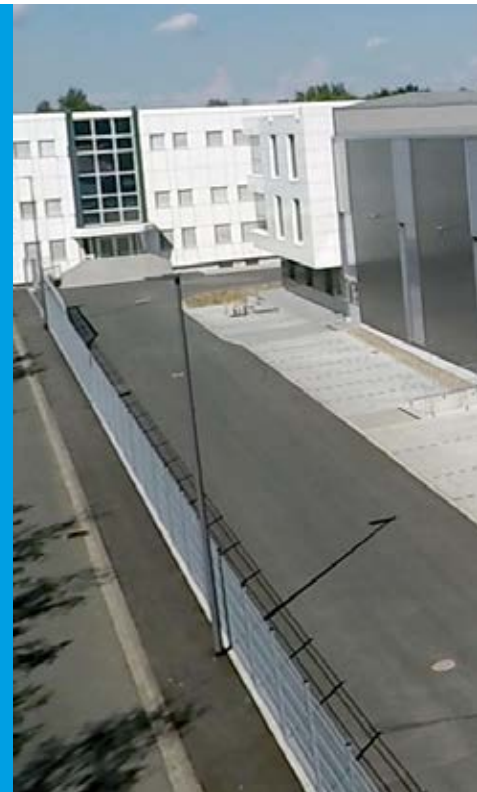
Göpfert Maschinen is one of the world's leading manufacturers of machines for processing corrugated board. Many of its product developments are considered industry-wide milestones. For some time now, Wilhelm Ott and Walter Pickel, the electrical engineering management duo at Göpfert, have been looking for a powerful PDF viewer to digitally edit circuit diagrams. But no tool satisfies their requirements. And so electrical engineering production remains a work with paper, often involving more than 2,000 printed pages per system and filling up to four folders. When Blumenbecker presented its skemdit software in the summer of 2020, Ott and Pickel were sceptical at first whether this small tool could really deliver what it promised.

The challenge: making redline changes visible to all stakeholders

Up to 20 electricians often work simultaneously on the Göpfert plants, which are built in Wiesentheid, Bavaria. In addition, there are employees in construction, quality control, commissioning and customer service. For all of them, the circuit diagram is the central working document in which they enter changes and comments and also tick off tests. And they do this by hand. »As more copies of a circuit diagram circulate, it becomes more difficult to keep all the diagrams up to date,« says Ott. And not every colleague has legible handwriting or makes a note of his abbreviation. »To correctly record all redline changes, to assign them correctly and to hand over a complete system documentation in CAE format to the customer is always a real challenge.«

» One notices
that skemdit
was developed by
a practitioner! «

Wilhelm Ott, Head of Electrical Engineering, Göpfert Maschinen GmbH

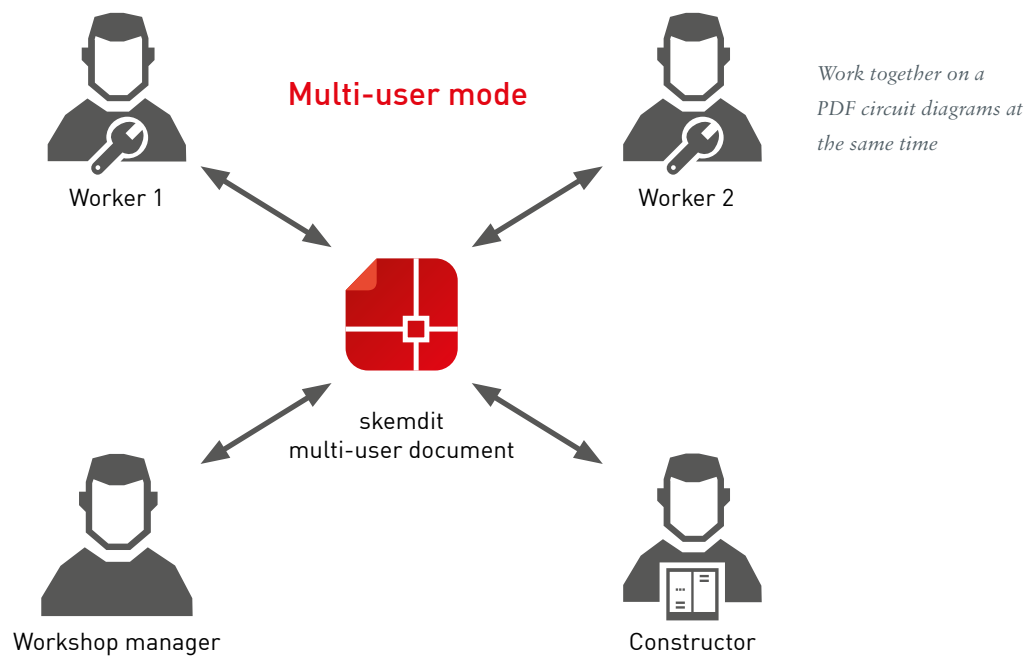


The idea: working together on one digital document

This is exactly where the software tool developed by Blumenbecker comes in. With skemdit, all involved can work together on a digital document across the entire value chain. Redline changes such as annotations are entered via tablet or screen, lines that have already been laid are digitally ticked off and quality stamps are set. All inputs converge in a central cloud document and are thus available to all trades in real time. »This guarantees transparency and makes cooperation efficient,« explains Thomas Hagemann from Blumenbecker, who developed the software with his digitalisation team; initially for his own use. »Then we realised how helpful the tool could be for machine and plant manufacturers,« adds project manager Florian Sontowski.

PLC interface enables fast customer service

A statement at which Wilhelm Ott nods in agreement. Since April 2021, he has been using the software for the help function of his systems, among other things. If a problem appears at the customer's, all it takes is the press of a button and the circuit diagram opens on the system display - exactly at the point where the error occurred. This eliminates the need for laborious searching through thousands of pages of paper documentation. Thanks to the PLC function of skemdit, Göpfert's customer service can even connect directly to the customer's systems and look into the machine controls. »This allows us to solve problems much faster than before. And ideally, the customer will no longer need our customer service at all«, Ott looks to the future.



» Digitalisation with skemdit provides a significant increase in efficiency in electrical manufacturing! «

Individual adaptations facilitate the work

He likes the fact that skemdit is not a rigid standard solution, rather it allows for individual adaptations such as personal user administration, Ott says appreciatively and adds: »The introduction of skemdit is an important step for us in the direction of paperless production.« When all employees in production are equipped with industrial-grade tablets, it should also be possible to manage holiday requests or attendance and absence digitally from the workbench.

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skemdit – speed up your electrical revision

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- | Shorter lead times for revisions
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- | Easily rotate and collect contacts
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- | Changing and inserting texts
- | Copying and pasting existing circuits
- | Deleting elements
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