

Success Story

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Manuel Haeke -
IT-Manager

www.mitec-automotive-ag.de



MITEC Automotive AG, Eisenach

With PDC always close to the customer

A globally acting enterprise that supplies large customers just-in-time, must have its production under control at all times. Therefore, effective processes and an all-time overview over manufacturing are essential. In many companies PDC (Production Data Collection) systems take care of that. They optimize processes, create transparency and save labor time - also at MITEC Automotive AG in Eisenach, Germany.

MITEC Automotive AG belongs to the world's leading automotive suppliers for mass balancing systems for gasoline and diesel engines as well as all-wheel components. Components for the drive technology and balance shafts belong to the company's core business. Some 6 Million of gearwheels/gear tooth systems are produced in Eisenach. In 1990, MITEC Automotive AG emerged from parts of the Automobilwerk Eisenach, where the famous «Wartburg» was produced. 55 employees started with the construction and production of new and innovative products for the automotive industry. Today, more than 600 employees generate an annual turnover of approximately 75 Mio. Euros. 92 percent of all products are sent to all parts of the world. Customers are for instance: Ford, General Motors, Opel, Audi, Saab, DaimlerChrysler, VW, BMW, Mazda, etc. MITEC is exclusive supplier of balance shafts for the entire world production of Ford engines. Because of the great demand for balancing systems, a new plant was put into operation in October 2001.

There, 110 employees of the newly founded MITEC engine.tec gmbh mainly produce systems for Ford, VW, and BMW engines. To be close to the customer throughout the world, MITEC Automotive AG implemented the SAP R/3 Automotive System, in order to react to customers' demands and just-in-time deliveries world-wide. After the SAP R/3 system mySAP.com Automotive had been successfully implemented, MITEC was also looking for a new solution for time and production data collection. «We were looking for a standard solution; a reliable system with a certified interface», explains Manuel Haeke, IT Manager at MITEC Automotive AG. After MITEC had already successfully collected time and production data with Kaba Benzing terminals since 1996, it was only natural that they turned to the market leader in this area. «Kaba Benzing convinced with their know-how acquired in 700 SAP installations» says Manuel Haeke. «They also promised a quick implementation because we needed the software solution and the new terminals within 4 weeks.» MITEC decided in favor of Kaba Benzing's B-COMM for R/3 ERP (release 4.6c) solution. This solution takes care of data recording and the smooth data transfer to the SAP modules HR or PP. It is fully integrated into the SAP system. Already in May 2001 a test system was installed in order to accomplish MITEC's ambitious time schedule.

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PDC creates transparency and saves labor time

In June 2001 the complete system was installed. In August the terminal installation at the subsidiary MITEC engine.tec gmbh took place. 9 time recording terminals (Bedas 93 40) and 19 PDC terminals (Bedas 95 40 LEGIC) were linked with two B-COMM computers via Ethernet. Time recording and production data collection runs online. In/Out bookings are collected with the time recording system. Employees can read their vacation time available and their hours from the display. PDC was implemented with the following features: Start of set-up, interruption and end, start of processing, time ticket recording with batch number, final confirmation, information about open quantities. Recorded are change of work center, produced quantities, and scrap quantities.

Also group work and multiple machine operation was solved. «In manufacturing we have approximately 350-400 orders per week, which go through the different processing steps. In the end we know exactly how much a certain order costs», explains Axel Stoffer, Chief Financial Officer at MITEC Automotive AG. «This only works with PDC. We know where we stand at any time.» MITEC is very satisfied with the Kaba Benzing solution and the hassle-free implementation. «Kaba Benzing responded very quickly and solved all our special demands. Logistical processes could be optimized with the new PDC system. «A PDC system creates transparency and saves labor time», attests Manuel Haeke. Compared to a PC-based PDC system, there are shorter ways and manual entries are not necessary because orders are scanned per barcode. Recording requires considerably less time.

Security is also provided

After the PDC project had largely been completed, MITEC started with their next project: Access Control. For safety reasons, the premises and important sectors within the buildings needed to be protected. Since January 2002, eight access control terminals (Bedas 91 05) protect MITEC Automotive AG against unauthorized access. They are linked with a Bedas 92 90 access manager, that also controls a gate and a revolving door along the site's perimeter. Inside the buildings, terminals are installed in front of important areas like construction and quality control. The B-COMM system passes the captured data on to the SAP system. An access control system has also been installed at MITEC engine.tec gmbh. MITEC now thinks about an elevator control in connection with LEGIC badges and Kaba Benzing terminals.