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Wolfgang Auch
Head of production

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Kress-elektrik GmbH & Co. KG, Bisingen

New ideas for innovative goals

The electrical tools manufacturer Kress in Bisingen and its subsidiary, CeKa AG in Switzerland, are setting standards in global competition with innovative products and modern production technology. In the area of IT, Kress is putting its faith in proALPHA with tisoware.

Christian Kress founded his company in 1928 under the motto: «See what is needed and implement it faster and better than the others.» To date, the company's success is based on its monitoring of the market. «We are present all over the world with our electrical motors and electrical tools», says head of production, Wolfgang Auch von Kress. In 1991, Dieter C. Kress was the third generation to join the family-run company. He heralded in the age of global marketing with consistent consolidation of fatherly virtues. In 1993, Dieter C. Kress implemented the Kress future concept with environmentally friendly disposal of old electrical tools. Sophisticated products from Kress are the turning stop for professional chiseling, the gear spindle locking device for drilling machines and the x-times-click rapid clamping system for compass saws. Wolfgang Auch comments on this as follows: «Our 220 motivated employees are constantly looking for new ways of making work easier for the user or of increasing enjoyment of a hobby.» The results are innovative electrical tools full

of sophisticated technical features with which the customer can work more easily and create outstanding products. «Handling first, uncompromisingly good,» demands head of production Wolfgang Auch.

tisoware integrated in ERP/PPS system proALPHA

It goes without saying that this requirement also applies for the company-internal EDP system. Originally, an individual solution customized to the company was in use at Kress both in the area of shop floor data collection (SFDC) and in the area of production planning and control (PPC) which was unable to keep pace with the rapid further development of technology. The management at Kress therefore decided to completely replace the system. A dynamic standard solution was needed that could be adapted to the individual requirements at Kress and easily updated. Consequently, the ERP/PPC system proALPHA with production control, complete handling of the technical customer service, financial accounting, controlling, sales handling and warehouse and materials management is today in use at Kress. «To complete the EDP system, we were then only missing the shop floor data collection and the personnel time & attendance», recalls Wolfgang Auch. Here, great importance was attached at Kress to ensuring that all modules could

Success Story

be integrated into proALPHA right from the start. Auch: «And the products offered by the Reutlingen-based software company tisoware Gesellschaft für Zeitwirtschaft mbH were immediately convincing. For the integration of the electronic time & attendance tisoware.ZEIT and the shop floor data collection tisoware.BDE is resulting in practice in all relevant data only having to be maintained once.» tisoware.BDE is based on the data of the ERP/PPC system and thus accesses the production orders of proALPHA directly. «All risks associated with parallel systems and interfaces are thus eliminated», explains head of production Wolfgang Auch.

tisoware.BDEplus provides information as an analysis tool

tisoware.BDE also offers a large number of analysis options. Auch: «Basically, we are hoping for substantially more transparency in all processes in the future.» Via tisoware.BDE, the data are generated in the central database and analysed and made transparent with tisoware.REPORT: Auch: «tisoware.REPORT makes statements with regard to productivity possible in the first place:» That is why Kress is also opting for tisoware.BDEplus. «With this module,

we can gain a very quick overview of productivity in the production area», says Auch. For as an analysis tool, tisoware.BDEplus informs about workplace efficiency and fault trends and facilitates precise fault analyses. The order batches at Kress are fitted with a bar code and are recorded via barcode scanners with the software recording terminal tisoware.ET via PCs and recording terminals of KABA Benzing. It can thus be determined at any time in post-calculation, controlling and in quality management, when, where, what is done by whom. These data are all brought together by the production management. The depiction of the data acquired via lists or graphics is also very convenient. Auch: «Shop floor data collection is an indispensable control tool today for production management.»

Personnel time & attendance, calculation of bonuses and group payroll accounting

Time recording terminals from Kaba Benzing are available at the gate for time & attendance with the tisoware.ZEIT module. «The time & attendance which works contact-free with a LEGIC chip in the key fob is linked directly with

the access control tisoware.ZUTRITT», emphasizes Wolfgang Auch. Key requirements of tisoware were the calculation of bonuses and group payroll accounting With the incentive wage accounting, the group piece wage and the individual piece wage can be recorded via tisoware.BDE. For this, the information from the shop floor data collection are assessed, analysed and thus the degree of performance determined. The data collected in this way are forwarded directly to the payroll accounting of Soft Research. The performance of the assembly groups can be recorded via group bookings. «With our new overall IT solution, we have implemented a high standard at Kress and created a solid basis which can be expanded further in future in many areas. We are highly satisfied with the options that tisoware offers us in an increasingly competitive environment», says head of production Wolfgang Auch summing up, and he also explicitly praises the support from tisoware.