

«mzs® is the most professional system for us. The services are well-thought-out, you notice that trade know-how stands behind the system. Just by introducing the time attendance system we were able to reduce our personnel costs by 1 %.»

Thorsten Schulenburg
Managing Director



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REWE CENTER SCHULENBURG GMBH & CO. KG

Rewe Schulenburg optimizes personnel costs with mzs®

Rewe Center Schulenburg in Dortmund exists since 1965. It was founded as family-run company by Hans Schulenburg. Since 1973 the company has operated as GmbH & Co. KG. Today REWE Schulenburg is managed by the two children of the founder, Katja Gogalla and Thorsten Schulenburg. Five stores in the urban area of Dortmund are managed independently.

The independent retail stores REWE Center Schulenburg are part of REWE Dortmund REWE Dortmund is an independent, regional group under the umbrella of the national REWE group. It supplies about 300 independent retailers with 520 stores. The distribution area is North Rhine-Westphalia with focus on the Ruhr and Lower Rhine region. The REWE Dortmund stores have a large range of products of approx. 12,000 articles. They offer fresh produce, mainly on counters where the customer is served, advice and service. With more than 600 articles calculated with equal discount, the stores of REWE DORTMUND offer about two-thirds of the discount company products at the same price.

Since 1996 the REWE Center Schulenburg uses the modular time attendance system mzs®. The time required to transfer the data from the punch cards used until then and to carry out the required rework had become too time-consuming. These problems were solved by using an electronic time attendance by means of terminals of the company Kaba Benzing. The decisive factor for choosing mzs® was the detailed consideration of the special trade characteristics.

“mzs® is the most professional system for us”, says Thorsten Schulenburg. What was negative about some of the other systems, was the fact that the secondary work, such as cleaning and filling the fruit and vegetable stall, could be planned only for fixed times and a defined duration. “There is a high risk that the employees only adhere to these prescriptions and stop paying attention independently to cleanliness and freshness.”

REWE Schulenburg implemented the system in each store without a test run and right from the start it worked without problems. In the past the planning was complicated and took hours because it was done on two planning boards.

Success Story

Now, with the use of mzs® the store managers can plan the week in about 15 to 20 minutes.

Currently REWE Schulenburg works with mzs® version 4.70. The modules used are personnel resource planning, time attendance, absence times planning and list and analysis generator. time attendance is recorded by means of Bedanet 93 40 terminals by Kaba Benzing GmbH. Legic cards are used as badges. The mzs® time attendance system is used in each company department. The system processes the data of 250 employees in 5 stores.

For example in the store located in Rahmer Straße 262, the work of 20 to 25 employees is planned for each shift. A total of 60 full-time employees work here on 1,800 m². If it is economically possible, REWE Schulenburg is flexible in planning the working times in order to satisfy the wishes of the employees. In particular female employees benefit from this arrangement.

By introducing mzs® the planning task has been reduced considerably. In addition, the planning quality has become more precise. This is another advantage for the employees because they can rely on the planned working times and plan their own free time without problems. With mzs® you can plan your holiday early. This way you can avoid understaffing and a lack of service.

REWE is very satisfied with the solution. "The services are well-thought-out, you notice that trade know-how stands behind the system", says Thorsten Schulenburg.

In his opinion many retailers still undervalue the advantages of computer-assisted personnel resource planning. "Many companies only see the quite high purchase costs." The advantages such as time saving planning, more precise accounting, reduction of the personnel costs and service increase are generally known but not everybody can put this into numbers and compare them to the purchase costs.

"Just by introducing the time attendance system we were able to reduce our personnel costs by 1 %", explains Thorsten Schulenburg. For this reason the purchase costs of the time attendance system have been amortized within the first year.

REWE Schulenburg is planning for the future to convert to the new system MZS®.net. "The advantages of a centrally organized system are obvious for companies with several subsidiaries. MZS®.net offers good solutions in particular when employees are transferred to other subsidiaries", says Thorsten Schulenburg. Another reason is that REWE wants to use state-of-the-art technology.

Also in this case, the costs will be amortized within the next two years.