

«After the usual teething troubles that might always occur in such complex IT solutions, our new system is running stably and reliably.
We are highly satisfied with this solution.»

Christian Haimerl -
Head of IT



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TECHNO COLOR GmbH, Bogen

Investment for more competitiveness

Techno Color in Bogen is considered a model company among the sub-suppliers for the automotive industry. This medium-sized company ensures its market position and numerous jobs by means of modern technology.

The company achieves about 70 per cent of its turnover with the automotive industry and its sub-suppliers. The company has specialized in surface coating and calls itself a contract varnisher. In this area, Techno Color is in harsh competition: The company competes with about 500 other companies; there are about 50 competitors in the automotive sector alone. In order to withstand the severe competition, the company from Bogen must always be up-to-date with regard to technology. Flexibility and, above all, reliability are a matter of course in the sector. This company has specialized in the surface refinement of small parts. It processes seat trims, mirror accessories, handles, roof railing and tank caps, for example. However, the product range also includes laptop cases. Most of the products are coated in large series, but smaller numbers of pieces are also possible, of course. The main turnover is achieved with liquid coating. This technology is mainly used for finishing plastic parts for the interior of vehicles.

In order to be always ahead of the pack, Techno Color has made large investments and extended their premises in Bogen. Today, around 150 employees have a safe employment in this subsidiary of the Benseler group. The management of Techno Color has also read the signs of the times with regard to IT structures. "Since our old working times recording system was still running on a DOS interface and automatic data analysis or data management in a central database were not possible, there was a need for action," remembers Christian Haimerl, head of IT at Techno Color in Bogen. Techno Color was basically looking for an SFDC system.

Haimerl: However, we have noticed very quickly that an SFDC system without connection to time attendance does not make much sense." This also had to do with the simultaneous introduction of the new ERP/PPS system b2 from bäurer AG. Therefore, an SFDC system and an electronic time attendance recording system that could be integrated trouble-free in the ERP/PPS system b2 were needed. And these requirements are exactly met by the software modules tisoware.ZEIT and tisoware.BDE." Therefore, the company decided in favor of tisoware.ZEIT with Kaba Benzing time attendance recording terminals after an extensive orientation period.

Success Story

Furthermore, we also decided to use tisoware.BDE for shop floor data collection", explains Mr. Haimerl, head of IT. Due to the integration of tisoware into the ERP/PPS system b2, production data may be reported to the ERP/PPS system. The easy handling and the user-friendliness of the software were decisive for Techno Color.

Central master data management

Master data and basic data must only be managed once in tisoware and are then available to the entire IT system. The same employee names and the same cards may be used both in the time attendance base and in shop floor data collection. This means a significant reduction of work time and consequently of labor costs in administration. "Furthermore, our IT has now also an interface to Varial payroll accounting", says Haimerl. Techno Color works in three shifts. This results in very variable shift models with very different surcharges for night and special shifts. Haimerl: "Although, we have actually a relatively flat structure in the time models, we still need about 25 shift models." This whole complexity is considered by tisoware - making the previously time-consuming administration and payroll accounting considerably easier.

"A time attendance terminal by Kaba Benzing is installed at our main entrance. All employees enter their working times at this terminal", says Haimerl. In production, however, tisoware.ET work centers are used. "We have spiced them up a little and added additional functionalities", underlines Haimerl who is rightly proud of his functional solution. In addition to a touch screen, the clients in the production facilities have also a barcode reader to import production orders. The ERP/PPS system b2 then transfers the production orders to tisoware. Everything is posted within tisoware, i.e. all times are collected and then reported back to the ERP/PPS system. Thus it is possible to determine to the split second which working times have been incurred on which machines and which costs have been produced by individual work steps and the entire order. Haimerl: "Based on this information, a detailed post-calculation and an efficient cost control are possible."

Identification using Legic chip

"We have connected Legic readers to the computers. The employees may identify themselves using badges or key tags with Legic chip", says Haimerl. This allows defining clearly who may access which functions in shop floor data collection with tisoware.BDE. Furthermore, some tisoware.ET work centers are not wired to the overall system but connected wireless. This provides the necessary flexibility in some areas of production.