

PRESS RELEASE

Always readily available – Automated supply of tools and personal protective equipment at Lindauer DORNIER

Bad Mergentheim/Main-Tauber-Kreis. Indirect materials like hand gloves, masks, ear protection, drills, washers and other tools are often issued centrally and manually in companies, which is a lengthy and tedious process. This makes it difficult to ensure transparency about the items being issued and creates a time limit for accessing the required items. For this reason, Lindauer DORNIER GmbH, manufacturer of weaving machines and production systems for films and composites, discontinued its manual tool and materials distribution system and now relies on Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG for automated MRO supply using ORSY®mat vending machines since over two years. With this step, the technology leader DORNIER has set the course for future-ready and efficient materials management.

Würth Industrie Service
GmbH & Co. KG
Pia Schmitt
Press and Public Relations
97980 Bad Mergentheim,
Germany

T +49 7931 91-3409
F +49 7931 91-4000
www.wuerth-industrie.com
Pia.Schmitt@wuerth-industrie.com

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Lindauer DORNIER – the family business with a long-standing tradition of innovation

Peter Dornier, son of the famous aviation pioneer Claude Dornier, founded Lindauer DORNIER GmbH in 1950. The internationally operating company with over 1,000 employees exports over 90% of its machines and systems worldwide. With its product lines of weaving machines, special machines (systems for film production) and composite systems, DORNIER is a technology pioneer. For more than 50 years, the company's weaving machines, which are used to manufacture products that include high quality fabrics like airbags and filter fabric, have set the standard for the processing of high-performance fibre like carbon, glass and aramid. DORNIER is the market leader in engineering and production of film stretching lines for manufacturing ultra-thin plastic films. Along with the packaging industry, which primarily includes the food (e.g. flexible packaging) and pharma sectors, these films are also used in solar cells, lithium-ion batteries, semiconductors, capacitors and in displays of smartphones, flat screens and tablets. In composite systems, DORNIER combines its decades-long experience in design and manufacturing of weaving machines and film stretching lines for manufacturing of customised systems for the production of high-quality fibre composite components for aircrafts, vehicle bodywork and lifestyle products.

Initial situation:**Manual efforts due to central material dispensing**

Apart from the classic fasteners and small parts, various tools along with personal protective equipment are also used in the manufacturing of machines and systems of DORNIER. The portfolio comprises over 350 different items ranging from cutters, screwdrivers and safety goggles to gloves, ear protection and masks. Until two years ago, these product groups were issued via a central issuing point at DORNIER. In this process, the warehouse staff assigned the material to the employees, made a record of the material issued and ensured reordering manually – a process chain that involved multiple manual tasks for the purchase department and warehouse staff while also resulting in long wait times for assembly, unnecessary storage of materials and wastage of time. Additionally, the employees were dependent on the location and opening hours of the materials issue department. This is exactly where the vending machine solutions of Würth Industrie Service at DORNIER came into the picture.

The solution:**Maximum availability of materials through vending machines**

DORNIER discontinued the central issuing point for indirect materials and commissioned ORSY®mat vending machines for over 350 items in its factories in Lindau and Esseratsweiler at a total of eight decentralised withdrawal stations – from the welding shop, sheet metal workshop to final assembly. ORSY®mats are modular and customisable storage vending machines that ensure unlimited supply of materials without space or time restrictions. The vending machines can be integrated perfectly into the material procurement system without the need of any adjustments in the work processes. “The required products are always at hand”, said Melanie Totzauer, Team Lead of Purchase at DORNIER. “Thanks to the high flexibility of the system, we can access tools, occupational safety materials or other consumables. We don’t need to keep track of reordering any more as this is done automatically and in a straightforward manner as well.” The installed ORSY®mat WGT weighing system (WGT stands for weight) detects the withdrawal of an item with the help of the integrated weighing cells. By using this technology, individual items can be withdrawn without depending on the packaging unit. There is also an option to withdraw multiple items at the same time from the vending machines. After the item is withdrawn, the vending machine closes and takes stock of the complete inside inventory automatically and thus maintains a complete overview

at all times. Afterwards, the item data, name and the corresponding withdrawn quantity are automatically transmitted to the Würth system and a logistically optimised restocking process is initiated. Owing to the weighing cells available in different sizes, the system is suitable for managing nearly all types of auxiliary and operating materials. For irregular MRO requirements, Würth Scanners are used in addition to these vending machines.

Installation of the vending machines results not only in increase in item availability, but also in productivity and transparency. The vending machine takes up time-sensitive manual tasks as well as routine tasks for dispensing, replenishment and documentation of consumption that has been previously carried out by the warehouse staff or purchase department. Because of the decentralised positioning in various company divisions, travel times are reduced, which is a significant cost factor.

Photo material:



Photo 1: ORSYmat installation.jpg

Caption 1: Application in assembly at DORNIER – ORSY®mat WGT weighing system

Image source 1: Pia Schmitt, Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG



Photo 2: ORSYmat WGT vending machines.jpg

Caption 2: With the integrated weighing cells, the ORSY@mat WGT ensures automated replenishment.

Image source 2: Pia Schmitt, Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG

Brief profile of Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG

Within the Würth Group, Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG is responsible for supplying to the industrial sector. Since its foundation in the year 1999, the company is located at Würth Industrial Park in Bad Mergentheim, Germany with over 1,750 employees.

As a one-stop C-Parts provider, the company offers its customers a specialised product range with over 1,400,000 items: from screws and tools to connection and fastening technology, technical chemicals as well as occupational safety solutions. In addition to the extensive standard product range, the strength of the company lies in its customer-specific, logistical and dispositive supply and service concepts as well as special parts. Under the service brand "CPS® - C-Product Service", the company offers modular solutions, which are customised as per customer-specific requirements. These consumption-based and demand-based systems streamline the processes for purchase, logistics and quality assurance while enabling the procurement of small parts in a cost-optimised manner. Logistic and dispositive services such as shelving systems that use scanners or a just-in-time supply using Kanban bin systems play a significant role in increasing productivity.