

dialog

May 2019 edition

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logistics centre completed

Perforated Metal

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Container Systems

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Rainer Bröcher



Michael Mockenhaupt

Dear readers!

We hope you and your families enjoyed a very good start into the already well-advanced new year 2019. We are now very pleased to present you with the new issue of our customer and employee magazine "dialog".

The new year began with as much excitement as the old year ended, as EMW launched the expansion of its steel service activities in January with a new location in Saxony. Also in January, SCHÄFER WERKE started its cooperation with fabrikado, a supplier-independent B2B internet platform for the ordering, production and delivery of industrial components. Another change can be seen in the SCHÄFER WERKE Group website. Its re-launch comprised optimized user guidance, improved functionality and clear, modern design.

This issue of "dialog" will also let you know what is going on in our various business divisions this year. In the title story "Water for IT", for instance, you can learn all about the purely water-based cooling system in a high-performance data centre based in Munich.

We hope that the various articles in this edition of "dialog" will be able to put our dynamism across to you.

We sincerely hope the good start to the year continues for you, too and wish you and families all the very best, also on behalf of Mr. Theo Schäfer and his family.

A heartfelt Siegerland "Glück auf" and happy reading!

Rainer Bröcher
Managing Director SCHÄFER WERKE

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Credits

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The municipality of Neunkirchen turns 50

It's now half a century since municipal restructuring merged the communities of Altenseelbach, Neunkirchen, Salchendorf, Struthütten, Wiederstein and Zeppenfeld into the new municipality of Neunkirchen. To celebrate the 50th anniversary, a weekend of festivities is planned on the 29th and 30th of June 2019.



Besides the summer festival with its extensive programme of events, there will also be a trade exhibition over the two days with over 50 companies and retail businesses from the municipality participating.

The SCHÄFER WERKE Group, with its head office in Neunkirchen is also well established here and will be happy to present the company with its great local tradition and various business divisions at the trade exhibition. It's now over 55 years since the course was set for a successful future on the Pfannenberg hill in Neunkirchen. The strong roots that have grown into the community here over decades can't easily be cut, especially when, like the Schäfer family, you are bound to the community with heart and soul and are the employer of over 1,000 people.

"Compared directly with other towns and communities in the Siegerland, Neunkirchen has outstanding potential for growth and development. This obviously depends greatly on the performance and efficiency of local businesses. It's not just about business tax. Secure jobs and trainee places are far more important," says Michael Mockenhaupt, Managing Director of the EMW Steel Service Centre.

"Our employees have the same strong ties to the region as we do and we are well aware of our social responsibility as one of the largest employers in this municipality. We will continue to be an important and attractive employer at this location in the future," adds Rainer Bröcher, Managing Director of SCHÄFER WERKE.

Trade Fairs in 2019



**Siegen Chamber of Commerce (IHK)
Vocational Training Fair**
15. – 16.05.2019, Siegen



**METALFORUM
Exhibition for the metal
working industry**
04. – 07.06.2019, Poznan/Poland



**Trades exhibition -
Neunkirchen municipality
turns 50**
29. – 30.06.2019, Neunkirchen



**BLECHEXPO
International trade fair
for sheet metal working**
05. – 08.11.2019, Stuttgart

BrauBeviale2019

**BrauBeviale – Capital goods
exhibition for the beverage industry**
12. – 14.11.2019, Nuremberg



**DATA CENTRE WORLD
For the data centre of the future**
13. – 14.11.2019, Frankfurt

Water for IT

MEGWARE and SCHÄFER IT-Systems provide water-based cooling at Leibniz data centre

When it comes to data centre operation, one of the greediest energy consumers is the cooling system. New solutions are now aiming to combat this fact. One of these – admittedly not really new – approaches is water-based cooling. Totally new, however, is the idea of MEGWARE and SCHÄFER IT-Systems for cooling the Leibniz data centre by doing without air completely and also cooling the mains adapters, network components and switches with water – resulting in a significant increase in energy efficiency. With this CoolMUC-3 system, they intend to demonstrate the technical feasibility of IT systems which are completely cooled with water.



The Leibniz data centre (LRZ) at the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities is the supercomputing centre for the Ludwig Maximilians University (LMU), the Technical University of Munich (TUM), the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities as well as other scientific and educational institutions in the State of Bavaria. It provides the well over 100,000 students, professors, lecturers and employees with IT services such as e-mail, internet, Wi-Fi and VPN. In addition, the LRZ operates high performance computing systems for all those universities, as well as a national supercomputer, which is one of the most efficient in the whole world and is available to all public research institutions in Germany. These high-performance computing systems (HPCs) form the core for the simulation of real problems. This cuts out the costs for laboratory experiments and results in unrealisable experiments, such as in the fields of

astrophysics, aircraft development or disaster control, actually being made possible.

Performance needs cooling

For such requirements, standardised architectures quickly reach their technological limits. In the special case of the LRZ, an additional computing capacity was needed. The intention behind this renewal was to give users the possibility to prepare their applications for future computing architectures. With a view to saving energy, those in charge of the LRZ decided to use a 100% water-based cooling system.

“Air cooling isn’t the best solution for our computers. Though we have up to now used systems with warm water cooling, there was room for improvement regarding their efficiency in cooling the components, which was, of course, also due to their age”, says Herbert Huber, head of LRZ high performance systems, alluding to the fact that

the LRZ, in its pioneering role, had already backed water cooling for its systems in 2011. However, not all components of the systems used were cooled with water, mainly the power supply units, network components and the switches.

The resulting high energy loss to the ambient air could not be kept below 15%. Huber continues: “With large systems like these, we had to use a great many kilowatts of electricity for cooling.”

The solution was provided by a company called MEGWARE Computer Vertrieb und Service GmbH, along with its partner enterprise, SCHÄFER IT-Systems. Though the systems used in 2011 also came from MEGWARE, the company’s water cooling system for high performance computing and IT solutions is now in its fourth generation. The waste heat from all components is now dissipated using direct water cooling. To achieve this, the existing solutions were developed further and retrofitted with cold plates, for example: all done in cooperation with SCHÄFER IT-Systems, a manufacturer of tailor-made network cabinet, server cabinet and data centre solutions.

The system, which now operates completely with warm water cooling, is the only one of its kind worldwide. Its thermal insulation minimizes the heat loss to the environment to around 3% waste heat in the room. The rest is done by room humidification and dehumidification systems.

The temperature level at which the water cooling can work efficiently has also been raised. This means the hot water used for the cooling concept can also be used for secondary applications, such as heating the building. This is the case in the LRZ, too.

CoolMUC-3

In the most recent Europe-wide tender in 2017, MEGWARE and SCHÄFER IT-Systems made the most convincing impression. What was required was the 100% water cooling of all components with water heated to over



40° Celsius to cool the cluster all the year round without any energy-intensive mechanical refrigeration processes. During development, two aspects were given priority: thermal insulation of the racks to ensure less waste heat will enter the room, and achieving the highest possible temperature for the cooling water, so that the waste heat can be efficiently used for absorption cooling, for example. There were a total of only three offers.

“That was no great surprise for us. Not many companies are capable of meeting our technical demands and MEGWARE was the only one that could provide an adequate cooling system,” says Huber. “We then concluded a supply and framework agreement and put the HPC system into operation in 2018.”

By using this system, the LRZ has moved another step ahead in its pioneering role. Ultimately, the choice of IT infrastructure suppliers that can provide systems suitable for such a cooling concept is limited. Thanks to its particular expertise, SCHÄFER IT-Systems was able to step in and realise the cooling system’s technical implementation for MEGWARE. In close cooperation with MEGWARE, the company first agreed on the concept and then coordinated the solutions accordingly. High demands were placed on the water cycle, for example, regarding its consistently high quality. The cooling system

itself consists of relatively small structures, which the water has to flow through. This makes it essential that no particles must be inside them and, because it comes into contact with the coolant, the choice of material is also decisive.

The result is a rack which accommodates water pipes, a heat exchanger and pump assembly, as well as a pressure compensation vessel. This allows the heat to be dissipated without it coming into contact with the data centre’s water circuit. A closed cooling water circuit or the separation of circuits in server cabinets and data centres is an essential step: circuits in data centres are subject to much less stringent requirements for water quality. Also integrated into the rack is a touch screen which displays all internal and external temperatures, which are transmitted by the appropriate sensors and interfaces. This replaces the current app-based cloud solutions which were never a genuine alternative for the LRZ for reasons of security. The intelligent rack incorporates these readings and values into management software which is programmed and administrated by MEGWARE. This enables the administrators to gain access at any time from other locations.

“After about a year, we can say that the HPC system has met all our expectations and initial requirements. We use the system actively in

collaboration with students who are doing scientific work and conducting applied research in the field of energy efficiency, for example. Above all however, we are seeing significant energy savings”, Huber says in summary.



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IT-SYSTEMS

- IT rack solutions for server and network cabinets
- Data centre and water-cooled server cabinet solutions

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The relevance of customer proximity

Central European markets can be served from new location

For the EMW Steel Service Centre, the central European markets have been steadily growing in importance for years. Providing a fast and customer-specific service for these markets has become an important component in EMW's overall business strategy. To do justice to their increasing significance, EMW took over the business of the Saxony based MIM Steel Processing GmbH on January 1st 2019.

“Our new location in Treuen doesn't only benefit our customers in the greater Saxony and Thuringia regions. It will also enable our international customers in Poland, the Czech republic, Hungary and Slovakia to profit from the fast, customer-specific service we offer,” says Michael Mockenhaupt, Managing Director of Neunkirchen-based EMW. “Expanding our activities to the new location will not only raise our overall capacity,

but will also benefit our customers in the region by increasing the speed at which we can process their orders, thanks to the geographical proximity. This way, we'll be able to meet the region's growing just-in-time volume requirements.”

Last year, EMW extended its hall space at the Neunkirchen site by 12,000 m² and the new location in Treuen will add a further 5,500 m² of production, storage and logistics space.

“Our extensive stocks of input material and

a logistics concept geared to customer needs now guarantee that we will always be able to supply our customers with the right material at just the right time,” Mockenhaupt added and went on to say that “In 2018, EMW delivered 1,000,000 tons of material to customers in this manner.



www.emw-stahlservice.com





Guida slitting line: strips in thicknesses of up to 6 mm are possible.



Hitachi cut-to-length line: continuous operation is guaranteed by two stack nest containers.



The staff from the Treuen site visiting the Pfannenberg in Neunkirchen. In the middle, Theo Schäfer, managing partner of SCHÄFER WERKE and the EMW Steel Service Centre.

To the customer portal

Another significant step on the road to a digital future for EMW is the launch of their exclusive customer portal "YourSteel.de". Here, EMW Steel Service Centre customers can retrieve all their order-relevant data and information online. Whether they want to check current delivery status, quantities ready for delivery, order history or delivery documents and test certificates, customers can access all this up-to-date information from a single source. All the documents mentioned are of course available for download.



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Dynamic Duo

SCHÄFER Perforated Metal and EMW Steel Service Centre at the Blechexpo in Stuttgart

The international trade fair for sheet metal working takes place every two years and is the only event on the international calendar dealing with the complementary technologies of sheet metal processing and joining technology. The fair begins on 05.11.2019 in Stuttgart and, on four consecutive days, presents the entire process chain for cold forming sheet metal fabrication and the relevant mechanical and thermal technologies for cutting, joining and fastening.

SAVE THE DATE

05. - 08.11.2019
in Stuttgart
Hall 10
Stand 10201



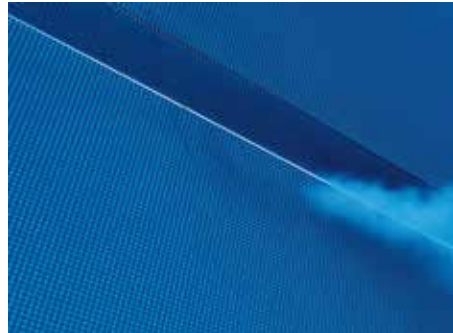
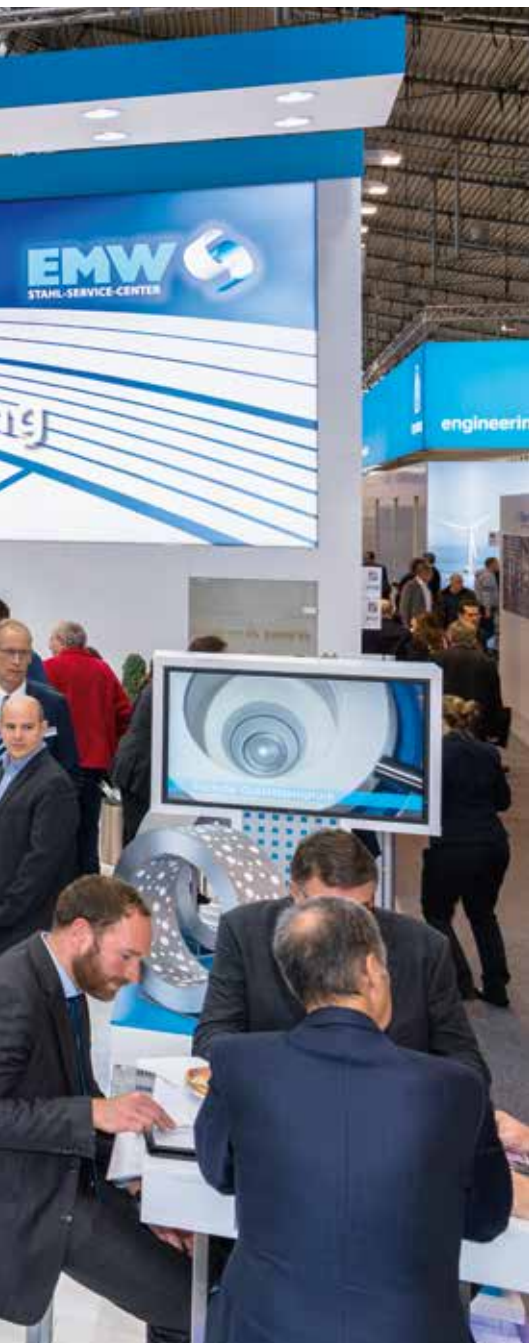
With the slogan “Perforated sheets made to measure – individual and fast”, SCHÄFER Perforated Metal has a wide range of high-quality perforated sheets on offer for all sectors and applications. Top quality, perforated sheet solutions available at short notice, qualified and experienced employees, on-site consulting, project management from planning to series production and efficient machining with the very latest technology are all part of the comprehensive range of SCHÄFER services. This means that companies with no capacities for completing their own products can fall back on SCHÄFER’s high-efficiency machining service to do so. Besides laser cutting, notching and bending, the metal

processing experts can also offer surface finishes, for instance. The capability to provide everything from concept development through project planning up to the manufacturing of complete assemblies makes SCHÄFER a competent supplier for a great

range of different sectors and industries. Since 2014, SCHÄFER Perforated Metal customers have also been benefitting from an extensive stock of small, medium and large-scale formats which can be delivered within 24 hours and are primarily aimed at customers in the sound protection, shop fittings, climate control and ventilation sectors.

The close proximity to EMW and access to its huge, well-sorted stocks of thin sheet provides SCHÄFER Perforated Metal with ideal conditions for supplying the many different application fields quickly and flexibly. Whether in the architecture, screening technology, façade construction, sound protection, automotive or mechanical engineering sectors, a constant stream of new projects and interesting applications is being discovered or developed with clients.

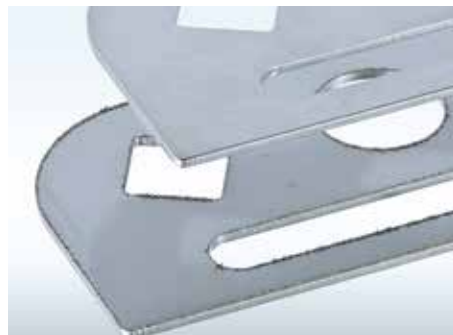
Thanks to extensive production equipment and in-house tool-making facilities, SCHÄFER Perforated Metal can react quickly to customer specifications at any time and coordinate perfectly with their workflow. “SCHÄFER Perforated Metal has the right solutions for every application. Our high-precision tools guarantee that we can always fulfil our customers’ wishes in terms of quality, material and perforation size and type,” says Alexander Toumassian, head of sales at SCHÄFER Perforated Metal in Neunkirchen.



Coating



Laser cutting



Deburring



Bending

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Established market know-how meets start-up dynamics

Balingen company fabrikado secures cooperation with SCHÄFER WERKE

Since January 2019, SCHÄFER WERKE and the independent B2B internet platform fabrikado have been partners. For both companies, this strategic alliance creates a win-win situation, because their cooperation brings together a wealth of market experience with modern start-up agility.

Digitalisation will set new standards for the speed at which companies operate and redefine the requirements for cooperation. fabrikado.com provides a solution for integration that will enable customers and suppliers to grow together more closely than ever before, in order to increase the productivity of all parties involved. fabrikado.com is a cloud-based internet platform, set up in 2016, which uses instant price calculation to simplify the ordering, production and delivery of metal and plastic components. Customer needs and supplier capacities are networked online on fabrikado.com. This specially developed supplier system, which networks demand and capacity, enables production capacities that become available at short notice to be filled by suppliers quickly and without any complications. As the entire process is integrated into existing ERP systems like SAP, quotations can be put together in seconds and orders placed automatically.

So how exactly does fabrikado.com work?

fabrikado.com enables customers to purchase the products they want in only a few steps: they upload a CAD drawing of a metal or plastic component to the platform, select the desired manufacturing process and specify material and quantity. Immediately afterwards, delivery times are proposed along with the relevant prices at which they can place their order.

If the order is confirmed, fabrikado passes it on to its network of audited suppliers, who can then calculate the order and subse-

quently accept and manufacture it. The aim is to automate, simplify and shorten the supply chain for customers and suppliers of metal and plastic components in line with Industry 4.0. This works because fabrikado provides the customer with permanent access to its extensive network of partners.

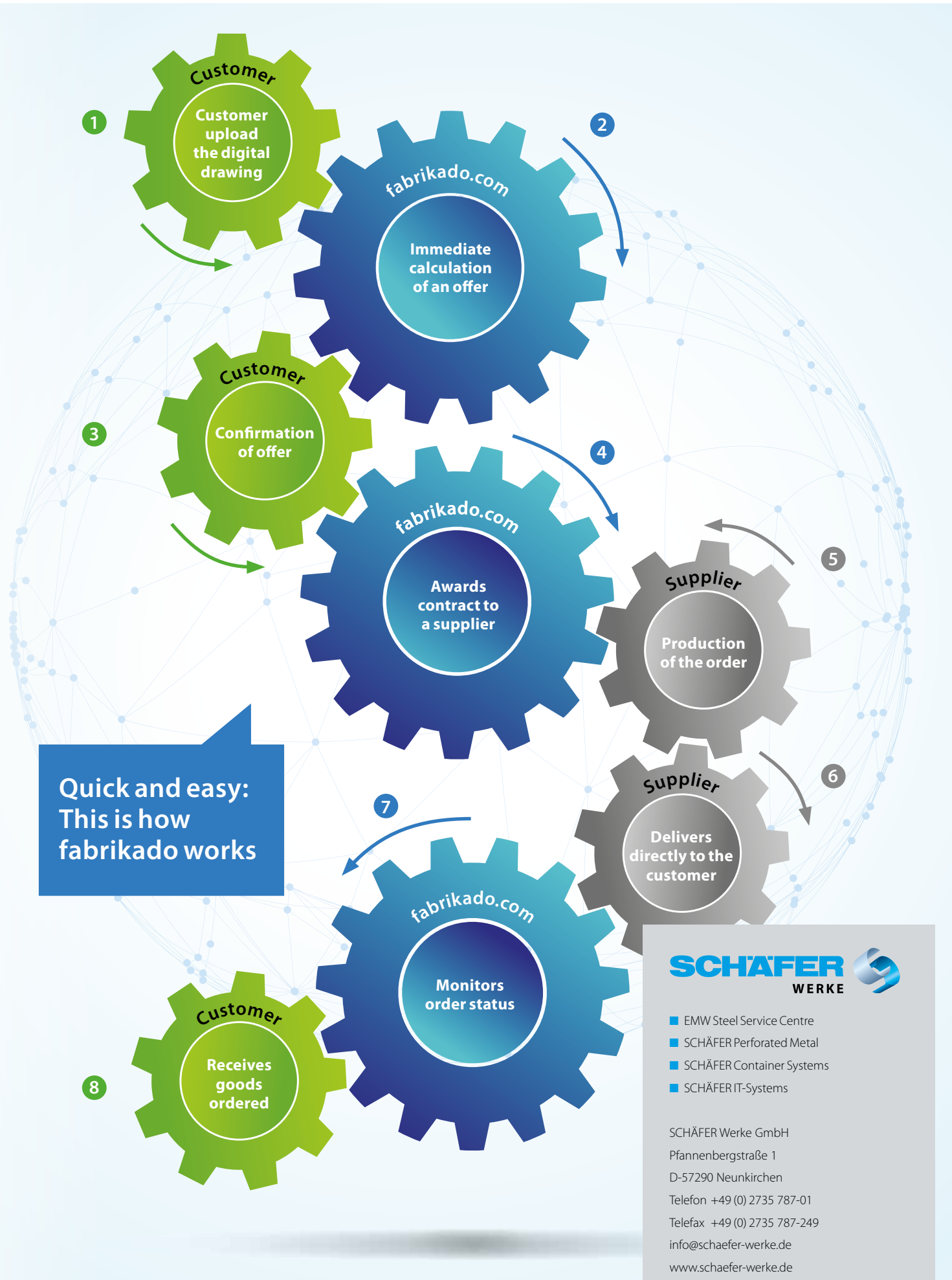
"We are very happy to have SCHÄFER WERKE as a partner on the road to a successful future", says Thomas Hoffmeister, founder and CEO of fabrikado GmbH. Rainer Bröcher, Managing Director of SCHÄFER WERKE, adds:

"For us, the alliance with fabrikado is a logical development in keeping with our corporate strategy of maintaining our success as an innovative company in the future too. We have the same goals and will work to achieve them together."

 www.schaefer-werke.de



Rainer Bröcher, Managing Director of SCHÄFER WERKE and Thomas Hoffmeister, CEO of fabrikado (left to right).



**Quick and easy:
This is how
fabrikado works**

SCHÄFER WERKE 

- EMW Steel Service Centre
- SCHÄFER Perforated Metal
- SCHÄFER Container Systems
- SCHÄFER IT-Systems

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Perfect for the wine business

Why the winery “Weingut Müller” is backing KEGs



Very early on, the family-owned wine growing business “Weingut Müller” from Krustetten in Austria recognized the benefits of KEGs as a packaging for their wine. That was based on two features that spoke in favour of these containers but against bottles: on the one hand, reusable KEGs tie in with the company’s sustainability policy much more clearly, and on the other, certain technological features provide economic benefits – especially for restaurants and caterers, the winery’s main customers. As service providers have a keen eye for good service themselves and see this as a decisive foundation for a good business relationship, Weingut Müller chose SCHÄFER Container Systems from Neunkirchen to be their KEG suppliers.



Sustainability is given great priority at the winery, especially in the ecological cultivation of the vineyards themselves. Resource-optimised cultivation practices, such as the many years of greening and the intensive care and observation of the vines, guarantee the vineyard steady growth in beneficial insects and increasingly healthy soil. In 2017, the new cellar saw the benefits of using their own spring water and the earth’s natural temperature regulation for the first time. In addition, the hillside location optimises work processes, because gravity can be used rather than pumps. The sustainability concept also includes the wood-chip heating and photovoltaic systems. All the vineyard’s wines are certified with the “Nachhaltig Austria” seal (Sustainable Austria). This sustainability extends from the wine production itself to packaging. “Sustainability has long since made the transition from fashionable buzzword to serious entrepre-



Stefan and Leopold Müller (left to right).

neural objective, which more and more winegrowers, but also restaurant owners, are currently pursuing. Landlords who used to buy wine in litre bottles are now choosing to purchase KEGs", says Leopold Müller, who was instrumental in driving the change to KEGs. "Storing wine in KEGs rather than bottles eliminates wastage completely. And besides,

there is no functioning deposit system. Reusable containers mean we can contribute to reducing waste levels."

Logistic and economic benefits

Müller, however, is convinced that reusable kegs are not only the most sustainable option but also the one guaranteeing the best quality for wine in the restaurant and catering business. From the restaurant owner's point of view, they offer numerous benefits. Airtight filling and gas dispensing keeps the wine fresh over a long period. The quality remains the same as it was when it was filled. At the same time, a KEG's capacity is many times that of a bottle, which makes logistics easier. For instance, event organisers or hotel owners in ski resorts that are not easy to access often hit stock limits when deliveries have had problems getting through. In some regions, this has led to bottles no longer being used at all.

For Müller, however, one of the most important benefits is the automatic retention of the respective beverage due to the fitting, which really comes into its own with automatic dispensing systems. "With this combination between automatic dispensing system, which dispenses a precisely defined amount, and the KEG fitting, our customers benefit from the more exact volumes served and consequently from improved accuracy when it comes to invoicing."

Service is decisive

"KEGs are generally more attractive, can be given a more individual brand image and provide better quality. So, for the wine business, they are just perfect. But when it comes to the actual selection, you are spoilt for choice. As KEG suppliers, SCHÄFER Container Systems convinced us. Obviously, price/performance ratio has a role to play, but for us, it really was the service that tipped the balance and we are very satisfied with it. Customer support is always available and is now very familiar with our vineyard", says Müller.

That's why, for the last 3 years, the business has been purchasing its KEGs from SCHÄFER Container Systems directly. Since then, the company, a division of SCHÄFER Werke in Neunkirchen, Germany, has delivered several hundred classical SUDEX stainless steel KEGs to the vineyard. Müller: "It's robust and because it's reusable in a sustainable sense, it's also designed to last. We chose the slim-line 25-litre version, because its 278 mm diameter means it also fits in the dispensing systems better."



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Concrete product inquiries at the hazardous goods fair in Leipzig

From 9th to 11th of April 2019, SCHÄFER Container Systems was one of the exhibitors at the Trade Fair Gefahrgut // Gefahrstoff: Transport – Intralogistics – Safety in Leipzig. This fair is the only specialised platform for suppliers of solutions, products and services dealing with transport, storage and intralogistics for dangerous goods and hazardous substances and their safe handling.

“The combination of trade exhibition, specialist programme and live activities makes the Gefahrgut // Gefahrstoff the perfect place for the entire sector to meet, exchange technical information and make new business contacts. This year, we were again able to impress both existing and new customers with the presentation of our extensive range of standardised and customized industrial containers made of stainless steel,” says, IBC business unit sales director Christof Ermert.

Will EU plastic ban have any effect on IBCs?

Demand for stainless steel IBCs set to increase further

Worldwide demand for stainless steel KEGs will continue to rise in the short and medium term. That's the view of Christof Ermert, business unit sales director for IBCs at SCHÄFER Container Systems, and he is not only referring to the order books in his own company. Ermert sees the ban on one-way plastic products currently being debated by the EU as one additional reason. Mainly responsible, however, are the high standards for safety and storage, as well as the general trend towards sustainability.



Although disposable plastic IBCs have their benefits, their use will be significantly reduced over the coming years," says Ermert. Reusable stainless steel IBCs can be cleaned easily, leaving no residues, and used over and over again. In addition, the stainless steel used to manufacture them is 100% recyclable. In general, stainless steel IBCs can be used in almost all industrial sectors for a range of very different substances, from chemicals and cosmetics to foodstuffs and from liquids to granulate. Regular inspections can ensure a service life of over 20 years, which amortizes the higher procurement and maintenance costs much better compared to plastic IBCs. Ermert: "Fortunately, sustainability is also a trend that is becoming increasingly prevalent in transport and storage."

"Fortunately, sustainability is also a trend that is increasingly becoming prevalent in transport and storage."

*Christof Ermert
IBC business unit sales director*

This is a desirable change in the general attitude to the overall problem, which ethically makes very good sense, because plastic damages the environment. And because the material is also used for making disposable IBCs, the ban on disposable plastic products that the EU is now planning could well affect more things than just single-use coffee beakers and plastic forks. Ultimately,

it's also the higher quality and safety standards that contribute to the growth in demand for stainless steel IBCs. For instance, there is no danger that any substances stored in a stainless steel IBC will react with the container or vice versa. At the same time, they have to meet higher standards with regard to protection against explosion, pressure, fire and static electricity."



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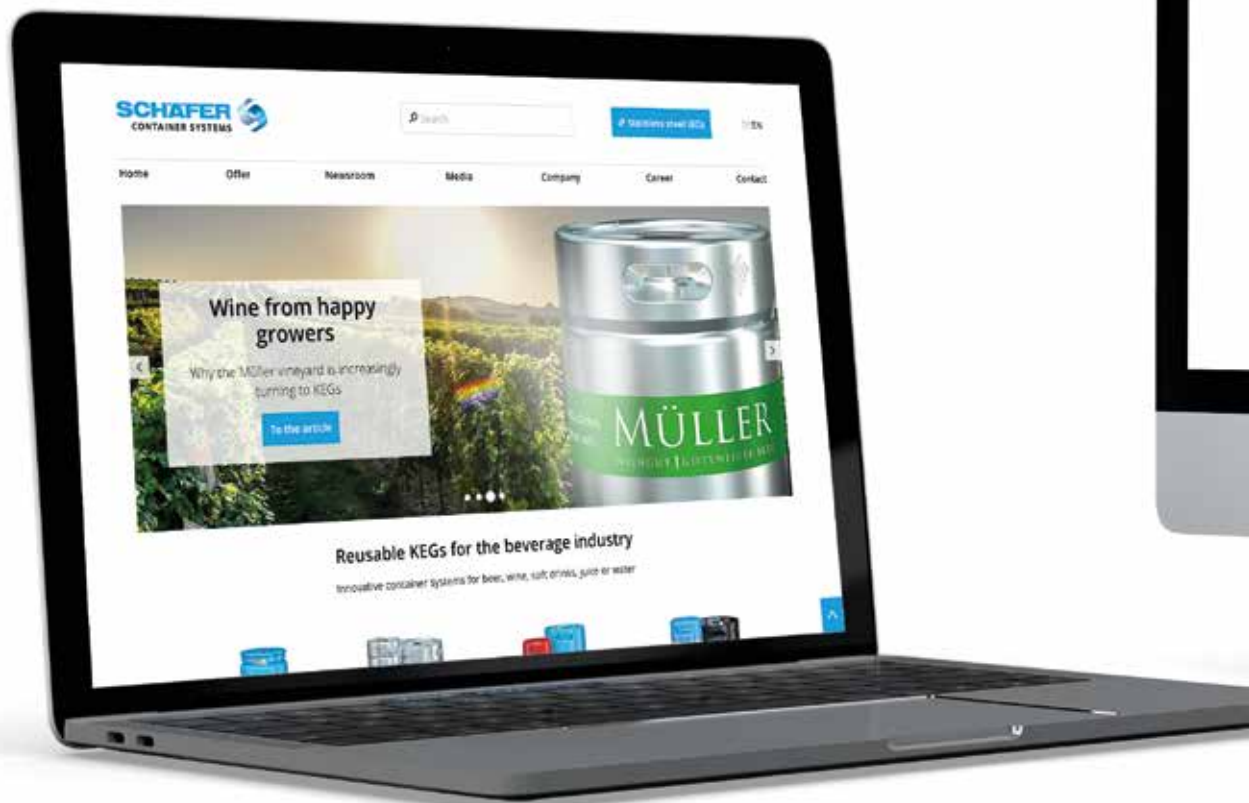
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Clear, concise and intuitive!

New internet presence for the SCHÄFER WERKE Group!

At the beginning of February, the SCHÄFER WERKE Group and all its business divisions went online with completely new websites. With optimized user guidance for all end devices and improved functionality, finding out everything you want to know about SCHÄFER solutions in steel is now quick and easy.



The internet presence is clearly structured in business areas or products and services offered. Navigation is now also much more user friendly. With just a few clicks, visitors to the new SCHÄFER websites can now find the information relevant for them as quickly as possible. The new design underlines the SCHÄFER WERKE Group's fresh and modern online approach.

The pages for the individual business divisions EMW Steel Service Centre, SCHÄFER Perforated Metal, SCHÄFER Container Systems and SCHÄFER IT-Systems were completely redesigned based on individual customer requirements. One change on the SCHÄFER Container Systems page, for instance, is that

KEGs and IBCs have now been separated, as their customers need different information and consequently different user guidance.

Additional information, such as press reports, success stories, trade fair announcements, specialist articles, links to specific subjects, such as quality management, contact data and job vacancies are directed to their relevant target groups quickly and easily on this comprehensive but clear information portal. The "Career" field has been given a significantly higher priority on this new SCHÄFER WERKE corporate site. Besides the relevant career levels and very fast job application procedures, the site also shows the benefits of SCHÄFER WERKE as an employer.

A particular feature is the emphasis placed on the region itself. Potential applicants are provided with a wealth of information on leisure, family and culture in the Siegerland. With this new website, the SCHÄFER WERKE Group has once again shown that together with its customers, its existing and potentially new employees, it is more than ready for the future.

 www.schaefer-werke.de



The aim is to create a modern look for the website while at the same time guiding each target group to the information they need quickly and easily.

Benefits at a glance

- Clear structure, modern design
- Responsive design for all devices
- Clear image language – news teasers to provide information about current topics
- New career portal: job vacancies, information on the region, SCHÄFER WERKE as an employer



- EMW Steel Service Centre
- SCHÄFER Perforated Metal
- SCHÄFER Container Systems
- SCHÄFER IT-Systems

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South Siegerland vocational training fair – a win-win situation for everyone!



■ For the 4th time, SCHÄFER WERKE took part in the South Siegerland Vocational Training Fair, which is held each year, alternating between Burbach, Neunkirchen or Wilnsdorf. In February this year, the fair stopped off in Wilnsdorf, at the “Quartier Landeskronen”. The aim of the event, against the background of current demographic changes, is to offer young people the chance to learn about options and possibilities for solid, future-oriented vocational training in the region and show them the opportunities this may hold for their future professional careers.

“As a regional enterprise, the fair offers us the opportunity to present the professional diversity here and to find suitable young people to fill our training places. School leavers and students can find out a little about the companies and get a taste of a few different fields”, says Wolfgang Richard Weber, head of training at SCHÄFER WERKE in Neunkirchen.

Beate Schäfer-Henrichs (stakeholder in the SCHÄFER Group), with trainees and the commercial and industrial training instructors at the fair stand.

The spectrum of exhibiting companies stretches from trades to retail, and care professions to industrial companies. 55 companies from the region that offer vocational training presented a total of 78 different professions that young people could learn. This also gave students and their parents the opportunity to talk to people, ask questions and make contacts.

“For us, the fair is a good platform for contacting young people at the stage they are at now. There’s nothing that is as precisely tailored to the needs of schools as this vocational training fair. It’s a win-win situation for everybody”, Weber adds.

At the start for the 15th time...

Preparations for the Siegerland Company Fun Run on 10th July 2019 are in full swing.

■ This year, too, the SCHÄFER Group will once again be taking part in the Company Fun Run in Siegen-Weidenau, entering a joint team of around 300 runners and Nordic walkers from SSI SCHÄFER, SCHÄFER WERKE and SCHÄFER SHOP. And again this year, the motto will be “Crossing the line together!”

For more information on registration, the course and the distribution of running kit, please check the notices and e-mails. We look forward to as many runners joining in as possible and wish you all lots of fun and a good run!

Fit to work

Cycle leasing has been well accepted

More and more SCHÄFER employees now travel to work on their company bikes. Bike leasing is a programme for bicycles and pedelecs that works along the same lines as the company car system.

Employees can pay for the “bike of their dreams” conveniently in easy monthly instalments straight from their salaries, thus saving a significant amount in comparison to a direct purchase.

SCHÄFER WERKE, with their around 1,000 employees, have been offering this scheme since 2016 as part of a company health drive. “There is a lot of interest in this, which we are extremely pleased about, especially because of the positive effect it has on health promotion! Up to now, there about 200 people using the programme”, says head of HR, Stefan Homrighausen.

Bike leasing is equally attractive for both employers and employees. The employer has healthier, more active and more motivated employees and can even save social security contributions. The employees save income tax, as well as social security contributions. On top of this, they also have the opportunity to purchase the bike they have always wanted for a very favourable price and can sustainably improve their health and fitness.

If you are interested or have any question, contact the HR department directly, Ms Sarah Nassauer (extension: 313).



Get the bike of your dreams in four easy steps

1.  Get some advice from the HR department
2.  Select the bike you've always wanted
3.  Sign the contract
4.  Pick up your bike!

Health promotion – employees receive additional support



Since the end of last year, so-called “health consultations” have been conducted throughout the entire SCHÄFER WERKE Group, in addition to the well-known reintegration management programme (BEM), as part of the company's general health promotion scheme. The works council and the HR department invite employees with particularly high stress levels to consultations, in order to discuss

confidentially any health problems, or the factors that may be triggering them, in an attempt to find measures that may improve the employees' health.

The physical and psychological stress of the employees concerned are analysed and then evaluated with a view to instigating the necessary measures to strengthen personal resources for coping with possible occupational stress and so contributing to the sustainable improvement of individual employees' health.

“Our aim is to provide practical support for our employees, under the supervision of the company doctor, and to show those affected a more efficient way of eliminating the factors causing health problems at work. In most cases, a consultation consisting of two or three appointments can decisively motivate, support and sensitize people, and also provide the incentive for improving working conditions,” says Stefan Homrighausen, head of HR at SCHÄFER WERKE.

“For us, it's important to provide our employees with personal support and material assistance, such as the use of technical aids, improvements in the working environment or individual support measures, so that we can achieve a lasting reduction in the company's illness-related absentee times,” Homrighausen continues.

Our locations



Head office and production plant in Neunkirchen (D)



Plant in Betzdorf (D)



Plant in Ledec nad Sázavou (CZ)

SCHÄFER WERKE

SCHÄFER WERKE is an owner-led group of companies based in Neunkirchen/Siegerland and consists of four business divisions, SCHÄFER Container Systems, SCHÄFER Perforated Metal, SCHÄFER Interior Systems and the EMW Steel Service Centre. The work of all these divisions is based on high-quality fine steel sheet. The processing of this material is one of the core competencies of this enterprise.

EMW Steel Service Centre

As one of the largest independent steel service centres, EMW supplies coils, slit-strip, cut-to-size blanks and circular blanks to the manufacturing industry. The company, which celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2012, combines decades of experience and expertise in steel services with the very latest in logistics. In over 45,000 m² of storage space, EMW has around 180,000 tons of thin steel sheet in almost all current market grades permanently in stock.

