

dialog

March 2022 edition

Container Systems

The draught beer market
of the future

EMW

Rising to the
challenges

Lochbleche

Aesthetic. Solid.
Safe.

IT-Systems

100 % climate friendly
water-based cooling





- 03 Obituary Theo Schäfer
- 04 SCHÄFER WERKE Group sets course and extends top management team
- 05 We can do it! Through the pandemic together

MARKET

Container Systems

- 06 The draught beer market of the future

IBC

- 08 The model for the future is partnership: Agitating technology for IBCs
- 09 Flexible production processes with Porta-Feed IBCs

EMW

- 10 Rising to the challenges
- 11 Green logistics – clean and quiet transportation

Perforated Metal

- 12 Aesthetic. Solid. Safe.
- 13 Perforated sheets in automotive industry supply chain

IT-Systems

- 14 100 % climate friendly water-based cooling with no ecologically damaging coolants
- 15 Green IT thanks to compliance with "Blue Angel" standards
- 16 Digital transformation needs strong partners

Interior Systems

- 18 Manufacturing investments at SCHÄFER Interior Systems
- 19 Anniversary of a classic!

INTERNAL

- 20 New trainees take their first steps to a future career
- 21 In future even better
- 22 Our power is green
- 23 Awards for SCHÄFER
- 23 Utilizing improvement potential

TRADE FAIRS 2022



The UK's biggest beer & brewing trade event
Liverpool / GB, 16. - 17.03.2022



The event for beer enthusiasts
Saint Malo / FR, 18. - 20.03.2022



Austria's trade fair for viniculture
fruit growing, cellar technology
and marketing
Tulln / AT, 05. - 07.05.2022



DATA CENTRE WORLD
For the data centre of the future
Frankfurt, 11. - 12.05.2022



Vocational Training Fair IHK Siegen
Siegen, 18. - 19.05.2022



METALFORUM
Exhibition for the metal working industry
Pozen / PL, 31.05. - 04.06.2022



World Forum for the
Process Industries
Frankfurt a.M., 22. - 26.08.2022



World's Leading Trade Fair for the
Beverage and Liquid Food Industry
Munich, 12. - 16.09.2022



International Sheet Metal Working
Technology Exhibition
Hanover, 25. - 28.10.2022

IMPRINT

Published by: SCHÄFER Werke GmbH

Responsible: Guido Klinkhammer and Marketing division

Editorial address: SCHÄFER Werke GmbH, Pfannenbergstraße 1, D-57290 Neunkirchen

Telephone: +49 (0) 2735 787-01 **Fax:** +49 (0) 2735 787-249

E-Mail: info@schaefer-werke.de **Internet:** www.schaefer-werke.com

Layout: reaze GmbH, Siegen **Printers:** braun-network GmbH, Neunkirchen

Picture credits: P. 9 TMS Industrial Services, Moerdijk (NL); P. 13 EWZ Zürich; P. 10 Stahlmarkt Consult Andreas Schneider

Reproduction with permission free of charge.

We accept no liability for misprints. Errors and technical changes reserved!

All images are solely for visualisation purposes and only represent excerpts from our product range. Pictures may differ from the original.

We reserve the right to make technical changes without prior notice.

Despite careful control of the contents, we do not accept any liability for the contents of external links. The operators of the linked pages alone are responsible for their content.



OBITUARY

We are deeply saddened by the loss of our revered managing partner and universally esteemed boss.

† Theo Schäfer

Mr. Schäfer passed away unexpectedly on 14 December 2021 at the age of 96.

As a co-founder and exemplary entrepreneur, he put all his energy into working for the benefit of the companies in the SCHÄFER Group for more than seven decades.

His wealth of life experience, his pragmatism, his curiosity and his firm Christian beliefs were unshakeable values for him and shaped the success of his life's work.

He always maintained the independence of the family business and set decisive impulses for the company and his home region, the Siegerland, with great expertise and far-sighted entrepreneurial vision.

Without his initiative and his eye for what is actually feasible, our business divisions would not have attained their current significance.

In addition to everything he did in the interests of the company, the care and well-being of his employees and their families were always very close to his heart.

His great sense of responsibility remains an incentive and an example for all of us to follow.

In communion with the family and the partners, we take our leave and pledge to continue operating the company in his spirit.

We will always remember him with gratitude.

Fit for the future – SCHÄFER WERKE Group sets course and extends top management team



SCHÄFER WERKE Group's management (l. to r.): G. Klinkhammer, M. Mockenhaupt, M. Düber

The SCHÄFERWERKE Group already made changes to its longstanding successful management team on 1 October 2020 and is now headed by Marcus Düber, Michael Mockenhaupt and Guido Klinkhammer. Michael Mockenhaupt has been appointed Chairman of the Management Board. With this management team, the SCHÄFER WERKE Group, consisting of EMW Steel Service Centre, SCHÄFER Perforated Sheets, SCHÄFER Interior Systems, SCHÄFER Container Systems as well as the central administrative departments, is breaking new ground and thus placing the fate of the Group in the hands of three experienced managers with different strengths and areas of responsibility. The proven experts are the ideal management team in times of a challenging market environment and will continue to lead the Group in the spirit of Theo Schäfer.

Marcus Düber is responsible for the administrative areas as well as the SCHÄFER WERKE Group's finance and controlling departments. The graduate in business administration has been working within the Group since September 2016 as commercial manager at the Czech subsidiary SCHÄFER Sudex and has been responsible for the finance and controlling departments since October 2018. Michael Mockenhaupt has been successfully running the business of the EMW Steel Service Centre since 2013. As Managing Director, the business graduate is now also responsible for SCHÄFER Perforated Metal. This puts the activities of SCHÄFER WERKE's traditional sheet steel divisions in particular in the hands of Mr. Mockenhaupt. Guido Klinkhammer, holder of a degree in business administration, moved back to his very familiar former employer SCHÄFER

WERKE as Managing Director on 1 October 2020. His area of responsibility now includes SCHÄFER WERKE, SCHÄFER Container Systems, SCHÄFER Interior Systems, as well as SCHÄFER Sudex and SCHÄFER Container Systems North America, both of which are based abroad.

The management team sees a major focus of its work in the further expansion of the Group's digitalisation projects, as well as strategic innovation and product management, paying particular attention to the sustainability triangle. The journey towards the future continues to pick up speed! Read more about it in this issue of dialog.

We can do it!

Through the pandemic together

Since March 2020, the economy and society have been in pandemic mode, challenging us as companies but also as individuals. Nevertheless, companies must remain capable of acting. Processes must be adapted to the changed conditions or legal requirements. However, the focus is on the protection of the population against infection and consequently on the health of employees, customers, service providers as well as family members.

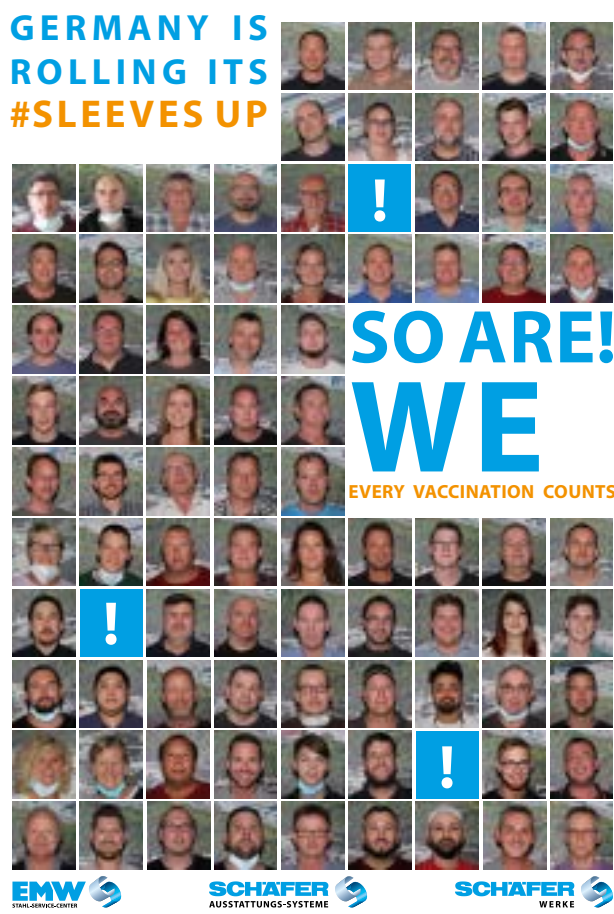
Crisis situation but no crisis here

For manufacturing companies, the challenges are of a different nature, as production is tied to the production site, which is why the majority of employees cannot work remotely. In the commercial sector, a secure and functioning IT infrastructure is a basic prerequisite for working from home. At the same time, the Corona crisis is accelerating digitalisation enormously. Home working is becoming the rule rather than the exception.

The knowledge gained about more efficient working methods and the fact that digital meetings can often replace business trips and thus protect the environment are among the positive aspects of the crisis.

More WE and less ME

Changes in daily work are difficult and can be stressful: Routines have to be changed, social contacts are reduced or disappear, and compliance with hygiene regulations is the be-all and end-all. The extra work takes up time and gets on people's nerves. Their uncertainties and worries also have to be dealt with. What is needed is joint action, flexibility, trust and the courage to make changes. An epidemic like Corona frightens people and this often eats away at empathy and compassion. This makes the mutual support during the pandemic all the more gratifying, whether at work or at home. For SCHÄFER WERKE Group employees, the seriousness of the situation could be felt right from the beginning, but there have not been any negative effects to date. On the contrary: everyone has contributed positively to coping with the new challenges



and sees the changes as an opportunity. The sense of togetherness and cohesion can be felt on a daily basis. Thanks to the help of each individual, not one single employee has been affected by pandemic-related dismissal.

Stable movement of goods and unbureaucratic flexibility

Thanks to the infection control measures, which were introduced at an early stage by the SCHÄFER WERKE Group and stringently implemented to date, it was possible to maintain the supply chains. At no time were production or order processing affected by

far-reaching restrictions. Individual divisions recorded market-related declines in orders. The affected production employees received help unbureaucratically. Many were transferred to other departments within the Group in order to avoid short-time working, while other employees had their short-time allowance topped up.

A tiny job with a great effect

In mid-June 2021, it was possible for the first time to offer the entire SCHÄFER WERKE Group workforce a company-organised COVID-19 vaccination programme. The response was above average. After a six-week vaccination break came the second dose and in January 2022, the booster could also be administered. Employees wanting immunisation will continue to be released from work with full pay.

At this point we'd like to say a big thank you to the team of doctors, their medical assistants and the crisis team at SCHÄFER WERKE for the organisation and implementation of this programme. And also, many thanks to all SCHÄFER employees for their cooperation, loyalty and commitment.

We can do it!

Many people are continuing to follow the corona-related guidelines, keeping their distance and covering their mouth and nose to protect each other from infection. People realise that they need each other. We need solidarity, not selfishness. It would be nice if this kind of humanity and togetherness could continue after the crisis.

The draught beer market in the future

In the Corona year 2020, breweries based in Germany sold around 8.7 billion litres of beer. According to the Federal Statistical Office, this represents a fall of 508.2 million litres.



The draft2go dispensing unit opens up new sales potential for breweries and hospitality

Closed restaurants and pubs along with cancelled parties, festivals and events all contributed to an unprecedented fall in sales, especially for draught beer. But what does the time after Corona hold in store for breweries and the hospitality sector? Quo vadis draught beer? The question is difficult to answer. But one thing is certain: consumer habits, and consequently the market situation, will no longer be the same. Demographic change also means pub and restaurant customers are getting younger and among this new, young clientele, habits are also changing. Concepts will therefore have to be

rethought completely to satisfy new customers and their expectations. In recent years, the hospitality sector has already seen a number of innovations, aimed mainly at improving variety and availability.

Draught beer market trends in the hospitality sector

The craft beer trend is now giving rise to a new kind of hospitality business, with numerous brews on tap which go far beyond the usual standards, both in number and variety. At the same time, this trend is raising new expectations in terms of value and quality and also for

the experience as a whole. Variety is taking hold in another place, too, if you look at the various beverages alongside the hitherto dominant beer. With 15 %, "non-alcoholic" drinks in particular have taken a significant chunk of the market, but also other drinks such as flavoured sodas, health drinks, soft drinks and even wines on tap are becoming increasingly fashionable. Many new, innovative drinks are often marketed in special packaging and even though sparkling wines, apple wines or even coffee have rarely been sold in barrels up to now, the potential to do so is certainly there.

Self-sufficient and mobile dispensing systems as an alternative or supplement to fixed equipment

New, positive future prospects for breweries and hospitality businesses.

Draught beer still remains the preferred drink in catering and hospitality businesses. 70 % of consumers love draught

beer because it's fresher and has more flavour, provided the beer quality is flawless. This, of course, depends heavily on storage

temperature, coordinated use of CO₂, but also to a great extent on the hygienic condition of the dispensing equipment. The

trend in the hospitality industry now is to use smaller containers to achieve shorter tapping times, as this also lowers the risk of the containers being affected by any contamination. So, how do you increase beer sales? You take the beer to the consumers, frequently by

putting the focus on them dispensing their beer themselves – an often new experience for the customer, which also cuts service costs for you. And this quick and easy way of supplying visitors at events opens up very interesting new sales markets.

Where will this all lead?

Offering a great variety of different beverages in outstanding dispensing quality is very trendy, and above all, it's also possible by switching to self-sufficient dispensing systems and/or smaller container sizes.

SCHÄFER Container Systems finds the answers: the new draft2go dispensing experience

Convenient mobile dispensing unit for professional use in hospitality businesses, at events or private functions.

By introducing innovative packaging and dispensing concepts, SCHÄFER Container Systems has paved the way for entirely new hospitality concepts with the launch of draft2go. The unique feature of this mobile draft2go dispensing system is maximum flexibility, as it can operate independently of both power and dispensing gas. The beer is dispensed sustainably from a reusable KEG with a standard flat fitting. All this makes draft2go a genuine alternative to fixed, stationary dispensing equipment, because its professional use is completely free from restrictions caused by energy supply, time or location. It is this independence that opens up new opportunities for beer sales, especially in the outdoor

catering and events sector or for private functions and parties.

A 10-litre KEG with a stainless steel liner and integrated CO₂ supply operating on the proven dual-chamber principle forms the core of the draft2go unit. A 3-part EPP insulator jacket efficiently shields the KEG, preventing it from warming up. At an ambient temperature of 25° C and a beer temperature of 3° C, draft2go will keep your "liquid gold" well chilled for at least eight hours. (max. 8° C). There are also benefits in the details: for instance, the tap handle, insulator jacket and the KEG are ideal for branding and the unit's practical handling comes without any additional cleaning. That's why the draft2go dis-

pense head is connected to the standard flat fitting by an easy-to-replace one-way supply line. The KEG can be filled manually as well as mechanically on existing filling lines by attaching an adapter. In addition, the draft2go-KEG can be used in conventional dispensing systems without an external CO₂ supply, if necessary. Rounding off the mobile unit is a dishwasher-safe drip tray and stainless steel drip tray grille.

"You can always serve full draught flavour anywhere", says a delighted Tobias Wirth, head of sales at SCHÄFER Container Systems KEG, about the versatile draft2go dispensing system and goes on by saying: "The product is aimed primarily at breweries that want to offer their customers a highly mobile, self-sufficient dispensing unit. That's something that both breweries and enterprising commercial customers can benefit from equally." Even if beer continues to be the no. 1 drink, this unit can dispense a wide range of other beverages, such as wine, soft drinks or coffee.

draft2go dispensing unit – 10 litre KEG, one-way line and design insulator jacket



www.schaefer-container-systems.com

SCHÄFER 
CONTAINER SYSTEMS

- Reusable container systems for the beverage industry

SCHÄFER Werke GmbH
Pfannenbergstraße 1
D-57290 Neunkirchen
Tel. +49 (0) 2735 787-481
Fax +49 (0) 2735 787-493
info@schaefer-container-systems.de
www.schaefer-container-systems.com

The model for the future is partnership: Agitating technology for IBCs

SCHÄFER Container Systems and PROMITEC to become sales partners.



In the various sectors of the materials processing industries, intermediate bulk containers (IBCs) and stirring devices are now essential equipment. For process engineering tasks, IBCs can be used both in the production and processing of liquid, paste-like foodstuffs, pulp, pharmaceuticals, chemicals and cosmetics. This occasionally gives rise to complex questions, which can only be answered individually for each application. That's why SCHÄFER Container Systems, manufacturers of beverage container systems, as well as IBCs and special containers, and the agitator makers PROMITEC are jointly promoting sales of their products.

This sales partnership is primarily aimed at serving customers in the Czech Republic and Slovakia in the future. Working with the motto „Strong partners for customers' processes“, SCHÄFER Container Systems and PROMITEC will now be pooling their efforts

to help with the development and optimisation of processes for agitating tasks. For this purpose, there is a wide range of individual agitator designs, systems and components to choose from, all of which can be combined with a variety of container solutions. „Agitator technology has a lot to do with passion, because the tasks that our customers set us are exciting and technologically challenging - 90 percent of all agitators and stirring devices are individually planned and delivered. However, every agitator also needs a suitable container and that's why the sales partnership with SCHÄFER Container Systems is of great strategic importance for us,” says Thomas Wegner, Manager of International Sales at PROMITEC Prozessmaschinen und Industrieanlagen. (Process Machines and Industrial Installations)

Christof Ermert, SCHÄFER Container Systems' Sales Director for IBCs agrees: “Containers

and agitators simply belong together. In many cases, our customers' products need permanent agitation to prevent deposits, for instance, or to stop already mixed substances from separating. That can only work when products are constantly agitated during production, transport or storage. Cooperating with PROMITEC will enable us to expand the range of agitators which can be combined with container solutions from SCHÄFER Container Systems. This means we can now provide our customers with agitator testing in PROMITEC's technical centre, as well as on-site agitator trials the Czech Republic and Slovakia.”

For further information on PROMITEC, go to www.promitec.de/en/



www.schaefer-container-systems.com

Flexible production processes with Porta-Feed IBCs

TMS Industrial Services backs containers from SCHÄFER Container Systems for mother-daughter systems.



(WHG), acts as a safeguard against water contamination and as support for the filling and dosing peripherals.

“It is the quality of the SCHÄFER Container Systems IBCs that persuaded TMS Industrial Services to use the Porta-Feed, which has been specially optimised for mother-daughter stations with regard to external dimensions, for instance. The stainless steel design makes the system robust, enabling it to be used permanently in tough farming and agricultural environments”, says Patrick Minnaard, mother-daughter project manager at TMS Industrial Services in the Netherlands. The concept is impressive with its low space requirement and low acquisition costs, compared to fixed-installation tank systems. The new station can be both purchased and hired from TMS Industrial Services, and can also be adapted to customer-specific needs.

For more information on TMS Industrial Services, visit: www.tmsindustrialservices.com

SCHÄFER Container Systems, manufacturers of container systems for beverages, as well as IBCs and special containers, is now supplying stainless steel intermediate bulk containers (IBCs) for dosing stations. TMS Industrial Services’ new mother-daughter system based on the Porta-Feed IBC is a scalable, mobile application for decanting various liquid media – including chemicals, pharmaceuticals and base materials for cosmetics. The Porta-Feed is ADR (UN) certified for class 2 and 3 hazardous goods and also used in the food sector. Among other things, the station is also ideally suited to end products made up of individual substances, as these can be exchanged flexibly and adjusted and dosed individually during an ongoing production process.

To fill up the 1,500-litre Porta-Feed mother container, a daughter container with a volume of up to 1,000 litres is used, which is connected to the mother IBC via a coupling system. This enables the containers on top to be changed quickly and drip-free, even during operation. Due to the volume difference between the mother and daughter containers, production

interruptions are minimised and downtimes avoided when containers are changed in good time.

„At peak order times, production facilities with large tank systems often reach the limits of their capacity, but this mother-daughter system means we can increase these limits flexibly. On the other hand, orders with limited volumes can be processed cost-effectively with the mobile station, without having to set up a stationary tank facility or use very small containers. But mother-daughter systems have also proven advantageous in development and product tests because they allow any number of individual components to be processed,” explains Tobias Fuchs from IBC Technical Sales at SCHÄFER Container Systems.

The mother-daughter system is made of stainless steel and has the following structure: the centre piece is the SCHÄFER Container Systems 1,500 litre stackable Porta-Feed, which TMS Industrial Services has fitted with a filling level indicator and placed in a stainless steel collection basin. The basin, which is needed to comply with the regulation in the Water Resources Act

SCHÄFER 
CONTAINER SYSTEMS

- Standard and special containers in stainless steel
- Hazardous goods containers
- Ion exchange units

SCHÄFER Werke GmbH
Pfannenbergstraße 1
D-57290 Neunkirchen
Tel. +49 (0) 2735 787-578
Fax +49 (0) 2735 787-580
ibc@schaefer-container-systems.de
www.schaefer-container-systems.com

Production location Czech Republic:
SCHÄFER-SUDEX s.r.o.
Podolí 5
CZ-58401 Ledec nad Sázavou
Tel. +420 569 711-291
Fax +420 569 711-292
info@schaefer-container-systems.cz
www.schaefer-container-systems.com

Rising to the challenges

EMW comes through 2021 with flying colours

Even as we conveyed our New Year's greetings at the beginning of the year, we and our partners already suspected that a year of special challenges lay ahead of us. Today, in retrospect, we know that 2021 will go down in the 69-year history of EMW Steel Service GmbH as one of the most work intensive years with multi-layered, extraordinarily complex challenges.



Almost every company saw its ability to deliver placed under threat by the daily supply-chain situation.

The dramatic increase in steel prices on the market was a constantly recurring theme affecting all products in the course of the year. In many cases, steel was no longer sold but allocated. At the height of the crisis, suppliers' delivery times, if they took any orders at all, actually tripled.

Additional daily demand could either not be met at all or only with great difficulty. Stocks at EMW were reduced by 50 % within a few weeks. De-escalation talks were suddenly the order of the day; stress was at its peak.

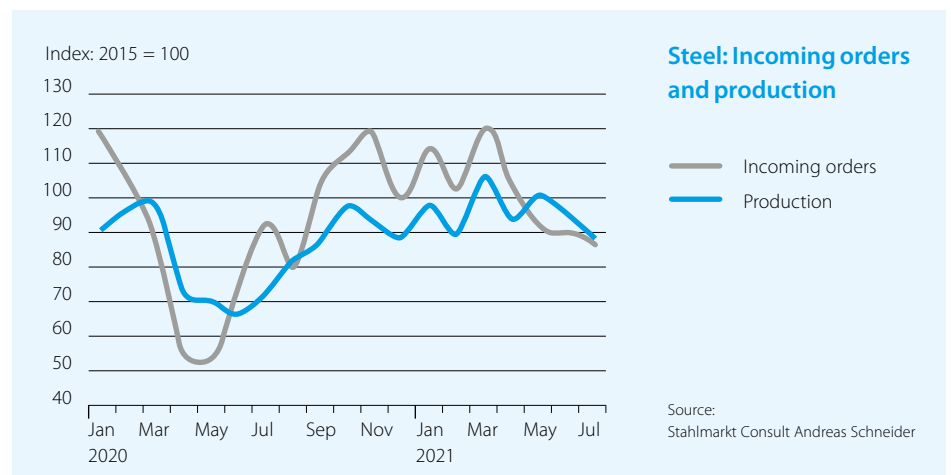
New dynamics. New solutions

It was now clear to all those responsible at EMW that, in this crisis, previous approaches were not sufficient to guarantee customer supply. And so we gradually developed a new, additional dynamic for finding solutions.

From now on, task forces set up internally in

the respective product groups controlled the distribution of available material, while at the same time other colleagues dealt with additional purchases and the expansion of our supplier pool. Here we benefitted from our excellent network. Through the closer than ever exchange with our customers, we were able

to work out alternatives for most supply bottlenecks and maintain deliveries to our partners in almost all areas. Despite all the challenges and enormous strains, the EMW team proved to be adaptable and crisis-proof and was ready for the new situations at an early stage. Home working and Microsoft Teams confe-



rences led, among other things, to the development of new design possibilities. In the end, this enabled us to effectively strengthen the adaptability in our organisation.

Growth through transparency and dialogue

We are also convinced that, thanks to optimal and ever transparent dialogue, we were once again able to significantly strengthen, and in some cases significantly expand, the business relationships with our mostly long-standing partners.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank them once again for their outstanding cooperation. We were even able to establish additional, new partnerships, so that we can expect further synergies to develop in 2022. We remain, therefore, optimistic and can categorically say: despite extreme material shortages and enormous delivery delays on the part of our input material suppliers, we were able to maintain the supply of our customers, albeit occasionally with some delay. In the coming years, the focus of our cooperation with our partners will continue to be

the punctual and high-quality supply of our customers, as well as the continuous improvement and digitalisation of our common business processes. Together we're stronger than ever.



www.emw-stahlservice.com

Green logistics – clean and quiet transportation

The EMW Steel Service Centre is positioning itself as a pioneer for emission-free production logistics and will be launching a groundbreaking cooperation with a local freight forwarder at the end of this year. Internal plant transportation – within the SCHÄFER Werke Group – will then be handled by a special electrically driven truck with a seven-metre long semi-trailer and a range of around 200 km.



Considering the approximately 300 trucks that pass through the plant every working day, this contribution may seem small at first. For the Steel Service Centre, however, launching an electric truck is an important milestone on the way to sustainable, low-emission production logistics. In the coming years, the company not only wants to fully electrify all internal plant traffic, but also aims to supply EMW customers using exhaust-free and quiet trucks.

"40 % of the raw material required is already delivered via the rail network today. So far, however, we have achieved our sustainability goals almost exclusively by rail. We're connected to the nationwide rail network through the infrastructure provided by the Freier Grunder rail company so we can trans-

port shipments by rail in competitive time frames," emphasises Michael Mockenhaupt, Managing Director of the EMW Steel Service Centre.

In addition to rail freight transport, EMW currently prefers to use gas-powered trucks. In addition to the environmental aspect, there are also strategic reasons for this: „In the event of any potential driving bans for diesel vehicles, we can maintain not only our own supply chain, but also that of our customers," explains Mockenhaupt.

Behind the term "green logistics" is the idea of a holistic transformation of logistics strategies, procedures and structures in order to make logistics processes in companies more environmentally friendly and resource-efficient. So, let's do it!



- Coils
- Slit strip
- Cut-to-size blanks
- Circular blanks

EMW Stahl Service GmbH
Pfannenbergstraße 1
D-57290 Neunkirchen
Tel. +49 (0) 2735 787-02
Fax +49 (0) 2735 787-484
info@emw-stahlservice.de
www.emw-stahlservice.com



Aesthetic. Solid. Safe.

Large-scale natural power plant: a future-oriented project with perforated sheets from SCHÄFER

In 1959, the Albigna Dam was commissioned in the Canton of Graubünden 2,162 metres above sea level in the Swiss Alps. Besides hydro-electric power, the dam has also been producing an annual volume of up to 500 megawatt hours of natural solar power since September last year from photovoltaic panels mounted on the dam wall.

To guarantee safety along the 759 metre wall, which is also part of a very popular mountain hiking trail, 1,476 metres of special perforated sheets from SCHÄFER Perforated Metal were installed along the crest, both on the lake side and the valley side. They enable hikers and passer-by to cross the dam in safety, while also preventing anyone coming into contact with the 1280 photovoltaic modules.

Any building project in high alpine regions is a real challenge in terms of planning, logistics and actual workmanship with little or no margin for error. In this particular case, 732 perforated metal elements had to be transported from the valley up to the dam wall by helicopter before they could be installed as safety balustrades. With the construction site at an altitude of over 2,100 metres, any reworking was out of the question, as this would have incurred additional transport costs and seriously jeopardised the punctual completion of the project – in these high alpine regions, winter often begins as early as October and doesn't end until the following May. Therefore, design and production, as well as transport and installation of the perforated



Dam wall with railing made of perforated sheeting at Lake Albigna

elements had to be completely flawless, with error tolerances down to zero.

"Our client, ewz (Elektrizitätswerk der Stadt Zürich – City of Zurich Power Utility), is more than satisfied with the result and convinced that in SCHÄFER, they've found the right partner for such large-scale perforated metal projects", said a very happy Robert Blarer, managing director of TECmetall – a Swiss specialist for metal and wire products and a national commercial agent for SCHÄFER Perforated Metal.

As the Swiss full-service provider for photovoltaic systems, storage systems and

charging stations, REECH, had planned and monitored the photovoltaic system on behalf of ewz, the challenges to be faced on the Albigna Lake dam were well known. Nevertheless, the first safety fencing elements were mounted on site for testing. This allowed details to be checked and noted so that the 732 elements with RV20-30 perforations could be produced to size with the required manufacturing precision and multiple-fold edges, before being packed and delivered. Because of the high-altitude location and the corrosion protection requirements, the finished elements are made of 3-millimetre pre-anodised aluminium sheet with a relatively thick 20 micrometer coating provided by the manufacturers.

The dam wall, which has enabled hydro-electric power to be generated here since 1959, belongs to ewz. In 2020, ewz employees also added 1,280 solar panels to the wall, making it the first large-scale alpine solar energy plant in Switzerland. A genuinely future-oriented project.



www.schaefer-lochbleche.de

Perforated sheets in automotive industry supply chain

“Design Win” for SCHÄFER Perforated Metal in off-road vehicles from INEOS Automotive

For the automotive industry, perforated metal sheets are a functional construction and design element. Prominent examples are engine-protecting ventilation grilles and perforated body parts for weight optimisation. For the British off-road vehicle, the INEOS Grenadier, SCHÄFER Perforated Metal developed nine individual protection and ventilation grilles.

The perforated sheets can be seen prominently on the front of the vehicle. Though they have an optimised air flow for cooling the engine, they still protect it permanently from all the usual mechanical influences in such a vehicle's everyday use. The grilles are manufactured in Neunkirchen, North-Rhine Westphalia, and supplied ready for installation. “A diamond-shaped perforation was originally planned for engine protection in the INEOS Grenadier, and we could have supplied them, of course. But during the “design-in” process, working with the INEOS engineers and designers, we were able to work out the benefits of hexagonal perforations for this application. The air flow increase of 8 % that this achieved had a measurable effect on engine cooling. The engine runs more efficiently and is protected from impact just as well as with diamond perforations”, explains Torsten Schoew, automotive expert for cooling and engine protection at SCHÄFER Perforated Metal.

Each perforation type has specific areas of application and offers specific benefits. A diamond-shaped perforation allows an open area of just under 75 %. In other words: a square metre metal sheet consists of 25 % metal and 75 % open area. With Hv 6.00–6.70 hexagonal perforations, the open area can be increased to over 80 %. This, on the one hand, optimises the air flow and, on the other, protects the engine from the impact of objects larger than 6 mm in diameter.



The challenge involved in manufacturing the Hv 6.00–6.70 perforation pattern is the ratio of hole size (6 mm), material thickness (1.0 mm) and margin width (0.7 mm). The fine 0.7 mm margins must not break during production and have to withstand external influences, even in harsh environments. This requires expertise, as well as production facilities with high-precision punching tools, which SCHÄFER Perforated Metal manufactures in its own toolmaking department.

All in all, SCHÄFER Perforated Metal can realise complex customer projects, which always include expert advice. The product range covers over 400 immediately available perforation patterns, using round, square, diamond, slot or hexagonal holes. The materials the company processes are steel, stainless steel, aluminium, copper, zinc, brass, and plastic. The development of customized patterns is the responsibility of an in-house design department, which means virtually any conceivable pattern is possible. In addition to perforation, SCHÄFER Perforated Metal offers a wide range of finishing and machining services, especially

laser cutting, bending, notching, punching, de-greasing, powder coating, lacquering, and anodising.



www.schaefer-lochbleche.de



SCHÄFER
PERFORATED METAL



- Coil to coil perforation
- Perforated sheets to customer specifications
- Perforated sheets straight from stock
- Machining service

EMW Stahl Service GmbH
Pfannenbergstraße 1
D-57290 Neunkirchen
Tel. +49 (0) 2735 787-05
Fax +49 (0) 2735 787-528
info@schaefer-lochbleche.de
www.schaefer-lochbleche.de

100 % climate friendly water-based cooling with no ecologically damaging coolants

Energy management is now one of the central tasks of a modern data centre. That's nothing new. After all, it is no longer just a question of efficiency and cost control, but a global challenge. Climate protection has become the defining issue on almost all social and economic levels and is therefore no longer knocking on the doors of data centres, it's already found its way inside.



Up to now, economic aspects have usually been the top priority for data centres: the first question was how the data centre could be operated as cost-effectively as possible, the second was about operational safety and then – usually last of all – about the possible environmental impact. So, environmentally friendly cooling solutions such as chilled water were hardly considered. At the same time, the advantages associated with chilled water cooling, such as service-friendliness and energy efficiency, were not sufficiently appreciated.

Water-cooling for data centres requires massive rethink

The F-Gas directive forces data centre operators to think about a fundamentally disruptive change in the whole structure of data centre cooling, even for the power range up to 50 kW. This is because the use of refrigerants with a GWP (Global Warming Potential) of more

than 750 will no longer be permissible in new stationary systems from 2025. The GWP describes the warming or greenhouse effect potential of a substance in relation to CO₂. In other words: this is the factor by which the substance contributes more to the greenhouse effect than a kilogram of CO₂ within the first 100 years after its release.

SCHÄFER IT-Systems offers the right solutions for sustainable "green" IT

In its product segment iQdata Cooling, SCHÄFER scores with a whole range of new cooling system developments, such as the space-saving InRackCooler, Side-Cooler, Slot-InCooler and WallCooler. All cooling systems have at least one feature in common: their cooling medium is 100 % pure water rather than environmentally harmful refrigerants. Depending on the model, these cooling products are suitable for decentralised, centralised or high-density IT architectures.

The Economy series is intended for the broad market of decentralised IT locations, while the high-performance Enterprise series is used especially in colocation and data centres. The HPC series is used in high-performance computing.

The use of chilled water is environmentally friendly and energy efficient

The range of applications for chilled water cooling in combination with modern free-cooling systems is hard to beat, and the energy efficiency of this environmentally friendly technique will make any data centre manager sit up and take notice. Environmental protection and cost awareness are by no means mutually exclusive. Step by step, SCHÄFER IT-Systems is shaping the path to a future with environmentally friendly data centres with its innovative solutions and effective cooperation with relevant partners. Sustainable „green“ IT is by no means a myth.

Green IT thanks to compliance with “Blue Angel” standards

Cooling systems based completely on water are an enormous challenge on the road to climate neutrality for data centres

Data centres – we don’t see them, but we all use them several times a day! Whether you are searching information, video conferencing or making a bank transfer, data centre services are used and needed all the time. Germany is the largest data centre location in Europe and the third largest in the world.

Data centres consume a lot of electricity and pollute the environment through their use of environmentally harmful refrigerants. There is considerable potential for energy savings, which can be achieved through professional management of data centre components and technical utilities.

For more than 40 years, the Blue Angel eco-label has guaranteed that products and services bearing it have a demonstrably lower impact on the environment than comparable conventional products of the same quality with the same uses. The Blue Angel sets high standards for monitoring the energy supply, air conditioning and IT performance of data centre components. This enables operators to identify potential for optimisation.

SCHÄFER IT-Systems develops a fully water-based cooling system

The Europe-wide refrigerants directive has resulted in a comprehensive package of obligations for data centre operators. There are transitional periods for existing systems, but new systems may no longer be built with traditional refrigerants. So, it makes sense to plan future-proof new systems according to Blue Angel requirements and aim to achieve certification. Mandatory requirements for a positive IT audit are energy-efficient cooling solutions without fluorocarbons (HFCs), an annual performance factor (APF) greater than eight and a power usage effectiveness (PUE) of less than 1.3. The SCHÄFER IT-Systems solution meets this requirement profile, which gives data centre operators the opportunity



Tested cooling system: closed loop concept with typical data centre components

to obtain the German government’s eco-label for their data centres.

“The cooling system, which was built and tested together with our cooperation partner Efficient Energy, is a closed-loop concept made up of typical data centre components. The cooling system essentially consists of a side cooler, a cold water chiller and a free cooler set up as a complete system. For us, it was important to set up the entire system in a practical way and to actually determine the operating and efficiency values, the so-called free cooling,” explains Philipp Maibom, project manager and area sales manager West at SCHÄFER IT-Systems.

The test setup was based on the temperature profiles at the Frankfurt location. In various test scenarios, different ambient and rack temperatures were tested under a constant

IT load. In addition to the known operating parameters of a data centre, very high air and water temperatures were tested within the normative limits and regulations. The results fully meet the criteria for energy efficiency.

„Compared to previously used cooling solutions, the power consumption of our new climate control solution is two thirds lower, based on one year covering all four seasons. This also reduces the annual carbon dioxide footprint by almost 70 per cent. Compared to a traditional system, the investment pays for itself within three years of operation,” says Thomas Wermke, Business Unit Director of SCHÄFER Interior Systems, who is also responsible for sales at SCHÄFER IT Systems.

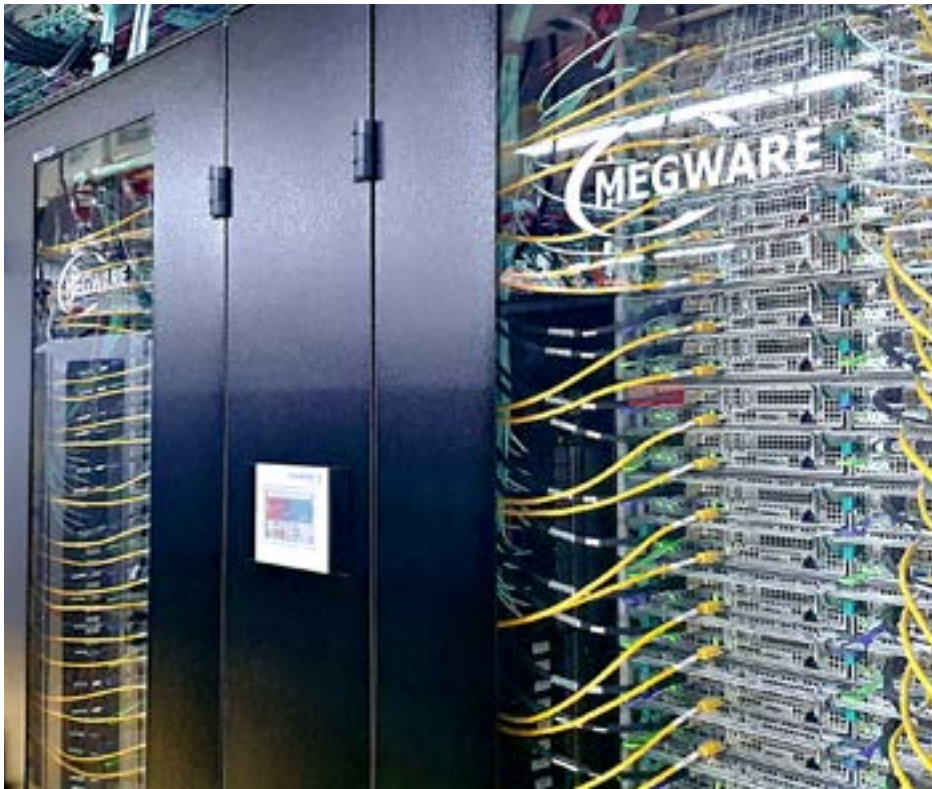


www.schaefer-it-systems.com

Digital transformation needs strong partners

MEGWARE, IP Exchange and Cloud&Heat cooperate with iQdata from SCHÄFER IT-Systems

As digitalisation advances, the demand for the appropriate technical equipment rises. This of course increases the need for space, energy and cooling capacity. When it comes to planning and implementing efficient solutions, both IT experts and an appropriately compatible and proven portfolio of components are needed.



SCHÄFER IT-Systems is now cooperating with MEGWARE in the field of high performance computing (HPC). Whether in the automotive industry, weather forecasts, medical research or animated films: there are more and more fields of application and development scenarios that would simply not be feasible without high-performance computing (HPC). For high-performance computing, tasks are parallelised and the computing power of several systems is aggregated. In this context, SCHÄFER IT-Systems, the German specialist for data centre infrastructure and network technology, is intensifying its current cooperation with MEGWARE. The core of this strategic technology partnership is the joint development of future-oriented

infrastructure for High Performance Computing (HPC).

"I am very pleased that, together with MEGWARE, we can offer customer-specific solutions from a single source in this very significant high-performance computing market. The aim behind this is clear: we want to utilize synergistic effects, develop products together and thus contribute to making the best and most advanced HPC technologies available in Germany and Europe – to ensure the success of science and industry," explains Thomas Wermke, who, as Business Unit Director at SCHÄFER Interior Systems, is also responsible for sales at SCHÄFER IT-Systems.

André Singer, managing director of MEGWARE Computer Sales and Service, continues: "Today

Germany already has one of the ten most powerful super computers in the world – and it's the most energy-efficient, too. To make sure it stays that way, we're taking our successful cooperation with SCHÄFER IT-Systems to a new level and are expanding it even further. Especially in high performance computing, SCHÄFER IT-Systems and MEGWARE have their own specific expertise and core competencies, which are now available to our customers from a single source."

In its iQdata portfolio, SCHÄFER IT-Systems offer system solutions for the full-scale equipping of data centres, in particular sustainable cooling systems with waste heat utilization, modular IT racks, high-availability power supply systems, failsafe rack monitoring and services.

IP Exchange operates data centre infrastructure showroom with iQdata from SCHÄFER IT-Systems (in the field of colocation data centres)

Am Tower 5 in Nuremberg is the address of the former US hangar for combat helicopters, which now accommodates a showroom for data centre solutions, featuring SCHÄFER IT-Systems' iQdata product range. This is a partnership project, in which the housing and hosting experts IP Exchange provide the premises, while SCHÄFER IT-Systems, specialists for data centre infrastructure and network technology, supply and install the data centre components. In IP Exchange's new showroom with cold aisle enclosures, there are currently eight different IT racks installed, each with varying equipment and safety features. These include access control using radio handles, glass and steel doors with and without door contacts, cable managers, separator panels, intelligent power distribution units, LED lighting and rack-based climate control solutions,

to name some of the central components. Connected sensors for measuring temperature, humidity and vibration are evaluated in real time via the iQdata rack monitoring system (RMS).

“As a colocation supplier, we demand the highest standards of quality and security for our data centre infrastructure. IP Exchange has been able to rely on the performance of SCHÄFER IT-Systems’ iQdata product range for some 10 years now and meanwhile exclusively uses iQdata components for our clients’ data centre solutions”, explained IP Exchange managing director Cornelia Lindner. When it comes to planning and implementing efficient solutions, both IT experts and an appropriately compatible and proven portfolio of components are needed, as actually seeing concrete objects makes decision-making easier.

The main beneficiaries of the data centre expertise available in the showroom will be decision-makers in southern Germany, investing in future-oriented infrastructure solutions as part of their digital transformation strategies.

Besides the showrooms at IP Exchange and at SCHÄFER Interior Systems in Betzdorf, SCHÄFER is still on the lookout for locations partners to strengthen their regional presence and provide personal advice directly to the customer.

Cooperation with Cloud&Heat to increase data centre energy efficiency (in the field of Edge data centres)

The declared aim of the cooperation between SCHÄFER IT-Systems and Cloud&Heat

Technologies is to reduce the electricity needed for data centre cooling to a maximum of 15% of the overall energy requirement and to make full use of the waste heat generated. IT hardware transforms almost all the electric energy it uses into thermal energy, which is why IT racks need such elaborate and expensive cooling.

In conventional data centres, only about half the electricity consumed is actually used by the processors, storage media, network cards and other computer chips: between 40 % and 60 % of a data centre’s entire electricity demand is used for cooling IT components. For this reason, the existing approach based on direct water cooling is now being optimised and improved with the help of iQdata Cooling. “The products in our iQdata Cooling range are designed not only to efficiently dissipate unwanted IT waste heat, but also to make it available for further use elsewhere”, explains Thomas Wermke from SCHÄFER IT-Systems.

That’s because SCHÄFER IT-Systems’ InRackcooler already makes it possible to cool the CPU directly with hot water-based cooling technology, without the need for any energy-intensive fans. To achieve this, the water flows through heatsinks, which are in direct contact with the components to be cooled, in particular with the processors. Consequently, direct water cooling dissipates the unavoidable waste heat from IT components at the very place it is generated.

Working together with the specialists from Cloud&Heat, SCHÄFER IT-Systems has further

optimised the InRackcooler to meet the complex technical requirements of heat recovery. As a result, the cooler is now always adapted to the relevant server manufacturer or to the particular project in hand. Cloud&Heat Technologies, for example, work with cooling water temperatures of up to 55° C, as this is necessary for the economical operation of heating and warm-water supply systems. The compact design enables the device to be installed inside the IT rack, as the name implies. For the conversion of existing data centres to water-based direct cooling, Cloud&Heat Technologies can quite easily retrofit the pump box, the InRackcooler’s core component.

“Together, we have set ourselves the goal of jointly developing systems that will achieve highly efficient cooling and waste heat utilization for data centres and future Edge locations”, says Jens Struckmeier, founder and CTO of Cloud&Heat Technologies in Dresden.

More information about our partners:

MEGWARE Produkte:
www.megware.com

IP Exchange GmbH:
www.ip-exchange.de

Cloud&Heat Technologies GmbH:
www.cloudandheat.com



Thomas Wermke (Business Unit Director at SCHÄFER Interior Systems), Guido Klinkhammer (SCHÄFER Werke Managing Director), Dr. Jens Struckmeier (founder and CTO of Cloud&Heat Technologies in Dresden) (left to right)

SCHÄFER IT-SYSTEMS

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

SCHÄFER Ausstattungssysteme GmbH
Pfannenbergstraße 1
D-57290 Neunkirchen

Sales and Production:
Industriestraße 41
D-57518 Betzdorf
Tel. +49 (0) 2741 283-770
Fax +49 (0) 2741 283-798
sales@schaefer-it-systems.de
www.schaefer-it-systems.com

Manufacturing investments at SCHÄFER Interior Systems

Upgrade for bending station; punching machine and chain conveyor system to improve capacity, quality, productivity and working conditions

With the modernisation of its component production now completed, SCHÄFER Interior Systems in Betzdorf is looking towards a positive future. At the centre of the modernisation programme are two extensively equipped, computer-controlled CNC sheet metal working machines from the world market leader Salvagnini. In addition, the in-house paint shop's chain conveyor has been rebuilt and extended into the IT assembly area. This transformation into a digital factory will result in efficiency gains for value-added, customer-oriented processes. But machine operators and skilled workers will also benefit, thanks to reductions in noise levels and physical strain.



The punching-shearing centre is fed with up to 12 different types of metal sheet from an automatic de-stacking unit. The steel, aluminium and stainless steel sheets are both loaded and unloaded onto the shelves via a lift manipulator. The work surface dimensions are such that even the largest sheets – the maximum dimensions are 3,048 mm x 1,524 mm – always remain within the work table boundaries. This serves, among other things, to protect the skilled workers operating the machine. The work surface is equipped with replaceable brushes for noise suppression.

The bending station has its own de-stacking feeder unit. For the bending process, a sheet blank is taken from one or two sheet packages and fed into the bending centre, before it is formed into the programmed three-dimensional shape. These blanks can be fed into the station during the machining cycle of a previously inserted workpiece, which increases the output. Pre-lacquered sheet metal or polished stainless steel sheet with a protective film can also be processed. Once the bending process is completed, the semi-finished part leaves the machine via a delivery device with a motorised roller surface. This

allows the machine operator to concentrate completely on production.

Salvagnini's JOB.CONSOLE takes care of programming, monitoring and management, as well as the dynamic planning of daily production. Based on geometric information, the numerical control software defines the production cycle and calculates the cycle time. The production is permanently monitored by sensors and a special software module. All this creates a computerised movement simulation that is displayed on a screen for the machine operator. This procedure, known in technical jargon as preventive quality control, enables fast intervention and keeps rejects to a minimum.

In the area adjacent to the IT assembly, there is a warehouse for semi-finished parts. Since the conversion, the semi-finished parts can be transported from here to the paint shop via the chain conveyor without any additional transport. In the IT assembly area, the painted components are then removed from the chain conveyor and placed on the assembly lines for customer orders. This optimisation of the in-house logistics process increases product quality and boosts efficiency.

„With this new investment in manufacturing and the accompanying conversion to Industry 4.0 production processes, we have our finger right on the pulse of the current trend. We are shaping the so-called fourth industrial revolution into a win-win situation for customers, plant and employees,“ says Jan Roth, production manager at SCHÄFER Interior Systems.

Anniversary of a classic!

In the past, everything was better. Well, not everything, but there are things that were really good. And they still are today.

The legendary SCHÄFER workbench celebrates its sixtieth birthday and continues to set the standards. The astonishing thing about it is that the basic concept has remained unchanged for six decades. That's because essentially there is nothing to improve.

In mid-1962, the disused iron ore mine on the Pfannenberg changed hands. The twin brothers Manfred and Theo Schäfer were now responsible for the operational business of Pfannenberg GmbH, which was founded on 1 July 1962.

The young company's first products are steel workbenches with a solid hardwood worktop, which they developed themselves. Initially, it contained two drawers as well as two separately lockable doors in the lower part of the cabinet. Solid and quite simply good. The market's reaction was extremely positive. The SCHÄFER workbench became the new „star“ in the field of company equipment but wasn't on its own for long.

The product range was quickly expanded to include workbenches and shelving units, and today, some 60 years later, it comprises around 10,000 different articles and product variants.

All these products have one thing in common. They are ideal for professionals who have high demands on quality and functionality. The ergonomic workshop equipment has been consistently convincing for decades with its high-quality materials and solid workmanship: robust steel frames, strong hinges, impact-resistant paintwork and smooth-running drawer rails are the features behind the success. But above all, the worktops made of local beech wood are a symbol of durability and origin.

The original SCHÄFER workbench became a much sought-after piece of equipment and a reliable partner, not only in German handicraft and industrial businesses, but also far beyond the country's borders. Its success enabled groundbreaking investments to be made. The founding of the SCHÄFER SHOP in 1970 signalled the drive for direct sales. The idea of „shopping at your desk“ was a great success.

As a specialist mail-order company for office, warehouse and workshop equipment, SCHÄFER SHOP made shopping by catalogue possible. The initial four-page brochure developed into a catalogue of over 1,300 pages.

Today, with locations in ten countries, SCHÄFER SHOP is a well-known brand in the office and workshop equipment sector throughout Europe. As times have changed, the modern product portfolio can now be ordered via the company's own online shop. Articles from various product groups can be displayed showing their application and complete solutions can be ordered with a single mouse click on your computer or a quick tap on your Smartphone.

Even the stalwart 1962 SCHÄFER workbench can now be configured and ordered virtually. In addition to a whole range of functional and technical options and special equipment for our classic bench, there are now even six different colours to choose from.

In the future, too, this perennial favourite „Made in Siegerland“, Germany, will be delivered fully assembled with a ten-year guarantee.

Dear SCHÄFER workbench, all the very best and stay the way you are!



The first SCHÄFER workbench – robust and durable!

SCHÄFER 
INTERIOR SYSTEMS

SCHÄFER Ausstattungssysteme GmbH
Pfannenbergstraße 1
D-57290 Neunkirchen

Sales and Production:
Industriestraße 41
D-57518 Betzdorf
Tel. +49 (0) 2741 283-770
Fax +49 (0) 2741 283-798
info@schaefer-ausstattungs-systeme.de
www.schaefer-werke.com

New trainees take their first steps to a future career



On 2 August 2021, the management and the industrial and commercial training instructors were once again able to welcome all our new trainees at the head office in Neunkirchen. Five commercial and seven industrial trainees, as well as two cooperative degree course students, are now starting their practice-oriented vocational training courses.

The young professionals will be trained as industrial clerks, office communication clerks, industrial and engineering technicians, tool-makers, cutting and forming technicians, as well as energy plant electronics engineers. The two cooperative degree students are being trained in business administration and mechanical engineering in cooperation with the THM (Technical University Central Hessen).

The company invests in sound, well-founded training for its young professionals. The aim is to discover and promote talents and thus strengthen the personality and basic knowledge of each individual. The training of these young people is supported by a number of different measures: SCHÄFER organises so-called apprentice rallies for all newcomers, during which they get to know the company; there are trips and seminars for all trainees together; in SCHÄFER's own training workshop, the industrial-technical trainees are given practical training and the best possible preparation for their examinations

as well as for the assignments in the various working fields. Training courses, lessons, exam preparation courses and internal workshop instruction are also offered in-house. Thanks in part to this support, the apprentices at SCHÄFER WERKE have been achieving above-average exam results for years, thus creating the basis for successful professional careers.

In 2018, SCHÄFER Werke was one of the first companies to be awarded the Siegen Chamber of Commerce's "South Westphalia Training Seal of Approval", underlining the company's first-class standard of vocational training. This was followed at the beginning of this year by the Institute for Management and Economic Research's TOP Award, gaining the company the Deutschland Test distinction "Germany's best vocational training company for 2021". For this, the 20,000 companies with the most employees were analysed and evaluated on behalf of DEUTSCHLAND TEST and FOCUS MONEY

"Stay curious and take as much as you can from your training period" was Theo Schäfer's (t) appeal to the young apprentices. Even as the managing partner of the SCHÄFER Werke Group, he still remembered his first exciting day at work.

At SCHÄFER, training is given a very high priority, because, after all, trainees and apprentices are the company's future.

Congratulations on passing your exam!

What an exciting time of life! Final exams, training course completed and all against the backdrop of a global pandemic. Passing exams under these circumstances is a very special personal success. And yet, that's exactly what all 15 "ex"-trainees managed to do, and

with above-average results, giving them the opportunity to continue working for the SCHÄFER Werke Group. These skilled young specialists are now about to lay the foundations for a common, successful future.



Self-confident with an open mind! That's what successful former trainees look like!



In future even better

The most valuable suggestions for improvement come from our own employees



Beate Schäfer-Henrichs (stakeholder in the SCHÄFER Group), and Ralf Weid (head of technical planning) drawing the winning tickets

Suggestions for improvement are creative ideas or useful impulses initiated internally by our colleagues. They go far beyond the tasks defined in their job descriptions and help to make the processes within the company more efficient and to „uncover“ hidden potential. At SCHÄFER Werke, any suggestions submitted are always taken into account, evaluated and, if sensible, are also implemented. In 2020, 64 suggestions for improvement in the various business areas were handed in by employees. Of these, 39 ideas were evaluated positively and awarded a total of around 8,000 euros. Those who submitted the winning suggestions took part in an additional prize draw, in which the first three winners received cash prizes and the personal thanks and appreciation of the management for their awareness and their innovative ideas!

The winners of the draw are:

1. prize: Benjamin Kirchhöfer, paint shop in Betzdorf
2. prize: Tobias Henkel, training instructor
3. prize: Martin Knautz, tool maker in Neunkirchen

Our power is green

One of the declared strategic goals of the SCHÄFER WERKE Group is the considerate use of our planet's resources. In order to be climate-neutral in the future, everyone must take on more ecological responsibility.



For some sectors, there are already mandatory measures. In many other sectors of the economy, increased sustainability and ecological commitment show that companies are now complying with customer demands for them to operate in line with the needs of the times. In many industries, climate neutrality is increasingly becoming a criterion for awarding contracts.

Green electricity is generated from renewable energies such as wind, solar or hydropower. Energy production from biomass and geothermal sources are also included. In contrast to electricity production in conventional power plants, such as coal-fired or nuclear power plants, generating power from renewable energies produces neither CO₂ emissions nor nuclear waste.

About half of the world's electricity is consumed by companies in the commercial and industrial sector. This is a significant adjusting screw on the path to climate neutrality.

4,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions per year avoided

The headquarters of the SCHÄFER Werke Group on the Pfannenberg in Neunkirchen alone require around 6 million kW of electricity annually. If the production sites in Betzdorf and Treuen are added to this, annual electricity consumption is around 11 million kW. Since 1 January 2021, the electricity purchased by the Betzdorf, Neunkirchen-Pfannenberg and Treuen sites has been completely converted to green electricity, so that approx. 4,000 t of CO₂ can now be saved annually. SCHÄFER receives its „green“ electricity from renewable hydro, wind and solar energy plants, which are subject to the nationally valid specifications and requirements for protecting our landscapes, nature and environment.

Generally speaking, any emissions avoided are not only good emissions, but the best emissions. So, first and foremost, it is important to cut emissions wherever possible. This was already the case in 2012, when a combined heat and power plant (CHP), which generates up to 199 kW of electrical power per year using gas, was put into operation at the Betzdorf plant. The CHP is used to provide efficient heating for the iron phosphating plant and helps to heat the hall in winter. In 2013, a similar plant was then commissioned on the Pfannenberg to heat the KEG washing plant.

In 2013, the company's energy management system received its DIN ISO 50001 certification. This system supports the systematic analysis of energy consumption and forms the basis for the permanent improvement of our energy-related performance. Annual audits are performed to review and develop it further.

In the near future, an additional „environmental and climate protection manager“ is to be taken on, who will be able to assess the strategic and operational challenges of climate change on the company's environmental balance and make improvements to it by implementing targeted measures.

SCHÄFER wants to take responsibility for protecting nature. As long as the sun shines or the winds blow and rivers flow, mankind should draw on this inexhaustible potential and generate electricity from renewable sources. The climate is global and affects us all. To preserve the world as we know it, we must reduce emissions and use all our resources sparingly.

SCHÄFER on the winners' list of Germany's best MINT employers

■ MINT is an acronym used in Germany to describe a grouping of careers based on the fields of mathematics, IT, natural and engineering sciences and technology. (In the USA and UK, this is known as STEM – science, technology, engineering mathematics) The strength of the MINT sector determines, among other things, how innovative a company's operations are.

The Institute for Management and Economic Research (IMWF), measures and evaluates the factors that make up a „top employer“, such as working conditions, remuneration, corporate culture, promotion opportunities and security for the future. The institute uses what's known as „social listening“ to answer these questions. A number of tools have been developed under this catchword in recent years, all of which have one thing in common: they're used to extract



and evaluate data from social media to determine the popularity of companies, brands or products.

MINT workers are in an advantageous situation because they can choose their employers critically and carefully. Against this background, companies should increasingly set themselves apart from their competitors by showing innovative strength, offering a pleasant corporate culture, good career opportunities, an attractive salary and a high reputation in order to attract MINT employees. For the study „Germany's Best MINT Employers“, around 20,000 companies were analysed with regard to the above-mentioned factors. In the METAL PRODUCTS sector, SCHÄFER WERKE received 100 points and thus the IMWF's TOP award as one of Germany's best MINT employers.

More awards from the F.A.Z. Institute for SCHÄFER

■ Back in October 2020, the F.A.Z. and the IMWF Institute for Management and Economic Research conducted a study to determine the most sought-after employers in Germany. Over 18,200 companies were analysed and evaluated. In the category for metal goods producers, the SCHÄFER Werke Group was voted Germany's most sought-after employer.

Utilizing improvement potential

■ At the beginning of this year, the SCHÄFER Werke Group carried out an employee survey. The first task was to work out what the intentions and goals of the survey should be – something that is not only useful in the subsequent phase of designing the questionnaire, but also helps to promote transparency within the company.

With this sensitive and, at the same time, sensible human resources development project, all employees were surveyed anonymously and voluntarily on a wide range of topics. The main topics the staff were asked to give their opinions and assessments on were:

- Working conditions
- Work organisation
- Internal communication and team work
- Working hours and holiday regulation
- The need for training and employee development
- Satisfaction with the company and their relationship to superiors

Once they had all been filled in, the questionnaires were evaluated promptly in order to record the „as-is“ state. The findings were then made available to the employees as soon as possible to show that the transparency factor is being taken seriously and to promote confidence building among the staff as a result.



After analysing the information gathered in the survey, there will be an intensive and extensive follow-up process – tailor-made measures are now being devised and implemented in order to achieve the improvement goals and to grasp the opportunity for change in terms of better and more productive cooperation.

Our locations



Head office and production plant in Neunkirchen (D)



Plant Betzdorf (D)



Plant Treuen (D)



Plant Leděč nad Sázavou (CZ)

SCHÄFER WERKE

SCHÄFER WERKE is a family-owned 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 in 2022 is celebrating the 70th anniversary of its founding, 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 over 220,000 tons of thin steel sheet in almost all current market grades permanently in stock.

