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REFERENCE REPORT

# Deharde GmbH

Maximum process efficiency thanks to invariable consistency



## Deharde GmbH

### Maximum process efficiency thanks to consistent consistency

Abas ERP shortens processing times at the aerospace specialist Deharde by more than 20 percent and enables end-to-end traceability.

- **Industry:** Aerospace technology, mechanical engineering
- **Products:** Precision parts, plant and device construction, wind tunnel models
- **Number of employees:** 250
- **Software users:** 90
- **Highlights:**
  - Full transparency across all business processes, including value and quantity flows
  - Optimization of production order processing with APS/ detailed planning
  - Plant data collection (PDC) increases digitalization and transparency
  - Process guidelines ensure security
  - Processing times reduced by more than 20%
- **In use since:** 2022
- **Website:** [www.deharde.de/en](http://www.deharde.de/en)



## Deharde GmbH relies on Abas ERP

Since its foundation in 1909, Deharde GmbH has established their name in aerospace technology. Starting with machining services for the aircraft industry, the company has developed into a globally recognized mechanical engineering business and technology service provider that produces both individual parts and complete aircraft structures. Today, Deharde specializes in precision parts, plant and device construction as well as wind tunnel models and offers a comprehensive portfolio ranging from design to the installation of finished assemblies.

The company is active in both series production and project business, which shows up in numerous process-related challenges due to the heterogeneity of these models. Deharde also has to tackle industry-specific peculiarities such as long lead times and volatile forecast data in the aviation industry. So their ERP system must not only be top-notch in terms of flexibility and transparency, but also ensure correct evaluations and seamless lot tracking at all times. In 2022, the decision was made to rely on Abas ERP. The reasons for this included the broad functional scope of the integrated ERP system and its overall performance.



## ERP solution from Abas wins in software comparison

In order to find the optimal ERP software for their requirements, the aerospace specialist conducted an extensive selection process. This initially comprised various workshops with a selected group of providers and a subsequent survey of the participating users and managers. In addition, individual functionalities were tested in live operation with the support of reference customers, whereupon the decision was finally made in favor of the ERP solution from Abas.

“In a direct comparison of providers, we were particularly impressed by the flexibility of Abas ERP,” explains Lars Harms, Head of IT/IS at Deharde GmbH. “Not only the workshops, but also the practical insights we gained from companies that have been using the system for some time have confirmed our evaluation that this is the software that best suits our needs.”

The high level of consistency that Abas ERP offers in comparison to other systems was also important for Deharde, as was the positive experience of colleagues from the management level who were already familiar with Abas ERP from previous professional positions.



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Lars Harms, Head of IT/IS at Deharde GmbH



## High transparency along the entire process chain

Since going live in 2022, Deharde GmbH, based in Varel, Lower Saxony, has been using the ERP software company-wide to map all business-relevant processes: From quotation creation, purchasing, plant and wind tunnel model construction, aerospace assembly, machining, production, and logistics to quality assurance, project management, and finance. As a result, the company benefits from end-to-end consistency and can view all processes and data transparently. “Every movement in the system is immediately visible, which is a great advantage. This gives us full transparency across all business processes, including value and quantity flows,” says Lars Harms. Of great importance here is the continuous lot and serial number realization, which enables complete traceability from the creation of the work order to the notification of completion in the warehouse.

An important area for Deharde, in which the company has also achieved significant improvements with Abas ERP, is production. This is because the system's APS/detailed planning effectively contributes to the optimization of production order processing and supports employees, for example, in identifying material and capacity bottlenecks at an early stage and simulating various scenarios for realistic planning.

In combination with the production lists and suggestions in Abas ERP, this makes it much easier for Deharde to maintain an overview despite the long lead times that are common in the industry and to make the right decisions, e.g., in procurement and liquidity planning. Plant data collection (PDC) also creates significant added value, thanks to which digitalization and transparency have increased enormously. This allows employees to quickly and easily provide confirmation of all activities and record material and machine data in real time.



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## Optimal balance between standard and customizing

Overall, with Abas ERP, the aerospace specialist has a business software whose standard functions are already ideally suited to the company's existing requirements. Nevertheless, the high flexibility in terms of customizing offers the possibility to implement individualizations at any time if required. For example, Deharde has optimized PDC so that both machine and personnel times are recorded simultaneously and cleanly entered in the work orders, taking into account run times without personnel as well as different shift models and business cases. This not only reduces the effort involved, but also makes (re)valuation much easier.

Deharde also sees an advantage in the system's process guidelines, as they provide a high level of security and ensure that all users always comply with the necessary processes. "Thanks to the process guidelines from Abas ERP, no process steps can be skipped or handled differently," reports Lars Harms. After a few changes and initial concerns on the part of the employees, the software has now proven itself across the board. In addition to the increase in process reliability, Deharde also benefits from a lower error rate. "After a short familiarization period, all concerns were dispelled and we really appreciate the possibilities and transparency that Abas ERP offers," reports Lars Harms.



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## Consistently positive result

Abas ERP opens up entirely new possibilities for Deharde. Dr. Kai Brüggemann, Managing Director of Deharde GmbH, is very satisfied: “In the past, we were not able to create reasonable material forecasts beyond nine months and our logistics were never up to date - with Abas ERP, we can now do all this without any problems. The system also enables us to reduce processing times by more than 20 percent, which would also have been unthinkable before.”

Driven by this, the Deharde team is convinced that the Abas ERP solution will continue to achieve success in the future. New plans are already on the agenda, including, for example, the further EDI connection of vendors, which has already been successfully launched as part of a pilot project. In addition, the aerospace specialist wants to replace existing Excel-based processes in the area of performance evaluation with the Abas dashboards, so that all relevant information and KPIs will be available for a transparent 360-degree overview.

As a next step, Deharde is also planning further optimizations in logistics, e.g., to make the lot tracking process even more streamlined and efficient. This includes the implementation of the FIFO (first-in-first-out) process, so that logistics staff automatically receive information about which lots are in which locations and must be withdrawn first. There are also plans to connect further third-party solutions, e.g., for scenario planning in the financial area, which is easily possible thanks to the Abas Connect integration tool.

Dr. Kai Brüggemann concludes: “The system is great and runs really smoothly. We benefit considerably from the consistency of the ERP solution and the resulting transparency. Thanks to the wide range of functions combined with a high degree of flexibility, our requirements can be mapped perfectly. The collaboration is also very positive.”



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## Conclusion

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- [abas-erp.com](https://abas-erp.com)
- [hallo@abas.de](mailto:hallo@abas.de)
- [+49 \(0\) 721 96723-263](tel:+49072196723263)