

Franz Kunststofftechnik

automated business processes

Founded in 1946, the plastics processor was able to master the digital transformation with Abas ERP and reduce

- **Industry: Plastics technology**
- **Products:** Thermoplastics
- Number of employees: 25
- Software users: 5 users Abas ERP,

20 users Shopfloor/Warehouse

- **Highlights:** 
  - Fully digitalized process chain
  - Significant reduction in error rates
  - Significant time savings thanks to automation
  - APS
  - Document management (DMS)
- In use since: 2024
- Website: e-franz.de



## Franz Kunststofftechnik GmbH relies on Abas ERP

Franz Kunststofftechnik GmbH has already enjoyed more than 78 years of company success. Founded in Berlin in 1946 as one of the first German plastics processors, the fourth generation of the family-run company is now based in Wassenberg, North Rhine-Westphalia. There, the company processes high-quality thermoplastics into technically sophisticated products and supplies customers from a wide range of industries throughout Europe: From medical engineering,

chemistry and pharmaceuticals to mechanical engineering, trade fair construction and the media industry.

What stands out is the uniqueness of their customers' orders. This is because Franz Kunststofftechnik does not market their own products, but instead implements completely individual solutions based on the respective customer requirements. The associated complexity requires the use of advanced business software that digitally supports all departments and links them in an end-to-end, efficient process chain.

In 2024, to achieve this goal, the plastics processor switched to the Abas ERP system, which offered them considerable advantages just a few weeks after the Go Live.



### Abas ERP impresses right from the start

Before the introduction of Abas ERP. Franz Kunststofftechnik was confronted with numerous data silos and inefficient processes: A lot of work was done manually, individual steps passed through too many hands, and tedious and error-prone data transfers were the order of the day. In addition, the ERP software previously used was not tailored to the requirements of manufacturing companies and was therefore unable to adequately cover the growing demands of plastics processors. This is in stark contrast to the Abas solution developed specifically for midmarket manufacturer.

"Abas ERP impressed us immediately. We immediately realized that the software meets our requirements exactly and offers precisely the functions we need," says Alexander Franz, Managing Director of Franz Kunststofftechnik GmbH. The positive first impression was also confirmed during the proof of concept, which involved mapping products in the ERP on a test basis and creating corresponding production lists and BOMs. "Both the results and the handling of the Abas software spoke for themselves, so our decision was quickly made," says Alexander Franz.

The integration of the etagis Advanced Planning and Scheduling (APS) solution in Abas ERP was also an important criterion, as the plastics processor has already been using it for several years.



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#### Inefficiencies successfully eliminated

Since switching to Abas ERP, manual and inefficient processes have come to an end at Franz Kunststofftechnik. Instead, a fully digitalized process chain has been created that ensures a continuous flow of data and optimum transparency. The plastics specialist uses the ERP solution company-wide and maps all processes from quotation preparation and order creation to production and reporting company data with Abas ERP. For employees, this means enormous support and process reliability. Not least because the system's guard rails ensure that all the necessary steps are always taken. "Abas ERP contributes to a significant reduction in the error rate - this was also confirmed by one of the last orders that we still had to process using the old system: In the end, some components were missing from a complex component, holes were forgotten and threads were not cut. This can no longer happen to us with Abas ERP, as each product has its own product master file and a production list that specifies exactly what needs to be done," explains Alexander Franz. In addition, the seamless integration of the etagis solution means that products can now be split into sub-items, which enables much more detailed planning.

#### Significant time savings through automation

Thanks to Abas ERP, Franz Kunststofftechnik also benefits from a significantly higher degree of automation and can therefore save valuable time in many processes. The resulting improvements are particularly evident in the creation of sales orders.

Until now, it often took several hours to record a blanket order, as all the data had to be compiled manually. Today, the ERP software provides all the necessary information in a single point of truth, so that even complex contracts can be created in just a few minutes. This in turn enables the plastics processor to process customer orders more quickly in the future, as production can also begin sooner due to the shorter duration of the order creation. Here too, the Abas software ensures that all information is available where it is needed. Instead of the previous paperwork, every employee now has digital access to all data and technical drawings and is automatically shown which orders are to be produced next.

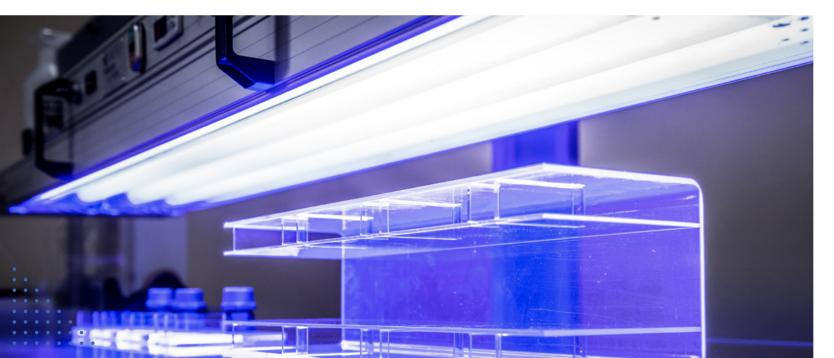


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#### Abas DMS sets the course for a paperless office

Parallel to the introduction of the ERP software, the plastics processor has launched a comprehensive digitalization project. The long-term goal is to switch to a paperless office, not only to further drive process efficiency and security, but also to optimize collaboration between teams. As part of this process, the Abas DMS document management system was introduced, making all manual and paper-based work steps a thing of the past: Whereas employees used to have to pore through countless folders to find a document, thanks to the Abas software everything is now digitized and centrally available with just a few clicks. In addition, the assignment of rights can be used to define exactly who has access to which documents, ensuring a high level of data security as well as efficiency and convenience.

"Before switching to Abas ERP, we managed our filing system entirely by hand. As our orders consist of many components and we used to printout all purchase orders, we had a veritable flood of paper to deal with every time we had to search for documents," explains Alexander Franz. "Fortunately, those days are over and everything is now stored centrally in the Abas DMS. This reduces the effort enormously and we save both paper and time."





"We had a case where a purchasing agent was initially suspicious of the software. However, when he had to place a purchase order for a specific order, Abas ERP correctly recognized that the ordered quantity of another order was also sufficient for this one. This was automatically pointed out to him and that was a real eye-opener for him."

Although the ERP changeover was accompanied by abandoning old habits and was initially met with skepticism by some, the benefits in practice ultimately convinced everyone. "We had a case where a purchasing agent was initially suspicious of the software. However, when he had to place a purchase order for a specific order, Abas ERP correctly recognized that the ordered quantity of another order was also sufficient for this one. He was automatically made aware of this and it was a real eye-opener for him," says Alexander Franz. All doubts have now been dispelled and plastics processors are benefiting from enormous process improvements across the board.

Based on this, the team at Franz Kunststofftechnik GmbH is looking positively to the future with the Abas solution. "We are very satisfied with our decision in favor of Abas ERP. Although we have only been using the solution for a short time, the difference compared to our previous situation is already enormous," summarizes Alexander Franz. The company also sees long-term potential to expand the use of the software and thus further maximize the benefits. The planning includes the realization of a software connection, thanks to which data such as current delivery performance and warehouse stocks can be evaluated in real time with Abas ERP.





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# Learn more about Abas ERP

The comprehensive overall package for the midmarket. With the right combination of tailored functionality and the flexibility to realize individual processes.

Success stories

<u>Videos</u>

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