

REFERENCE REPORT

› **EWALD KAUFMANN
GMBH & CO. KG**



DATA PROCESS QUALITY DRIVE EFFICIENCY

INDUSTRY

Metals industry, Supply industry

PRODUCTS

Production of fasteners, contact pins/bushings and other turned parts in the sector of precision mechanics for the automotive, jewelry and watchmaking industries, as well as the electronics and mechanical engineering industries.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

250

LICENSES

70

ABAS ERP IN USE SINCE

2005

LOCATIONS THAT USE ABAS

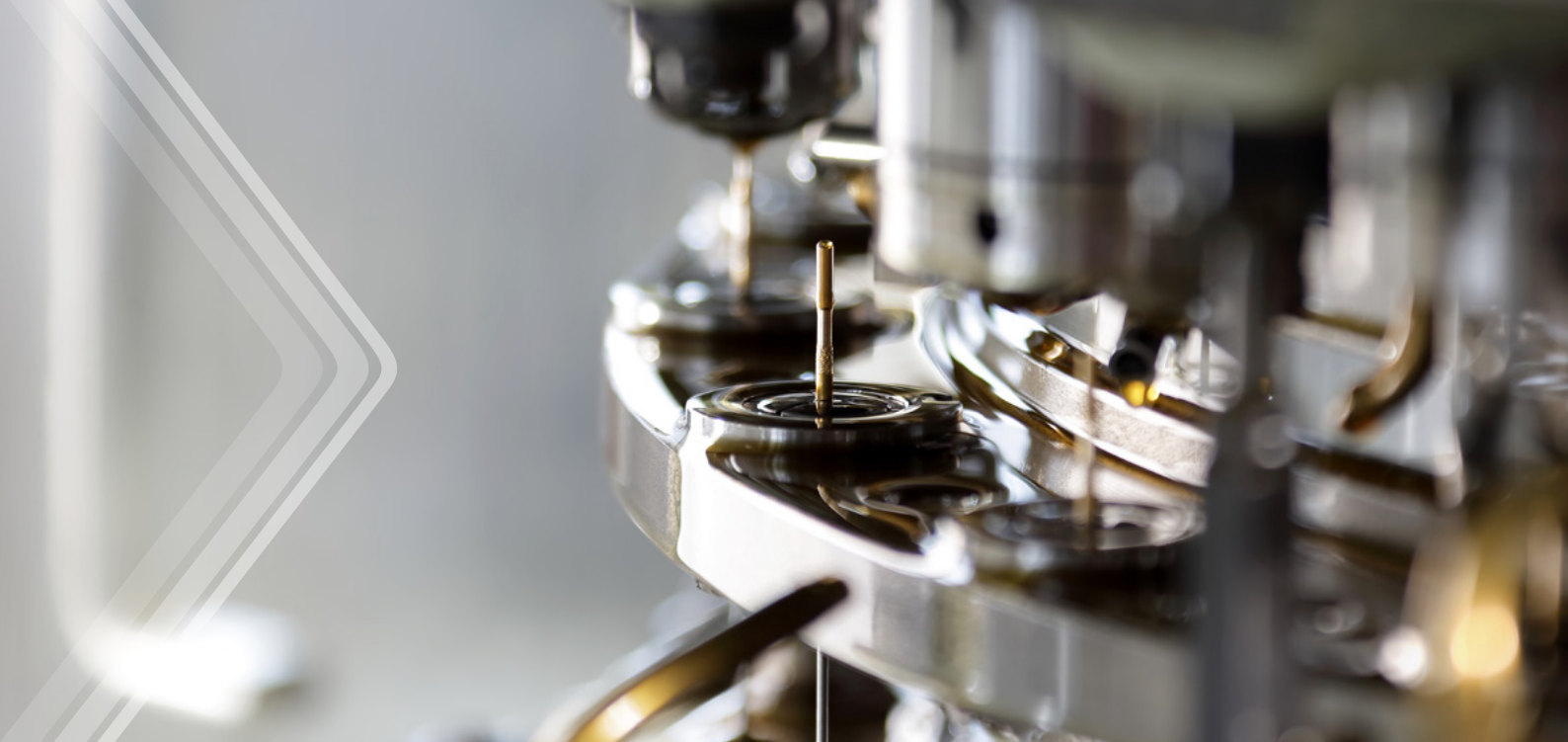
Germany

WEBSITE

www.kaufmann-micro.de

EWALD KAUFMANN BENEFITS FROM INTEGRATED BUSINESS PROCESSES ALONG THE ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN

Originally started to produce tools and accessories for the jewelry and watchmaking industry, Ewald Kaufmann GmbH & Co. KG has grown into an important midmarket manufacturer and supplier in the sector of micro-precision mechanics. At the company headquarters in Remchingen, Germany, around 8 million turned parts are produced every day, which are used around the world in a wide variety of industrial sectors – from the automotive, electronic, jewelry and watchmaking industries as well as the precision mechanics and engineering industries for control, valve and medical technology. Ewald Kaufmann's top priority is to ensure a high standard of quality. In addition to high-performance machinery, this also requires modern corporate IT to ensure clear process structures and centrally combined data. Since 2005, Ewald Kaufmann has therefore relied on the mid-market abas ERP business solution, which is equipped with a high degree of flexibility and, thanks to customizing options, can be optimally adapted to individual processes and changing requirements. The turned parts specialist is particularly satisfied that with abas they've



found an IT partner on equal footing, who has not only offered them the right software solution for 17 years now, but also provides comprehensive consulting: both with regard to their own business area as well as in cooperation with two partner companies, Stanztronic and MEGA Umformtechnik, for whom the multi-client capability of abas ERP are particularly beneficial.

HIGH LEVEL OF CONSISTENCY AND STANDARDIZED DATA MANAGEMENT

At Ewald Kaufmann, abas is used from purchasing to materials management, production, and sales to financial and fixed asset accounting, which results in enormous added value across the board. On the one hand, the processes are significantly streamlined, while on the other hand, end-to-end consistency is achieved throughout the company. With the help of the software specialist from Karlsruhe, Germany, the company has succeeded in preparing the data and processes in such a way that all data maintenance takes place in a single, central location. In addition, Ewald Kaufmann can seamlessly track all processes along the value added chain and, thanks to the high level of process reliability, benefits from a significantly lower susceptibility to errors. "The consistency of the system has been the greatest benefit and it offers us phenomenal possibilities," confirms Kai Höpfinger, Managing Director of Ewald Kaufmann GmbH & Co. KG. "For example, we can track exactly when an item was produced and in what quantity, and have a continuous data flow from the first to the last step in the process." Because a defined data exchange also

takes place with the third-party software connected to abas ERP via an interface, such as the production control system and the PDC solution, so that all information about running machines, produced quantities, warehouse receipts and circulating stocks flow into the ERP system and complete the central data basis. This ultimately results in significantly greater flexibility and quick responsiveness within the company.



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Kai Höpfinger, Managing Director,
Ewald Kaufmann GmbH + Co. KG



ABAS DMS ENSURES OPTIMAL INFORMATION TRANSPARENCY AND INCREASED EFFICIENCY

Another efficiency driver at Ewald Kaufmann is the document management system abas DMS, which is integrated as an add-on and enables audit-proof archiving of any documents related to the corresponding customer orders. Documents of business transactions are thus available centrally and without time-consuming searches whenever they are needed. The transparency this creates makes work easier and saves time in day-to-day business as all authorized employees are always up-to-date on the latest information and have the data they need at hand in a matter of seconds. “Thanks to abas ERP, our processes have become significantly more transparent and faster. Today, we manage a significantly higher order and sales workload with a smaller team,” says Kai Höpfinger. Furthermore, Ewald Kaufmann strives to achieve the long-term goal of a paperless office, for which the DMS solution is already laying the necessary foundation.

EASY CUSTOMIZATION ESTABLISHES FLEXIBILITY

Furthermore, Ewald Kaufmann benefits greatly from the possibility to adapt abas ERP to their own needs. This is because the company not only has software that already covers many of the existing requirements with its standard functions, but also has the necessary flexibility to map special processes as well as adapt to changed circumstances. Process consistency is ensured and communication takes place at the product level.



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ABAS IMPRESSES WITH INTENSE SUPPORT AND CUSTOMER-ORIENTED SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

Last but not least, Ewald Kaufmann appreciates the excellent support abas has provided from the implementation project until today. This also means that the software expert takes on the specific needs of its customers and actively involves them in the further development of the ERP solution. Thus, some processes to which the system previously had to be adapted by means of customizing are now part of the abas ERP standard, which consequently enables Ewald Kaufmann to successively return from customizations to the standard.



EXPANSION OF THE USE OF THE SOFTWARE IS BEING PLANNED

Against the background of the positive experiences that Ewald Kaufmann has had since the introduction of abas ERP, the company sees it as confirmation that they found the right software partner. The plan for the future is to intensify the cooperation even more in order to continuously increase the efficiency of the business processes. In a first step, an upgrade to the current version is planned in order to achieve a further improvement in traceability and transparency with the newly added standard transaction types and tighter process guard rails. In addition, Ewald Kaufmann is aiming to make further progress towards paperless value creation by expanding the use of the document management system. The focus here is on optimizing the exchange of documents with customers, for example, in order to be able to process consistently all incoming documents. In addition, the company is working on the implementation of automatic warehouse systems as well as their connection to the ERP software in order to drive efficiency in the area of logistics as well. “We can no longer imagine our company without abas ERP,” summarizes Kai Höpfinger. “We are benefiting in all areas from a significant improvement in processes and the high level of data quality. abas provides us exactly what we need – even with an eye toward the future.”



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Kai Höpfinger, Managing Director,
Ewald Kaufmann GmbH + Co. KG



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