

REFERENCE REPORT

➤ **WIWA**
WILHELM WAGNER
GMBH & CO. KG



PRODUCTION TIMES HALVED THANKS TO ABAS ERP

INDUSTRY

Mechanical and plant engineering

PRODUCTS

Painting and bonding systems for machine and vehicle fabrication, large surface area and thick-film coatings in the marine and offshore industry as well as in building, corrosion, and passive fire protection

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

135

LICENSES

55

ABAS ERP IN USE SINCE

2009

LOCATIONS THAT USE ABAS

WIWA GmbH (Lahnau, Germany), WIWA LLC (Alger, OH, USA), Wilhelm Wagner Feinwerktechnik (Solms, Germany)

WEBSITE

www.wiwa.de



WIWA IS MAKING A QUANTUM LEAP IN TERMS OF AUTOMATION AND IS FOCUSING ON GROWTH TOGETHER WITH ABAS

The history of WIWA Wilhelm Wagner GmbH & Co. KG dates back to 1950 and began with the assembly of electronic components and the contract manufacturing of turned parts. Today, the company from Lahnau in the State of Hesse, Germany, is one of the world's leading manufacturers of paint-spraying, coating and injection systems as well as fluid processing and extrusion equipment. Their products are used in diverse fields ranging from machine and vehicle fabrication to applications in the marine and offshore industry, construction, corrosion protection and passive fire protection. In addition to off-the-shelf products, WIWA offers a large array of custom solutions to meet exact customer specifications. It is therefore important that WIWA uses business software that supports them in process optimization and grows with their increasing requirements. Since their previous solution had difficulty adequately mapping the necessary processes and advancing their digitalization, WIWA decided to switch to a new ERP system in 2009.



The midmarket solution from the ERP developer abas Software GmbH stood out then as now with a wide range of functions tailored to the manufacturing industry, a high degree of flexibility, and extensive customization options. The guaranteed release-compatibility as well as the platform independence of the system were also essential criteria for WIWA as they are pursuing a multi-platform strategy.

There were only eight months between the beginning of the project and the productive start of abas ERP. After initially focusing on the modernization of their production control, WIWA quickly became aware of further optimization potential and gradually expanded the use of the software to other areas. Today, the company uses almost all available abas functional areas and enjoys significant benefits along the entire process chain - from purchasing, scheduling, production and assembly to sales, financial accounting, and controlling - from the software-side support of the ERP specialist. And not just at their headquarters in Lahnau: The group of companies also uses abas ERP at their location in the USA and has implemented the software at the subsidiary Wilhelm Wagner Feinwerktechnik GmbH in Solms, Germany. WIWA benefits from a high level of consistency between clients, since the American team can, for example, directly access the stock in Germany and use this to place a purchase order or make a stock adjustment.

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION IN ALL AREAS

The implementation of abas ERP has helped the company's entire digitalization and automation process take a significant step forward. A look at the reduction in production times by at least 50 percent that WIWA has achieved for all products also shows this. The optimization of detailed planning achieved with the help of the APS module (Advanced Planning and Scheduling), which is available as an add-on, made a significant contribution to this reduction. "From our point of view, the advanced planning and scheduling system is the best add-on that abas has ever provided," praises Peter Turczak, Managing Director of WIWA Wilhelm Wagner GmbH & Co. KG. The tool has already provided valuable support in identifying bottlenecks in the past and continues to act as an important basis for creating forecasts and determining realistic delivery times. Overall, WIWA has seen significant process improvement across the entire scheduling area. A similar effect can also be seen with regard to materials management, where the conversion to permanent stocktaking took place some time ago. Stock recording is no longer based on a specific date, but is performed continuously throughout the entire fiscal year. The automatic generation of replacement parts drawings from transaction data is also of particular importance for WIWA, while the BI solution (Business Intelligence) from Jedox, which is connected to abas ERP, has also been advantageous. It clearly bundles the data from all departments and provides an overview of the current status or any difficulties at a glance. Furthermore, abas ERP is connected to internal company inspection processes, so that the collected quality data is automatically transferred to the software solution.



“With abas ERP, we have a very user-friendly business software that makes our daily work much easier and has broad development potential. As a company, we can grow in every direction with abas and are well positioned in terms of continued digitalization.”

Daniel Pink, COO at WIWA

PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE THANKS TO REGULAR UPDATES

To remain ready for changing conditions and actively help shape the ongoing digital transformation, WIWA upgrades to the latest version of the ERP system every two years. This is also the case in 2020, when the software developer is rolling out the largest release in the company's history with abas ERP 20. The resulting advantages can be seen at WIWA, in particular in the form of increased data integrity and improved planning, which is not least due to the new process types and clear process mapping. The company also benefits from significant added value when dealing with returns and cancellations. The former can now be triggered directly from the associated packing slip as well as managed and carefully documented together with all relevant processes in the new information center. In combination with the various cancellation options, this contributes to an enormous improvement in manageability and transparency. WIWA also benefits greatly from the integration of the Business Process Management tool, which paves the way for graphical modeling of business processes and the automation of defined workflows.



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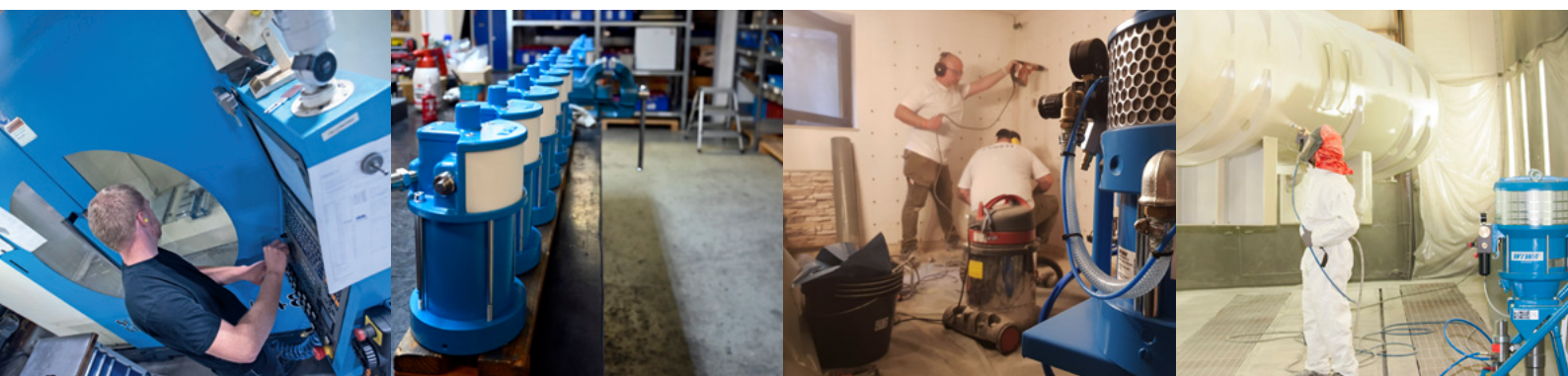
Peter Turczak, Managing Director at WIWA



ABAS ERP CONVINCES ACROSS THE BOARD

Peter Turczak draws a positive balance from the utilization of abas ERP across the board: "We are very satisfied with abas ERP and would not want to switch to another provider for all the money in the world. The progress that we have made in terms of automation and the time we've saved as a result are simply brilliant." He sees another important benefit in business transparency, which has improved many times over since the software was introduced and has proven to be particularly beneficial in the last few crisis years. Instead of the isolated solutions that were used previously - for example in financial accounting and materials management - the processes are now highly integrated, so that every warehouse movement automatically triggers an entry. Peter Turczak is particularly impressed by the controlling features included in abas ERP, which ensure optimal manageability and enables WIWA to generate a profit and loss report (P&L) or balance sheet at any time.

In a next step, the company also plans to optimize Quality Management (QM) with the help of abas and is currently working on the introduction of the QM module included in the expanded standard release for abas ERP 20. In this context, the entire QM manual is to be implemented in BPMN (Business Process Model and Notation) in order to also connect it to the ERP software. A further consolidation of clients is also on the agenda in the near future with the aim of assessing all business areas and promoting the topic of multisite. "With abas ERP, we have a very user-friendly business software that makes our daily work much easier and has broad development potential," says Daniel Pink, COO at WIWA, and concludes: "As a company, we can grow in every direction with abas and are well positioned in terms of continued digitalization."





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