

production manager

1 / 2010

Journal for Logistics & Production

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Commissioning at Zufall logistics – rapid response times and reduced IT costs

Source: Zufall

Individual solutions through self-customising

Personally design software profiles

With the new basic versions of the PSImetals warehouse management system and the PSImetals transportation management system which users can easily configure themselves, PSI Logistics offers its clients greater flexibility, cost advantages and transparency. Self-customizing allows lifecycle costs to be reduced by up to 20%.

Flexibility and cost savings are two key investment aspects in software projects. It should be possible to tailor the IT system to suit the application perfectly,

to be able to adapt to altered business processes, organise processes more efficiently and more transparently and to optimise use of resources.

Increasingly frequently however, users are implying being able to adapt the software used to the changing demands of day-to-day business and business processes, at its own discretion and to the largest extent possible with the terms flexibility and cost savings. This saves time and money.

In light of this, PSI Logistics has now developed new basic versions of its

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News ticker

++++ PSI finds specialists in new mobile communications – Celllls GmbH offers solutions for business customers and social communities
 +++ PSI strengthens its focus on energy-efficient software solutions – In the future, the former PSI Büsing und Buchwald GmbH will operate under the new name, PSI Energy Markets GmbH. +++



Imprint

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 Design: Ulrike Fuchs
 Printed by: Repro- & Druck-Werkstatt

Editorial



Dear readers,

Not "more" but "better" is the buzzword for positive results in times of crisis, and better refers equally to both the efficiency of processes and product quality. In any event, it is the customers who set the standards; they assess the quality and decide upon success and the results.

It is for this reason that customer communication carries great weight for PSI Logistics. Anyone wishing to optimize customer processes with their products must be familiar with the customer's requirements and issues. In this way, innovation emerges from customer focus; products that meet requirements and solve problems. A mutual win-win relationship.

The focus of this edition of Production Manager is to present the history and user benefits of certain solutions that the customer actively participates in shaping.

In the meantime, PSI Logistics is already taking steps to approach the customer. You should be able to shape features of software products, not only in the customising phase but as early as the pre-development phase. You will find more about what the PSI Logistics user group will be establishing for this purpose and everything you need to know about other tools aimed at making things "better", on the following pages.

Happy reading!

Yours sincerely,
 Wolfgang Albrecht

Managing Director, PSI Logistics GmbH

PSI		SCHEDULE
15/04/10-16/04/10	19. Deutscher Materialflusskongress/TU Munich www.materialflusskongress.de	PSI Logistics
19/04/10-23/04/10	Hannover Messe Industrie – Digital Factory/Hannover www.hannovermesse.de	PSIPENTA, F/L/S Hall 17/Stand B50
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06/06/10-10/06/10	Copper 2010/Hamburg, Congress Center www.cu2010gdmb.de	4Production AG
14/06/10-16/06/10	17. Aachener ERP-Tage (ERP-Days Aachen) www.erp-tage.de	PSIPENTA Stand 05

► *Continued from page 1*

PSIwms warehouse management system and its PSItrms transportation management system. Special feature: The software is designed especially for customer-based configuration. Innovative configuration mechanisms therefore achieve an as yet unseen flexibility.

In addition to the full version for complex warehouse and transportation management, the software products are now also available in a basic version. This can be tailored and adapted independently and autonomously by the users after a training program by PSI Logistics. An appealing model, particularly for operators with in-house IT skills. This model is also of interest to system integrators.

Individual basic configuration

With the new basic version of the PSIwms warehouse management system, users tailor the basic configuration without any appreciable programming cost. This is done independently and possibly in accordance with dialogue for new companies making changes to topologies, stock receipt and commission strategies within the warehouse or incorporating a forklift control system. Warehouse operators can assign users, storage locations, plants and accounting base, disable or delete companies and create or manage statistical functions or interfaces to the goods management system. In addition, client data records can be changed at any time, special storage locations and transfer areas configured and stock receipt and commissioning strategies, supply chains or supply organisation optimised.

The basic configuration of PSIwms is arranged such that program upgrades to the full version and automation control are possible at any time as business



Up to 50 percent productivity gains with PSIwms

Source: Zufall

processes change and automation becomes more complex. "Thanks to the functionality and optimisation provided by PSIwms, at peak times we achieve up to a 50% increase in productivity", says Jörg Semmelroggen, authorised representative and head of central software and process management for the Zufall logistics group. "The effects of self-customising represent a further ten to 20%."

Using an independently configurable multi-site compatible PSIwms system, the medium-sized transportation and logistics company runs 20 pallet, block and shelf storage warehouses operated by forklift trucks. The corporate group currently handles a total of more than 45,000 pallet spaces comprising 15,000 stock movements, up to 1,400 stock removal orders a day, for a good 30 companies there. "Using the program documentation and after a comprehensive briefing, we are able to adapt the WMS ourselves in areas of importance to us, independently of the software company, at any time and separately for each warehouse", explains

Semmelroggen. "This flexibility enables us to achieve rapid response times in the case of changes to warehouse structures or the incorporation of new clients. Independence from the software company also reduces the costs of software adaptations."

Reduced project times

The option of customers managing their own configuration enhances the extensive arsenal with which PSI Logistics ensures the rapid availability of client-specific, tailor-made products. Project times are therefore reduced by a special implementation concept. Therein, customer-specific features of the IT system are defined based on standard specifications. Further elaboration of the specifications largely concentrates on event-driven process chains (EPC) which can be shown clearly and accessed quickly. Adaptation is then carried out by means of the so-called "customising", precise tailoring to user requirements through system parameterisation and scaling.

To further reduce project process times, an automated testing procedure has also been developed and incorporated into the implementation concept. This means that as early as the specification discussions, a prototype for subsequent systems can be

Benefits for the user: limited investment costs, short implementation times, reliable standard products with the character of individual systems and long-term investment security. Finally, software products from PSI Logistics are

the service provider has learned to appreciate the possibilities of self-customising a multi-site compatible software solution. "For capacity reasons, we may need to transfer company stocks from one location to another" according



Source: Zufall

"The user-configurable PSI*wms* is a one-stop practical solution."

(Jörg Semmelroggen, Head of central software and process management for the Zufall logistics group)


generated based on the PSI*wms* standards. The business processes and customers can then be mapped and discussed within a test environment. Based on automated system tests, the software is gradually tailored to meet individual requirements. Users therefore have an operational system very early on. Potential sources of error are reduced and misconceptions avoided.

Integration of service-oriented architectures

Aspect or service-oriented architectures (SOA) form the basis for the flexibility of such system configurations. They enable parallel and joint systems to be networked to one another. PSI Logistics has developed and incorporated this modern approach of SOA with aspect orientation of its logistics software early on in the IT system architecture. On this basis, PSI*wms* can perhaps be ideally incorporated into the existing IT landscape across various industries and the widest variety of applications and can be flexibly tailored to the required business processes.

also supported by an extensive range of training and after sales services and update capability.

"Investment security was a significant decision-making criteria for us", explains Rainer Mönning, DP Process Manager at the Nosta Group in Osnabrück, Germany. "We have had bad experiences with small software providers and isolated solutions: We had a large quantity of unnecessary interfaces and no transparency of stocks and processes." The owner-managed logistics service provider has now converted three of its twelve storage locations to the customer-configurable PSI*wms*. "Following practical training from PSI Logistics, we quickly got to grips with handling the software tool, were able to create the topology of our warehouses within the software ourselves and generate reports ourselves" says the DP Process Manager. "We are now in the process of configuring all processes for the stock receipt and stock removal strategies in WMS ourselves." For day-to-day business processes in its block storage and shelf storage warehouses operated by forklift trucks,

to Mönning. "With PSI*wms* that happens without issue. We can assign companies to any site, track which staff are dealing with which companies at which site at any time and have a complete overview of all sites, for example order data and stocks for each individual company". Mönning describes the ability to import CSV files (character separated value) into the system directly when configuring PSI*wms* as "helpful and time-saving". "Flexibility in our handling and in the IT configuration, a holistic overview and uniform statistics across all sites" sums up Mönning. "The user-configurable PSI*wms* is a one-stop practical solution." 

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Products & Solutions: Establishing an entirely plant operating time table

Automatic monitoring and recording of operating and down times in steelworks

The aims of process automation include the standardisation of processes and standard collecting, processing and evaluation of information. Missing or incorrect information due to inconsistent processes makes the economic assessment of processes more difficult. To achieve the required performance and quality, consistent time management is also of particular interest in steelworks and metallurgy. The aim of the new PSIMetals function for the automated monitoring of process phases, including the recording and attribution of malfunctions and downtime, is to reveal potential weak points in the processes and to simplify root cause analysis to discover potential areas of improvement.

Monitoring of process phases

Knowledge of whether or not individual process phases in the steelworks have been completed entirely and on time or not and when and how often problems are experiencing the production, forms the basis for optimisation and improvement of processes. These specified due-dates and target values to be ultimately



Steel production in electric arc furnace

Source: Stahlzentrum

achieved (e.g. minimum energy input in a meltdown phase) are recorded in PSIMetals in a fully configurable format in order to monitor the process phases. Using signals and feedback messages from base automation, PSIMetals

automatically monitors the operating and downtime for each phase.

The plant operating time table as a basis

The automatically recorded times are used to tabulate an entirely plant operating time table within PSIMetals and are attributed in accordance with the VDEh operating time and reason code model (operating-, setup- and adjustment times, small stops, breakdowns). Other time and reason codes for recording shifts or further classifying VDEh time codes (e.g. speed losses) can be configured in PSIMetals.

May 3-6, 2010 • Pittsburgh, Pa., USA • David L. Lawrence Convention Center

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You can meet our experts in the following sessions:

May 4, 11 am, Session: BOF Modeling and Process Control

May 4, 2:30 pm, Session: Material Handling Improvements

Downtimes and productivity losses at a glance

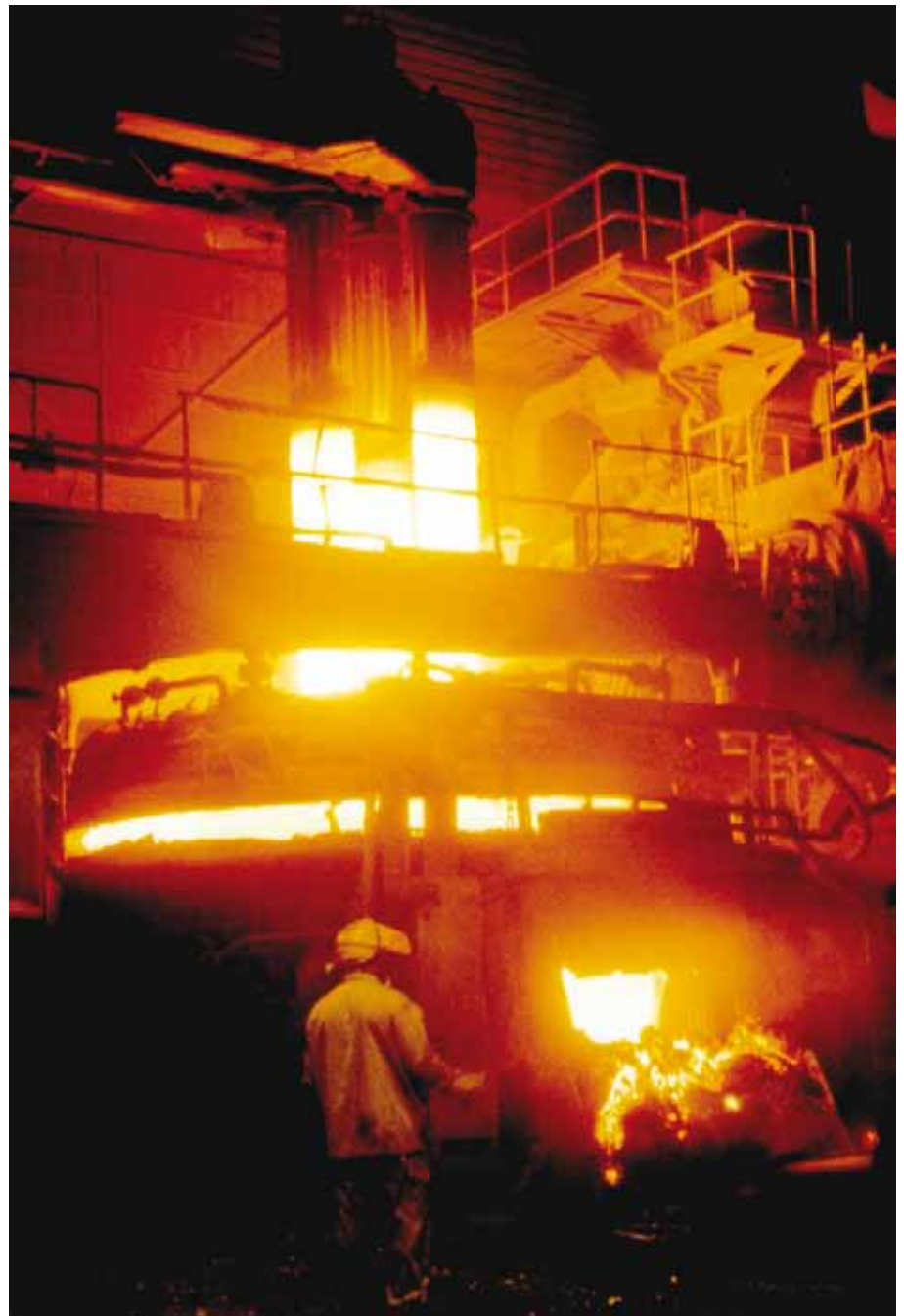
Where scheduled process times are exceeded and unexpected events occur during running production e.g. power off at EAF, disturbance messages are created automatically and reason codes are attributed either automatically or must be explained later by staff. Which production events determine the start and end of a defined process phase and also the correct sequence of phases (e.g. setup- and adjustment, charging scrap basket No 1, meltdown scrap basket No 1 and tapping) and which conditions leads to a disturbance can be configured in PSImetals.

Monitoring the electric energy supply

As a feature specific to electric steelmaking in the meltdown phases, PSImetals not only monitors the duration but also the required energy input. In the event of an unexpected interruption to the energy supply and where the minimum meltdown energy is not met, PSImetals automatically generates a fault. Where the quantity of energy corresponds with the calculated value however, the subsequent process phase shall begin upon this event. These classifications are carried out automatically without any other user intervention.

Now also available to you!

Any process phases for production processes, including all events and times in plants and the heats produced can be automatically monitored in real-time using the functions described. In doing so, the entirely plant operating time table thereby created in PSImetals serves as an effective basis to measure production



Automated process phase monitoring

Source: PSI BT GmbH

efficiency, to calculate KPIs and to apply root cause analysis to quickly improve the process. The functions described are currently being introduced at Peiner Träger GmbH. Due to the modularity and configurability of PSImetals this functionality can also be made available to other interested steel manufacturers. ☺

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Product & Solutions: Forklift guidance system in the Hydro Grevenbroich plant

Knowing where to find what – PSI*metals* optimises material flow

Hydro's rolling mill in Grevenbroich is one of the global leaders for high-quality aluminum strip and foil products, which in part are also refined and finished here. The location stands for semi-finished products which, for example, are further processed in the packaging, automobile and printing industry. The business unit Strip was the first pilot production sector, in which the forklift guidance system (FGS) of the market standard PSI*metals* was commissioned, which primarily does one thing: arouse desire.

Slim, fast, efficient: This is the flexible starter solution for the new management system for forklifts at Hydro in Grevenbroich. Since it immediately brings a tangible benefit and makes work much easier, the drivers become increasingly satisfied. Accordingly, those who are not yet working with the system become impatient. The previous method of transporting the coils on demand, which



Intuitive user control by touch screen

Source: Hydro Grevenbroich

operation by the employees themselves. Due to the gradual introduction of the retrofitted forklift trucks, time and again situations arose, in which forklift drivers complained that they were not yet benefiting from the new system. A better

It is the starting point for every further efficiency increase, such as reduction of the work in progress, real-time fine planning and diverse further optimization approaches. The particular feature of the forklift guidance system is the smooth integration into the existing production organization. So the foundation is laid to - successively and application-related - modernize existing production control applications. The information on upcoming transports and stock on hand are communicated to the forklifts by WLAN via the autonomous FGS.

The fast locating of coils, the optimal management of the material flow and a clear reduction of search times not only create high efficiency but also more motivation among the employees involved. 90% of the search time is omitted, 80% of the customer orders are now bundled in storage; the right coil at the right time at the right location and the suitable forklift is no longer coincidence.

"The investment in the forklift guidance system has greatly exceeded the expected acceptance and benefits." Herbert Rösger

came along with long search times, manual document management, material damage due to stock transfer and unnecessary waiting times up to machine downtime did not make anyone really happy.

Internal marketing, convincing people – all that was not necessary here: the system's benefits were particularly and directly communicated by the first users. In this way the implementation and commissioning sort of was drawn into

reference and acceptance can hardly be desired in such a project. Other sectors in the factory now want to participate in the process as quickly as possible.

Intuitive, flexible starter solution

This has been achieved by the experts of 4Production with their production expertise in the aluminum industry with optimal single-piece-related stock transparency at the storage site level.

The transparent, paper-free management system has an additional advantage: It is absolutely flexible. Should the storage area be changed or expanded, it can be newly organized in the future at any time by the one's own employees. And in fact manually.

Fast, intelligent, efficient

Therefore, an additional highlight is that the other sectors in the Grevenbroich plant can take over the functionalities of the system with complete independence. And that is only because the organizational structure of the existing IT systems does not have to be deeply accessed. Due to the manageable costs and a project duration of no more than three to five months, other Hydro plants are already watching the development in Grevenbroich with interest.

The FGS of the PSImetals software is an outstanding feature and above all it is a necessary basis for the modernization of existing product management systems. Only if real transparency down to the single piece is given, transfer times can gradually be further reduced and thus in fact also the circulating stock. And exactly that is now guaranteed. ☺

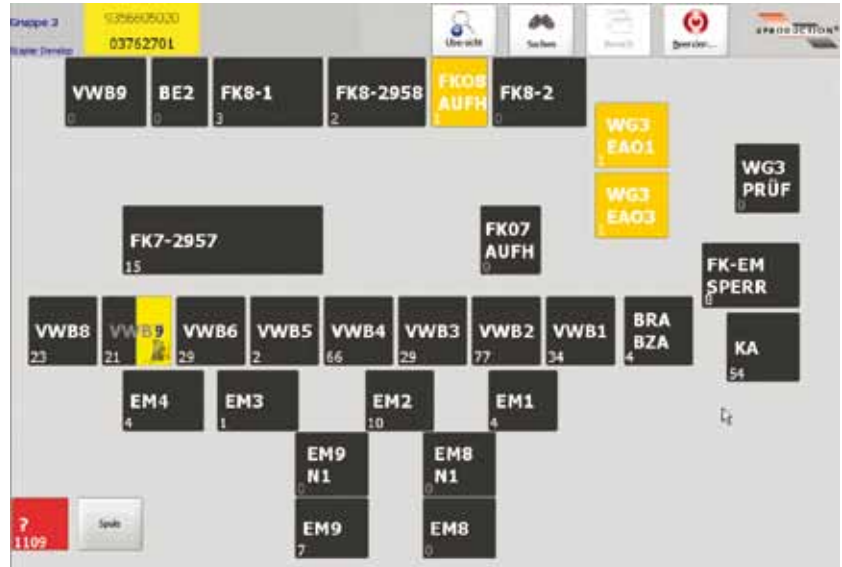
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Terminals on every forklift

Intuitively operated by touchscreens

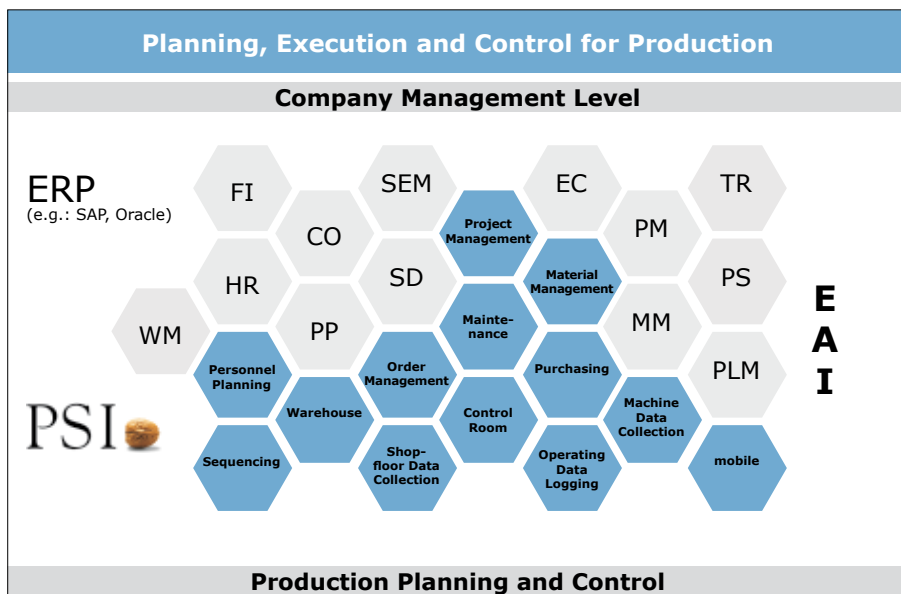


- Every forklift is equipped with a touch screen, which displays the operating area and the current whereabouts (here in light yellow) of the forklift truck, the name of the driver and the current load of the fork or of the pin. The current coil and order number are also displayed.
- The forklift trucks are linked by WLAN.
- Upcoming transports are announced from the existing Hydro IT system.
- The driver enters a coil by scanning the affixed barcode – even possible through the panel. When he deposits it in a specific storage area, he only needs to touch that area on the touch screen. Thus 100% of the forklift guidance system can be used without needing to dismount the forklift truck.
- In black or color, the storage areas of the coils are displayed in such a way that the arrangement of the stock is reproduced. In this way the driver can intuitively determine his own location and that of the production machines or driveways.
- If a storage area field is touched on the display, the stock arranged in that area will be shown.
- In addition, every driver can have the system search for coils or orders, which are then displayed in color at the current position in the hall layout.
- Color markings show whether or where coils can be deposited. For example, one coil only may lie in each so-called single site (here in orange). He can also see, where other coils of the same order are located and intuitively keeps the material of an order together.
- Additional help functions serve to zoom into individual storage areas, search for specific coils or change to other operating areas.

Products and solutions: Goodbye to isolated applications

Continuous production planning and control

In recent years, the widespread introduction of production planning systems has resulted in the improved efficiency of German industrial companies. ERP systems ensure a high level of transparency and rapid response capability at management level. Further savings potentials are frequently to be found at the production and automation level and in optimised links between administrative and production processes. However, there is no one and only technology here. The decisive factor is an individually adapted, modular solution based on standard products. Berlin software provider PSI has implemented just that in two notable companies. In an interplay with SAP ERP, it has implemented consistent planning at management and production levels.



PSI modules (blue) can be individually integrated into an implemented system. Source: PSIPENTA

ERP systems are now an essential part of the manufacturing industry. They provide support during resource planning and control of the business processes and ensure optimum coordination and resolution of the varied interdependencies. Amazingly however is the fact that even at production level, IT continues to play a minor role in plants run by internationally active companies. Internally developed stand-alone solutions are often used which do not support the increasingly complex processes adequately enough. Thus, even

at machine level, every delay and every fault costs a great deal of money and puts meeting delivery deadlines at risk. Not only could MES (Manufacturing Execution System) tools help here but they could provide increased transparency and efficiency in the value adding processes at machine level. Even combining MES components with specific supplementary modules such as order management, maintenance or adaptive production control with a clever interface technology ensures an optimised and consistent planning and control system.

Large companies are reverting to industry solutions

Larger medium-sized companies and corporate groups are frequently using ERP solutions from the software giants. In the field of production control, these are traditionally designed very rigidly and do not provide adequate functions for specific industry requirements. These include mapping of work schedules, planning for limited capacities, sequence planning and maintenance planning for machines or mobile software solutions for mobile employees. Companies are therefore not only looking for MES solutions for individual plants or production lines but also for suitable modules to expand the ERP system across all lines and plants - and, where possible, all from one source. This is precisely where Berlin software company PSI excels.

In addition to simple MES functions, the company also offers expanding, industry-specific modules such as maintenance, order management and project management to the PSIPenta standard which can be individually adapted to suit customer requirements. With Enterprise Application Integration – a universal interface developed in-house – all components are deeply integrated into the existing system and enable rapid data acquisition and synchronous data exchange between systems. In this way, even previously installed modules such as production planning or enterprise resource planning are also supplied with information.

Maximum process security in the gas turbine manufacturing plant

In October 2009, within blade production at the Berlin-Moatbit Siemens gas turbine manufacturing plant, several small EDP systems were replaced by an expanded MES from software provider PSI after just a 10 month introductory period. For expansion of blade production, new software also had to be introduced in addition to a new factory building, new machines and optimised procedures. In collaboration with SAP at corporate level, PSI-Software controlled and planned the production processes to make a consistent solution.

In addition to operating data logging with terminals at all 80 machine and manual workstations and numerous control stations for short, medium and long-term planning, order administration management and a maintenance module add to the traditional MES functions.

Today, the software ensures a secure flow of information and supports production staff when performing the stipulated work processes. Production data is automatically updated online and is reported between the modules. Planners track the entire production processes in real time and can respond to faults promptly.

One hundred percent compliance with delivery deadlines at Linde

The introduction of an expanded project management system and control terminal and operating data logging at LINDE AG brought about a rapid return on investment. Linde produces complex systems and special components for air separation and gas processing, heat exchangers, tanks and evaporators etc.

PSI-Software have replaced in-house production and material planning solutions here and in collaboration with SAP, have been ensuring simple planning, increased machine capacity



At Linde, PSI solutions are replacing in-house production planning solutions. Source: Linde AG

load and realistic delivery deadline specification since the online start. All delivery deadlines have been complied with since, lead times and stocks have been reduced by around 30% and defective parts are down by almost 90%.

Modules from a single source

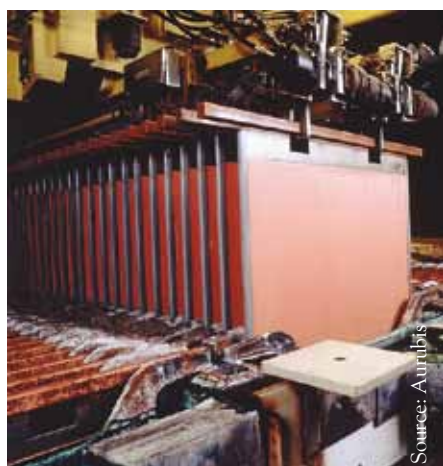
In both projects the client was looking for solutions that went beyond traditional MES functions. A particular advantage of the Berlin software company is that it supplies all modules from a single source and that these can be integrated very flexibly into the existing SAP installation. ☺

PSIPENTA Software Systems GmbH is presenting at the leading trade fair Digital Factory (Hall 17, Stand B50) in Hanover

from 19 to 23 April 2010 its solution for integrated production planning and control, also in combination with an existing ERP system. Furthermore, in Hall 17 at Stand B53, PSIPENTA will also be showing the www.erp-demo.de portal which went online on 1 March 2010. Using a three-dimensional, virtual factory, the portal demonstrates the company-wide application and use of ERP software.

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Source: Aurubis

Events: Talks at metal events

PSImetals experts within the industry network

Industry expertise in metal production, whether steel, aluminium or copper manufacturing, is a claim that we, as a leading manufacturer of production management systems for the metal industry, make about ourselves. To live up to this claim and therefore always be a qualified point of contact for our clients, PSI is always keen to further expand its knowledge in numerous projects and talks at leading industry events - from trade fairs to working groups. Take the opportunity to chat to our experts on the dates specified!

Temperature-based Planning in Steel Making Plants

April 20 DAMPF Arbeitskreis
University Duisburg-Essen/Germany
www.uni-due.de
May 3–6 AISTECH 2010
Pittsburgh/USA,
www.aist.org/aistech/
May 23–26 41. ABM Seminar „Steel-making“, Brazil
www.abmbrasil.com.br

speakers: Markus Heesen, Heinz-Josef Ponten, Pierre Beghin

An integrated system of heat schedule prediction and temperature development was designed to control the energy consumption from BOF converter or EAF tapping through ladle treatment in secondary metallurgy to the delivery of the heat to the caster in time. A dynamic model calculates the thermal development throughout the process steps considering the actual real-time heat scheduling results. Based on these results, the adjustment of the BOF tapping temperature or the energy input in the ladle furnace is optimized according to current workload situation of the resource. This system brings about significant energy savings for oxygen and electric steelmaking plants.

Optimized Material Flow in Plate Plants by Integration of Scheduling and Warehouse Management

May 3–6 AISTECH 2010
Pittsburgh/USA
www.aist.org/aistech

- May 4, 2:30 pm, Session: Material Handling Improvements

speaker: Harald Henning

Achieving a seamless integration of planning and scheduling with warehouse management in plate plants is crucial to winning a competitive edge in today's customer-driven market. Within a virtual factory model, scheduling details are translated into stacking instructions and transport orders. An integrated system of radar and laser technology automatically tracks transport order execution. Closing the loop, the information of the exact plate positions in the piles is returned to scheduling for further optimization. Leading European steel producers applying this approach achieve optimal capacity utilization, reduced costs and increased production throughput. Please join our lecture at AISTECH 2010, the major conference for iron and steel technology in the American market.

Breaking through existing limits – Using a real time material flow management solution for the optimization of copper production

June 6–10 Copper Conference
Hamburg/Germany
www.cu2010.gdmb.de

speaker: Dr. Dirk Bernhard

The copper production consists of many different production steps and processes using a variety of feedstock (primary and secondary). During these processes many intermediates as well as final products are manufactured. In order to optimize the utilization ratio of the different production facilities as well as the yield of the desired metals it is essential that the correct knowledge about the current material flow and the current stock contents is available for the production planners and engineers at any time. The real-time transparency of the material flow provides the basis to make the right decisions for optimal production ways and optimal charge mixes at the right time. In this lecture we present the worldwide first implementation of a realtime material flow management solution for an all-over production network in copper industry at the example of Aurubis AG, the largest copper producer in Europe.

An interview with: Luc Van Nerom and Jörg Hackmann about the integration of AIS and 4Production Solutions from PSI BT, AIS and 4Production merge into PSImetals 5

In the last issue of Production Manager, Sven Busch, Managing Director of PSI BT GmbH gave a brief overview of the background to the integration of AIS Advanced Information Systems and the long-term scheduled product line convergence. In today's interview, Jörg Hackmann, Manager of Solution & Product Management at PSI BT and Luc Van Nerom, Technical Director at AIS, report on results achieved in the meantime.

PM: Mr. Van Nerom, what can you tell us about the planned concept for the convergence and migration of the product lines?

Luc Van Nerom: We immediately started last autumn our "Joined Solution Project" staffed with subject matters experts from the three companies PSI BT, 4Production and AIS. As we wanted to see the "whole picture" before

step within a mid and long term road map. On the other hand the migration path for the current PSImetals and SteelPlanner customer had to be developed. Obviously both tasks are in a strong interdependence with each other. So we had to follow an iterative and balanced approach between functional "best-of-breed" driven ideas and reasonable resulting effort for the migration path.

for PSI the integrated approach of all modules based on one factory model and the alignment with SAP's functional scope always had been mandatory. AIS SteelPlanner solution in contrast was mainly focusing on sophisticated optimization models that had to be integrated into the clients system landscape on project base. It's more than reasonable to combine both approaches within PSImetals 5 to provide it to the market: best-in-class optimization methods and seamless integrated processes for planning and scheduling based on one holistic approach.

Beside the technical results we achieved during our project another important goal: let the experts of the three companies come together, let them exchange their experience and bundle their competence into our joined portfolio. Even the best product roadmap will not end with success without having the right and engaged people behind it in place.

PM: When is PSImetals 5 available as a first product version?

Jörg Hackmann: We are pleased to present a first version of the joint solution in the 2nd quarter 2010. ☺



"(...) the best product roadmap will not end with success without having the right and engaged people behind it in place." (Jörg Hackmann)

making vital and sustainable decisions, it was beyond doubt that we had to include nearly the complete functional range of the products, from production planning to shipping into the scope of our assessment. The targets the team was heading for were: a) protect the investments of our clients in the existing installations and b) create a mid/long term roadmap of a product convergence that allows activating first potentials soon.

In this context the deliverables of the project were on the one hand the definition of the new common product base for deployments in 2010 as the first

PM: Mr. Hackmann, what are the results so far for these working groups?

Jörg Hackmann: This challenging task was quite new and challenging for all of us. When we started the project no one was sure that we would be able to hold the given timeline: finalize the conceptual phase for the new so called PSImetals 5 end of 2009. But during the first weeks of work we step by step realized that although all of us worked in the same market the respective solution approaches had different and even complementary strengths. E. G. in the planning area

► Information

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News: PSI Logistics finds user group for WMS customers

Focus on customer relations



In the future, PSIwms clients will benefit from an exchange of experiences.

Source: fotalia

PSI Logistics is planning on establishing an interest group for its WMS clients. The exclusive forum would be used to promote expert information exchange between decision-makers, system administrators and developers and to implement functionalities in line with market requirements rapidly.

Only those familiar with market requirements can develop demand-based products. Thus the continuous exchange of information with clients forms the basis for the development of innovative products for PSI Logistics. However: bilateral discussions are often limited to singular problem situations. A concerted exchange of views and constructive discussion with questions take other users further. They open up new horizons and reveal future-oriented functionalities based on collaboration and cooperation.

Against this background, this year PSI Logistics will establish a new and exclusive forum for client information and support: the PSI Users' Interest Group (PUI) according to its working title. "The aim is to create an attractive, cross-industry platform for expert exchange of opinions between decision-makers, system administrators and developers" explains Wolfgang Albrecht, Managing Director of PSI Logistics. "Through this forum, clients can actively help to shape further development of PSIwms." Thus current issues form the

forum will be incorporated directly into further development of the warehouse management system and corresponding functionalities will be implemented in the short-term. Members of the user group will also benefit from a number of service offers of interest."

The launch and foundation event for the new PSI Logistics user group will take place in April. During the event, among other things, the future name of the interest group and organisational details will be defined.

The annual meeting for the user group will also be planned. In addition to the exchange of information, items on the agenda will include events, guest speakers, background information about new developments and additional services, on-site tours, more efficient solutions and much, much more. The first annual meeting of the new user group is scheduled for November 2010. ☺

Further details on the exact date and venue of the launch event and registration methods and conditions, can be obtained from a.malzer@psilogistics.com or by telephone on +49 (0) 40 696958-15.

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PSI Finds Specialist for new Mobile Communications Services


Cellls provides solutions for business customers and social communities

PSI has established the Cellls GmbH, a specialist for the development, sale and operation of mobile communications services as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the PSI Transcom GmbH. The Cellls GmbH addresses nationally and internationally operating companies in the fields of logistics, transportation and security, police and fire departments, operators of private mobile radio and trunked radio networks and all types of social communities.

The product range of Cellls GmbH includes the products PushToTalk, MessageRoute, a platform for Location Based Services and the new product Cellls. PushToTalk offers as a substitute for walkie-talkie and trunked radio products advantages in terms of flexibility, operating costs and other features such as tracking. MessageRouting is a bridge between Internet and any mobile messages, the location-based services platform

provides a basis for sales and operation of telematics and track & trace solutions. The new product Cellls is tailored to the consumer market as solution for ad-hoc conferences in any social communities.

With the founding of the Cellls GmbH, PSI is specifically orienting itself in the Telecommunications business toward the rapidly growing market for the new mobile communications services. The new

solutions were presented jointly with the technology and sales partner Vodafone at the CeBIT 2009. Cellls GmbH aims to further partnerships in the fields of media and social communities, and plans to grow to 10,000 end users in 2010. 

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PSI wins the Swiss SR Technics Group as a New Customer


Specialist for airplane maintenance implements PSI planning software

The PSI Group has been awarded by the Swiss SR Technics Group, headquartered in Zurich, with the delivery and implementation of a comprehensive planning software. The goal is to optimise the entire maintenance planning and performance in the hangars. In cooperation with SAP, the PSI solution will handle the entire planning functionality for the areas capacity and material at the Zurich and Malta sites.



All the data relevant for planning will be filed centrally and visible to all those involved in the process. Along with the ERP standard PSIPenta, PSI's extended project management, the production control and operating data logging will be implemented.

SR Technics is one of the world's leading independent providers of technical services for the civil aviation sector. The SR Technics Group offers its customer airlines comprehensive and totally-tailored solutions for the technical support and management of their aircraft

fleets, engines and components. With its head office at Zurich Airport, SR Technics provides its services to about 500 airline customers through an extensive network of international operations and sales offices in Europe, Asia and the Middle East. The majority holder of SR Technics is the Mubadala Development Company. 

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