

PRESS RELEASE

Tradition and Innovation: Expert Forum on C-Parts Management at Würth Industrie Service

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On June 25th and 26th, 2019, Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG carried through the third Expert Forum C-Parts Management at Industriepark Würth in Bad Mergentheim, which was attended by 500 participants. On the occasion of the 20th company anniversary, the event was under the motto: "Tradition and Innovation". In the center of the attention was the exchange on current market trends around the topics of Industry 4.0, digitalization, automation and networking in the industry sector, as well as in the logistics area. Speakers from Festo, Schenker, Siemens, Uvex, Würth, as well as Fraunhofer Institute reported about their experiences and gave some food for thought.

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July 3rd 2019

Family business with an innovative spirit

In 1999, Division Industry of Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. KG was spun off and Würth Industrie Service was established as an independent subsidiary. Many things have changed since then: A company of 88 employees has turned into a worldwide operating business with 56 companies and over 1,640 employees. The most modern logistics center for industrial supply in Europe has been established at the former area of the "Deutschorden" military base. It is continuously expanded and equipped with new technologies. Currently, another high-rack warehouse and a new shuttle warehouse are being constructed and both will be fully automated. Automatically operating robots support the employees in their daily work.

Würth Industrie Service does not only play its role as innovation leader in the field of logistics. Digital, networked systems and automation technologies have been applied in C-Parts systems of Würth Industrie Service for many years. Supply solutions for efficient, automated and safe C-Parts supply are continuously developed and ideas are implemented in innovations in cooperation with customers. Aim of Würth Industrie Service is to make handling and procurement of production material and operating supplies as easy as possible with intelligent systems and to support customers in streamlining their processes.

The company stayed faithful to the visionary thinking, hands-on mentality and

traditional values of a family business with a corporate culture that is marked by trust, appreciation and gratefulness, where people are the center of the attention. This is because “in spite of Industry 4.0, robotics and computerization, the economy is not driven by machines, but by human beings” was a statement by Prof. Dr. h. c. mult. Reinhold Würth, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Würth Group’s Family Trusts, in his lecture.

About digital twins and Education 4.0

The speakers of the Expert Forum C-Parts Management did not only look at the field of C parts. Dr. Jan Mrosik, Chief Operating Officer, Digital Industries at Siemens AG Nürnberg, also went into the challenges of digital transformation in manufacturing businesses and how digital twins reduce development times with concurrent engineering.

The speech of Erik Wirsing, Vice President Global Innovation at Schenker AG, focused on the questions of how logistics will change in the future and what new business models and competitors we might have to expect.

Olaf Lamberz, Chief Digital Officer at Uvex Group, gave the participants an insight into the change management processes that Uvex had started against the backdrop of digitalization, and Benjamin Schramm, Head of E-Business and Logistics Services at Festo Vertrieb GmbH & Co. KG, explained how they reduce the expense in the digital procurement process using transformation platforms and meet the demands of the customer.

Last but not least, Univ.-Prof. Dr.-Ing. Dr.-Ing. E.h. Dr. h.c. Dieter Spath, Director of Fraunhofer IAO and IAT University of Stuttgart, explained how digitalization will change work from a scientific perspective and underlined the great importance of training and qualification that aim at making employees fit for new technologies, among others by making use of the same to convey knowledge.



Captions:

Picture 1: Expert Forum C-Parts Management 2019.JPG

Caption 1: Expert Forum C-Parts Management with 500 participants at Industriepark Würth – Prof. Dr. h.c. mult. Reinhold Würth provides an insight into the Würth Group

Source: Archives of Würth Industrie Service