

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Impossible yesterday. Real today. Smart tomorrow! – Expert Forum C-Parts Management at Würth Industrie Service**

*Bad Mergentheim/Main-Tauber-Kreis.* On 20th and 21st October, 2021, Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG conducted its fourth Expert Forum C-Parts Management with around 230 participants (out of which 160 attended in person and 70 attended digitally). This year, the company celebrated the premiere and brought together the decision-makers in a completely new format as a hybrid event – either onsite at Bad Mergentheim or digitally independent of location. True to the motto “Impossible yesterday. Real today. Smart tomorrow!”, the focus was on exchanging the market trends in industry 4.0, digitalisation, automation and networking in the industrial sector as well as in logistics. Distinguished speakers from the companies trinamiX GmbH, Knorr-Bremse Systeme für Schienenfahrzeuge GmbH, IONIQ Skin Care GmbH & Co. KG, Rhenus SE & Co. KG, ZF Friedrichshafen AG as well as Würth Industrie Service gave a comprehensive overview of topics and initiated valuable ideas to be shared.

#### **Interaction 4.0 – Impactful exchange.**

In collaboration with highly-qualified scientists of Fraunhofer Institute IML, the company arranged different workshops on topics such as “Designing changes: rethinking innovation management”, “Working together in digital age” as well as “Corporate Think Tank: the small parts supply of tomorrow”. The participants got the opportunity to connect with each other and discuss about the current challenges in Industry 4.0 and Logistics 4.0 in an open and critical manner. Moreover, the distinguished speakers from industry, trade and science updated about the significant opportunities to implement the technology trends in a timely and precise manner in the future. While, Stefan Reuss, Head of IT and Digital Business Development & Innovations at Würth Industrie Service presented the workplace of the future - “Smart Workplace”, the speakers of the Expert Forum C-Parts Management provided their perspective on other topics. Wilhelm Rehm, Member of the Board of ZF Friedrichshafen AG, talked about the trend in digitalisation with all its challenges. Karsten Obert, Member of the Board at Rhenus SE & Co. KG, discussed about how to make warehouse logistics fit for the future and decisions to be taken for Warehousing 4.0 and sustainability. Gregor Koppelberg, Regional Director EMEA Indirect Purchasing R/PIR at Knorr-Bremse Systeme für Schienenfahrzeuge GmbH, made the participants aware of the importance of C-Parts and MRO management as

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25.10.2021

integral part of direct and indirect purchasing throughout the world. Under the motto "From molecule to smartphone", Dr. Ingmar Bruder, Managing Director at trinamiX GmbH, presented the fascinating journey of BASF start-up. Philipp Groß, Co-Founder & Head of Customer Experience at IONIQ Skin Care GmbH & Co. KG, concluded the expert round by presenting how the plant manufacturer transformed into a cosmetics company.

### **Systems 4.0 – holistically connected.**

Gone are the days when the C-Parts supply of companies involved merely supplying the required item. Rather, the supplier is now evolving into a partner integrated into the process landscape. As comprehensive C-Parts partner, Würth Industrie Service is supporting its customers in implementing fully-automated and digitalised logistics and system solutions, whereby response times are shortened, fluctuations in demand are recognised and repeat orders are triggered in line with requirements. In order to demonstrate the potential of holistically connected world of products and systems, experienced experts were available during a technical exhibition to answer questions on topics related to supply security in procurement of direct and indirect materials, solutions for workplace, vending machines and storage system, supplier integration as well as innovation management.

### **But that is not all ...**

In the light of situation developing with regard to Coronavirus, Würth Industrie Service decided to conduct a separate digital event on 26th October for all its English-speaking customers and interested parties. The presentations were streamed, the technical exhibition as well as logistics tour was held virtually, workshops were conducted digitally. All this was managed via a completely interactive, realistic virtual events platform for the participants of the expert forum.

**Photo material:**

**Captions:**



Photo 1: Expert Forum C-Parts Management 2021.jpg

Caption 1: Impactful exchange on topics such as Industry 4.0, digitalisation and automation

Source 1: Archives of Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG



Photo 2: Expert forum 2021.jpg

Caption 2: Four Expert Forum C-Parts Management at Würth Industrie Service

Source 2: Archives of Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG

#### Brief profile of Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG

Within the Würth Group, Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG is responsible for the supply of the industrial sector. Since its foundation in 1999, Würth Industrie Service is located at the Industriepark Würth in Bad Mergentheim, Germany with over 1.700 employees.

As a complete C-Parts provider, the company offers its customers a specialised product range of over 1,100,000 items: from screws, connection and fastening technology, tools to chemical-technical products and occupational safety. In addition to the extensive standard range, the strength of the company lies in its customer-specific, logistical and dispositive supply and service concepts as well as in special parts. Under the service brand "CPS® - C-Product Service", the company offers modular solutions, which are customised as per customer-specific requirements. Thereby, the consumption-based and demand-based systems significantly rationalise the processes for purchase, logistics and quality assurance and enable the procurement of small parts in a cost-optimised manner. Logistic and dispositive services such as shelving systems with scanners or a just-in-time supply using Kanban bin systems contribute significantly to increasing the productivity.