

THE STRATEGIC PARTS
MANAGEMENT AT GUSTAV EIRICH
MASCHINENFABRIK

CASE STUDY



PARTSOLUTIONS REDUCES DESIGN TIMES AND COSTS FOR

CREATING NEW PARTS AT EIRICH



Efficient search functions reduce product costs

CADENAS' Strategic Parts Management PARTsolutions supports EIRICH machines to find CAD components faster and easier, avoid duplicate copies and manage CAD designs in a more simple way. Internally designed parts can also be integrated into PARTsolutions and can be managed within the system.

With this function costs can be reduced in the long term. PART-solutions helps to reduce the product costs already in the design and development phase by means of an efficient management of components or their CAD models and with an effective search function.

Initial situation and introduction of PARTsolutions

At the beginning of 2000, 3D CAD software solutions became increasingly popular in design engineering, thus the management of CAD components had to be redesigned radically. At EIRICH this resulted in a variety of new questions and requirements for a future parts management system:

- Complete library of 3D standard parts according to DIN, DIN EN, DIN EN ISO, DIN ISO
- Maintaining standard parts library to eliminate or update obsolete and invalid parts
- Convenient searching for standard parts
- Integration of a standard part library
- Availability of 2D derivations
- Integrate supplier catalogs
- Possibility to integrate parts numbers, materials, etc.
- Transferability of the parts directly into the parts list
- Integrability of existing software solutions like Oxaion, keytech, SolidWorks

After the first tests of PARTsolutions application at EIRICH and a comparison to other software providers on the market, the decision was finally made to test CADENAS parts management more thoroughly. Throughout the preparation phase of introducing PARTsolutions there was a great cooperation between CADENAS and EIRICH.

Eventually PARTsolutions was installed on a trial basis to determine if problems with other systems or processes would occur in the test scenario. 'CADENAS' Strategic Parts Management did not leave any questions unanswered and the price-performance ratio was excellent. Therefore we decided to introduce PARTsolutions for our complete mechanical design in 2004', says Siegfried Englert, manager of IT and the standardization department at EIRICH.

The introduction of PARTsolutions meant considerable changes for the employees in the design department at EIRICH. Due to 10 years of constant and comprehensive support by CADENAS, the software manufacturer from Augsburg, PARTsolutions became an integral part of the every day work and is appreciated by all employees. The continuous, close cooperation between EIRICH and CADENAS made it possible that the software solution could continuously be adapted and optimized to the new requirements at EIRICH.

The Strategic Parts Management PARTsolutions is used exclusively in the mechanical design department at EIRICH. Where about 30 employees use the software as a model library with allocated parts numbers.

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Siegfried Englert

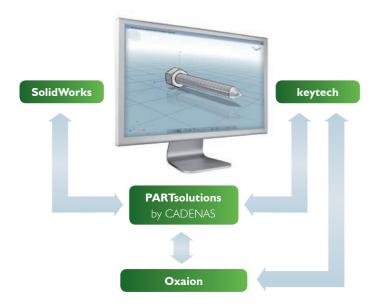
Manager IT and standardization department

Maschinenfabrik Gustav Eirich GmbH & Co KG

Integration of PARTsolutions into the existing software environment

CADENAS' Strategic Parts Management software interfaces directly to the many software solutions already in use at EIRICH. This interaction between the 3D CAD system SolidWorks, the PLM system keytech, the ERP System Oxaion

and PARTsolutions allows the optimization of corporate processes and offers all engineers complete and up-to-date component information

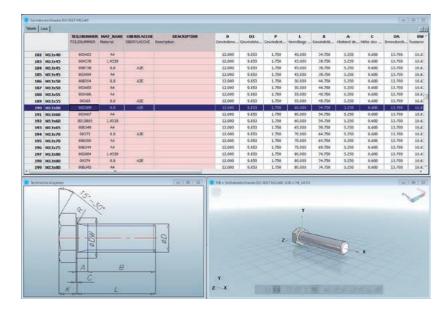


PROJECT IN FIGURES

- **Since 2004** cooperation with CADENAS
- **40,000** standard and supplier parts are managed with PARTsolutions
- **30** PARTsolutions work stations
- **Approx. 50 EUR** savings per newly created part

Parts world of EIRICH

At EIRICH about 40,000 standard and supplier parts are managed in PARTsolutions and can be uploaded easily into the 3D CAD system SolidWorks by Dassault.



Benefits

With CADENAS' Strategic Parts Management system, the search times for supplier and self-designed parts are significantly reduced at EIRICH, decreasing design time and costs. PARTsolutions allows a better view of the available products in a supplier's range, and gives engineers an insight into the product diversity of the desired part.

Internal processes can be created, accelerated and be less prone to errors. Supplier parts are updated on a regular basis, keeping component models up to date. This prevents discrepancies between the CAD models and the actual products that are used later.

With the ability to add new supplier parts into the system, the total amount of parts at EIRICH has not decreased since PARTsolutions was introduced, but this was never the target of the software introduction. The reason for the increase of parts is that EIRICH constantly develops new machines for which new parts are required. 'Without using PARTsolutions the growth of new parts would have probably been much higher. PARTsolutions provides a simple control to recognize duplicate part copies at an early stage and avoid them, especially when deploying standard and supplier parts', says Martin Fischer, technical consultant standardization department at EIRICH.

Mutually planned projects

To date not all functions of PARTsolutions are in use at El-RICH. The company plans to make use of the Strategic Parts Management automation features more effectively in the future. According to their strategic plan, EIRICH will stay current with the evolving versions of PARTsolutions software, well into the future. The platform will be periodically audited to ensure it's harmony with the entire software environment.



The Maschinenfabrik Gustav Eirich strives to replicate their success, using the same software solutions worldwide; therefore there are current plans about a global launch of PARTsolutions.

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Martin Fischer Technical consultant standardization department Maschinenfabrik Gustav Eirich GmbH & Co KG

COMPANY DESCRIPTIONS

Maschinenfabrik Gustav Eirich GmbH & Co KG

EIRICH supplies an extensive range of industrial material processing solutions worldwide. Mixing and fine grinding technologies, with a know-how of more than 150 year of close cooperation to the companies of the user industry and universities, make up the company's core portfolio. Maschinenfabrik Gustav Eirich was founded in 1863. Originally a mill workshop, it has developed over the years into a group of companies with worldwide operations. Already at the beginning of the 20th century the foundation for the mixing technology was laid, which a multitude of patented designs prove, that were successfully implemented into the industrial scale. Regardless of all technical and social changes, the EIRICH Group remains committed to the governing principle once pursued by its founders: 'Offer the customer the best in progressive, technical achievements'.

CADENAS GmbH

CADENAS is a leading software developer in the areas of Strategic Parts Management and parts reduction (PARTsolutions), as well as Electronic Product Catalogs (eCATALOGsolutions). Included are also the numerous innovative search functions, like the geometric similarity search GEOsearch, which is offered as alternative or supplement to the traditionally classified parts master under the term of intelligent finding. With its customized software solutions, the company acts as a link between the component manufacturers with their products and the purchasers. In doing so, the company serves more than 10,000 customers in 40 countries.

With its 300 employees at 15 international subsidiaries, the name CADENAS (Hispanic: process chains) has been standing for success, creativity, support and process optimization since 1992.



www.eirich.de



www.cadenas.de