

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## Production meets robotics – Key factors for the production of the future

Bad Mergentheim/Main-Tauber-Kreis. Whether procurement, storage or transport: logistics is characterised by diverse and highly complex processes. At the "Production meets Robotics" event, experts from Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG showed how productivity and efficiency can be increased with the help of innovative technologies, automation and robotics. On Thursday, 8th February 2024, more than 30 participants gathered at the Würth Industrial Park, which is considered as one of the most advanced logistics centres for industrial supply in Europe.

In light of Industry 4.0, the companies have to deal with changing markets. It is no longer just automation and digitalisation that are keeping the industrial sector - and therefore Würth Industrie Service as a C-Parts partner - engaged. Integrated connection, artificial intelligence, cyber-physical systems, collaboration, robotics, big data and many other market trends are shaping and moulding the logistics of tomorrow. This makes it all the more important to rethink existing processes and design the future developments together with own customers and technology partners.

Production and process owners, supply chain managers and general managers from a wide range of industries discussed which specific approach could be used to achieve a new level of added value along the entire supply chain in the age of Industry 4.0. After introductory words, Stefan Reuss, General Manager IT and Digital Solutions at Würth Industrie Service, held a joint presentation with Erkut Yesiltepe, Head of National Sales at Würth Industrie Service, which focussed on the C-Parts expert's visions for the future. What will the C-Parts management of tomorrow look like and how can automated, connected systems contribute to autonomous management of parts? In further discussions, the speakers presented their views from the point of view of technological progress. Ralf Bär, CEO of BÄR Automation GmbH, and Sandra Kientsch, Vice President Sales & Marketing at IDEALworks GmbH, also focussed on possible future directions in changing production structures with a keynote speech on "Fundamentals for adaptability in production and logistics" based on the guiding principle of always being one step ahead through innovation and strategic partnerships. The event focused mainly

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09.02.2024



on exchanging experiences, opportunities and risks as well as on visions, technologies and innovations with the aim of presenting concrete ideas, concepts, measures and successful first-hand practical examples.

There is no doubt that digital, connected systems ensure excellent progress and pave the way towards Industry 4.0. The participants were able to gain a personal impression of the implementation of automation and innovation during a tour of the logistics, the beating heart of Würth Industrie Service and one of the most modern logistics centres for industrial supply in Europe. They were also shown the 65,000 square metres of storage and logistics space as well as the construction progress of the new high-bay warehouse. Interested visitors were given an insight into the interplay between the 480 employees and IT systems involved and transport management, which ensures that goods get from A to B every day. Selflearning robots, professional camera inspection systems, driverless transport systems and high-bay and shuttle warehouses are used for perfectly coordinating the processes. Smart all round. The development of the company is not only visible through the structural measures within logistics but is also depicted in the world of Würth Industrie Service - a room "to touch". During a guided tour, the participants were able to gain a clear picture of the company and a closer insight into C-Parts management, including product and system solutions for the manufacturing industry.

## **Photo material**

## **Captions:**



Photo 1: Production meets Robotics.jpg

Caption 1: Production meets robotics - key factors for the production of the future. From left to right: Ralf Bär, CEO of BÄR Automation GmbH, Erkut Yesiltepe, Head of National Sales at Würth

Industrie Service, Sandra Kientsch, Vice President Sales & Marketing at IDEALworks GmbH, Stefan Reuss, General Manager IT and Digital Solutions at Würth Industrie Service

Photo source 1: Anna-Lena Popp, Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG



Photo 2: Logistics tour.jpg

Caption 2: A tour of Würth Industrie Service's logistics provided a personal impression of the implementation of automation and innovation.

Photo source 2: Anna-Lena Popp, 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 supplying to the industrial sector. Since its foundation in the year 1999, the company is located at the Würth Industrial Park in Bad Mergentheim, Germany with over 1,800 employees.

As a one-stop C-Parts provider, the company offers its customers a specialised product range with over 1,400,000 items: from screws and tools to connection and fastening technology, technical chemicals as well as occupational safety solutions. In addition to the extensive standard product range, the strength of the company lies in its customer-specific, logistical and dispositive supply and service concepts as well as special parts. Under the service brand "CPS® – C-Product Service", the company offers modular solutions customised as per the customer's requirements. These consumption-based and demand-based systems streamline the processes for purchase, logistics and quality assurance while enabling the procurement of small parts in a cost-optimised manner. Logistic and dispositive services such as shelving systems that use scanners or a just-in-time supply using Kanban bin systems play a significant role in increasing productivity.