

## PRESS RELEASE

### Fifth Expert Forum C-Parts Management at Würth Industrial Park

*Bad Mergentheim/Main-Tauber-Kreis.*

With the onset of pandemic, attendance events were forced to be put on hold and held online. At last, this seems to be a thing of the past. On Tuesday, 21st June and Wednesday, 22nd June 2022, more than 375 participants from more than 10 countries gathered together for the fifth Expert Forum C-Parts Management at Würth Industrial Park in Bad Mergentheim to discuss trends, innovations and global challenges in the industry. Among the top speakers there were speakers from ISS World Services A/S, Lauda Dr. R. Wobser GmbH Co. KG, Vitra Deutschland GmbH and ALTREX B.V. as well as Prof. Dr. Michael Braungart, who has co-developed the Cradle to Cradle principle. According to Prof. Dr. Braungart, the principle applies to all products and is based on perfect cycles, so that ultimately there is no waste.

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It is no longer just automation and digitalisation that concern the industry. Companies across all industries, countries and continents are facing global challenges: a volatile situation in procurement markets, global transport and supply chains, climate change and resource scarcity, geopolitical conflicts, and a severe shortage of skilled professionals. In the presentations, the speakers dealt intensively with these topics by using their companies and portfolios as examples and sharing their experiences. Markus Sontheimer, Chief Information and Digital Officer at ISS World Services A/S and Advisory Board of the Würth Group, spoke about the digital and technology strategy in his presentation. In light of this, he explained the enormous importance of data in areas such as cleaning services, security, building technology, real estate and all other services, where ISS World Services connects people and spaces. Data is the only way to optimise all solutions and plan ahead. Dr. Gunther Wobser, President and CEO at Lauda Dr. R. Wobser GmbH & Co. KG, shared his perspective on product development and why innovation ensures the survival and competitiveness of companies. With his presentation titled "The pandemic was just the beginning – what will become of our office?", Roman Ehrhardt, Managing Director at Vitra Deutschland GmbH, spoke about the impact that the past few years have had on the workplace and how flexible office solutions can help to adapt an agile approach to new and rapidly changing situations. The two speakers of Altrex B.V., Rudie Beverwijk and Jorn van Dijk focused on the supply chain. They explained how, at a specialist in scaffolding, ladder and

staircase, for whom each individual part is crucial for safety, handling of direct materials such as screws, washers, nuts to the end customer can be optimised. True to the motto "thinking about tomorrow today", Prof. Dr. Michael Braungart, BRAUUNGART EPEA - Internationale Umweltforschung GmbH, rounded off this year's Expert Forum on C-Parts Management with his presentation along with his appeal to act responsibly when using our resources. Products are often no longer usable at the end of their life cycle and end up as waste. There is always a need for new raw materials for production, but they are finitely available on Earth. This is exactly what the Cradle to Cradle principle aims to change: from product design, to production and use, to return. The result would be a cycle - completely without wastage.

### **Thinking about tomorrow today - Holistic, practical and practicable C-Parts management**

The objective of Würth Industrie Service is to simplify the handling and procurement of production materials as well as auxiliary and operating materials with the use of intelligent systems, thus helping customers to streamline their processes and focus on their core tasks. To make this specific, the C-Parts expert focused on two concrete and implemented customer examples from different industries. Mecalac, a medium-sized machine and equipment manufacturing company that manufactures mobile excavators, crawler excavators, swing loaders and wheel loaders served as the first example, where the expert showed how efficient C-Parts management can look for all areas of the company - from the receipt of goods, to assembly, to production, to spare parts logistics; and how productivity can be increased through automated solutions such as RFID Kanban systems for direct materials and vending machines for indirect parts. Enercon, a manufacturer of wind turbines, served as the second example, where the expert explained how C-Parts management proved to be a reliable source of supply in a globally active group that has many international locations and a wide range of work areas and requirements such as component manufacturing, final assembly of the equipment as well as servicing and maintenance by installers. A technical exhibition was arranged, where the participants were able to experience all solutions related to a holistic supply of production and operating resources LIVE and share their experiences with specialists from the specialist fields. During a logistics tour, the focus was on interaction and the participants followed the

journey of goods - from goods receipt to high-rack and shuttle warehouses to goods issue.

The aim of all speakers, presentations and elements of the event was to present concrete ideas, concepts, measures and practical examples from industry, trade and science, in line with the motto "thinking about tomorrow today" – not only to encourage thinking and action now, but also to specifically urge to address the challenges ahead and actively shape change and transformation.

**Photo material:**



Photos: Expert Forum C-Parts Management 2022.jpg

Captions: Expert Forum C-Parts Management 2022

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