



by Technogroup, which considering that they have a warehouse of 30,000 components makes for speedy deliveries.”

“This comparison continues with the investment both companies make in in-house training and development.

Summary

“The long and successful partnership with Rasselstein GmbH makes us proud, but at the same time poses challenges to everyone at this company.

This confirms to us that we’re on the right track. Performance is important, and when on top of that the chemistry is also there, the partnership becomes unbeatable.”

We at Technogroup see many similarities to our colleagues at Rasselstein, from the bond they have with their company and their sense of social responsibility, to the importance placed on quality”, says Claus Fischer, Managing Director of Technogroup IT-Service GmbH.

Rasselstein
Ein Unternehmen von ThyssenKrupp Steel



Technogroup IT-Service GmbH

Phone + 49 6146 8388-0
Telefax + 49 6146 8388-22
E-Mail: info@technogroup.com
www.technogroup.com

Technogroup IT-Service GmbH
Feldbergstrasse 6 • D-65239 Hochheim

MI0890112-1



SUCCESS STORY RASSELSTEIN GMBH





From the 'Rasselstein Ironworks' to a global brand

Every year Rasselstein's production site in Andernach produces 1.5 million tonnes of packaging steel, with 400 customers in 80 countries benefitting from the experience and industry of the company's 2,400 employees.

Rasselstein GmbH, a ThyssenKrupp Steel AG subsidiary, is the sole German tinplate producer and one of the biggest worldwide, with a domestic market share of 60%. What began life as the 'Rasselstein ironworks' back in 1655 has now become a leading international tinplate manufacturer. From a picturesque location on the banks of the Rhine at Andernach, the finished products, whether rolled or flat, tin-plated, chromium or foil-coated, make their way by road, rail or ship to all four corners of the world.

How Rasselstein adds value

"Unsurpassed product quality that meets the most exacting standards – our trademark the world over" is Rasselstein's mission statement. Innovation, quality and customer focus are the three key factors which have dictated the company's success since the beginning. At the world's largest manufacturing facility for packaging steel, tinmill or chromium-coated blackplate is produced for various packaging solutions.

The tinplate is used to make a wide variety of products from food and drink cans to tealight holders and screw caps, but also containers for chemical-technical products such as aerosol cans and much more. Whatever the final product, meeting the highest quality standards remains the number one priority throughout. The sophisticated quality assurance process at Rasselstein involves every employee, whatever their responsibilities in the production cycle, with the aim of keeping customer satisfaction a top priority throughout – from the selection of optimal primary materials to technical support.

What's more, international sales and technical support are organised at a local level to ensure that each customer receives the best product for their needs. "Experience, quality and close customer relationships are what make Rasselstein products unique and create added value for the company, both today and into the future", says Josef Blank, Head of Central Systems at Rasselstein, summarising the company ethos succinctly.

Sustainability through environmental protection

Rasselstein employs a number of solutions to ensure the sustainability of its business: a company-owned treatment facility, where all waste water is cleaned and neutralised, an emul-

sion cracking plant, a tin recovery process, an ion exchanger, as well as exhaust gas cleaning equipment. A flue gas dust collector and finally a coolant fluid recycling process complete the list.

Environmental protection is given high priority at Rasselstein. It's for this reason that modern machinery is in place to prevent air and water contamination, as well as to ensure efficient use of both raw materials and energy.

During the manufacturing process, all production stages operate with materials which have been evaluated and selected for both their environmental and workplace safety credentials. 95% of all waste products are recycled.

"Conserving Natural Resources" is the slogan that underlines Rasselstein's commitment to the recycling of used tinplate packaging. Work focusses on quality assurance in tinplate recycling, resolving customer recycling problems, and educating and advising consumers on the proper disposal of used



tinplate packaging. 2007 saw the tinplate recycling rate in Germany reach an outstanding 90.9%.

What this all demonstrates is that sustainability and the recognition of the responsibility carried for future generations have been a part of Rasselstein's business since the beginning.

Custom-fit IT

Technical order processing is undertaken on a z890 mainframe. Over 90 virtual servers run under VMware ESX 3.5. The current project is the virtualisation of 800 desktop computers using VMware View. The many different applications in use necessitate a range of operating systems such as AIX, HP Nonstop and Linux.

Business processes such as accounting, human resources, purchasing, sales, warehouse management and maintenance run on SAP, with the relational database system IBM-DB/2 operating within the SAP environment. A positive evaluation of both performance and cost was crucial for this choice.

Rasselstein GmbH's IT sees itself as a stand-alone service provider and indeed, within the local area, supports several

independent companies. Additionally, IT services are provided for other ThyssenKrupp subsidiaries in a payment clearing centre.

The Rasselstein IT team

The comprehensive support offered by the IT team encompasses the entire range of services from mobile telecommunications, to VoIP and computer-aided manufacturing systems, as well as the requisite applications for all aspects of the business.

The Rasselstein IT team places a great deal of importance on process optimisation – improving and fine-tuning wherever possible – and is forever on the lookout for ways to add value for the company and aid its future development.

Responsible for the IT infrastructure are Josef Blank, Head of Central Systems, Günter Bell, Group Leader for basic system support, and Claus Deptall, Group Leader for desktop management – managers with many years of experience in the field of IT.

IT keeps the wheels turning

"You can't do anything without IT these days" – this statement rings particularly true at Rasselstein, where the manufacturing process is required to run 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, guaranteed. Great demands are placed upon the IT, its hardware, manufacturing control software, administration and system servicing.

"Just like in other areas of the business, the company expects levels of performance from its IT which measure up to Rasselstein's standards", says Blank, summing up the demands made of all IT personnel.

More service, reduced dependence

"We've been associated with Technogroup IT-Service GmbH from Hochheim for many years. They're an experienced and independent IT service provider. Both our companies have flat hierarchies and we enjoy working together", Günter Bell, Group Leader at Rasselstein GmbH, on the results of a long partnership.

"Technogroup employees frequently put forward new ideas and interesting approaches which bring tangible benefits to our planning process. It really has been a great success for us.

The processes in event of a failure are clearly and logically set out and ensure that any outage is dealt with as quickly as possible. Communication with Technogroup is well defined and access is direct. On top of that, responsibility for the administration and delivery of replacement parts is assumed ▶