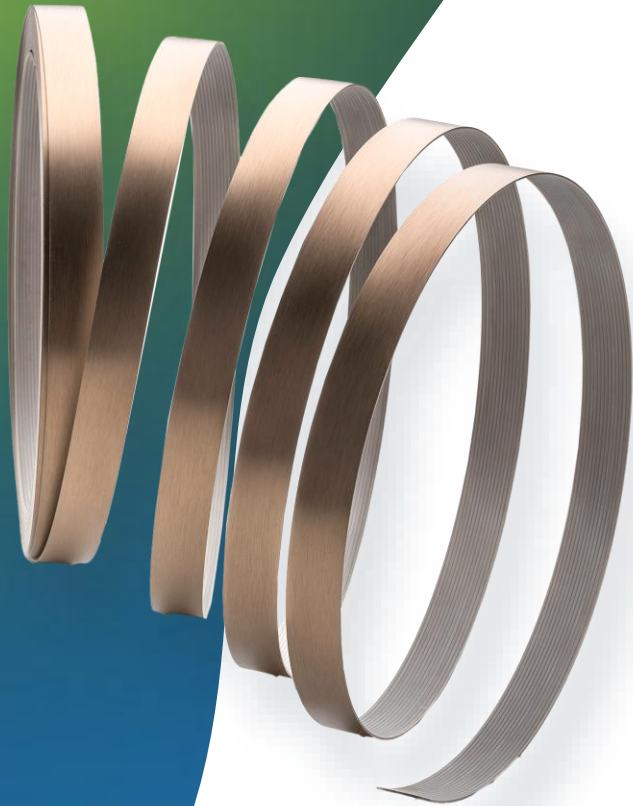


Digitization at the three Féron plants

Conception of the IT system architecture and selection of a future-oriented MES





Future-Proof IT Architecture for High-Performance Production

Due to its strong growth, Aluminium Féron GmbH & Co. KG found itself facing capacity constraints with an IT system landscape and production facilities that had evolved over time.

To drive digital transformation in a targeted manner, the IT architecture needed to be strategically enhanced, and a suitable Manufacturing Execution System (MES) had to be selected.

Rothbaum Consulting supported Féron in designing the future IT system landscape and in the structured selection of a tailor-made MES. This laid the foundation for a future-proof, integrated IT architecture and efficient production control.

Digital Transformation of the Manufacturing Landscape

Challenge

The main challenge was to systematically document the expertise that experienced employees had accumulated over decades and translate it into a structured list of requirements. Given the ambitious growth trajectory through 2030, the existing production planning and control methods were not scalable. As a result, Féron opted for a modern IT infrastructure focused on production.

Implementation

The project team analyzed the existing IT system landscape and developed a vision for the future in collaboration with the business units. Processes were then mapped out and interviews were conducted. The request for proposal was issued based on the requirements specification and use cases, followed by a business case for the final selection of vendors. The team supported the development of the proof of concept in collaboration with the system integrator.

Results

The development of the future IT system landscape and the structured MES selection process laid the foundation for scalable production control. Requirements, processes, and use cases were clearly documented and transformed into a robust basis for decision-making.

A clearly structured and strategically oriented IT architecture

Selecting the Most Suitable MES

Identification of potential savings in direct and indirect areas

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This project has laid the foundation for our digital future – more professional, more efficient and ready for strong growth.



Jean-Marc Vesselle

CEO

Aluminium Féron GmbH & Co. KG

The Féron logo, featuring a stylized white graphic of a curved line above the word "FERON" in a white, sans-serif, uppercase font.

Detailed Results

- The IT architecture was clearly structured and strategically aligned, creating a future-proof foundation for the digital production landscape.
- By systematically identifying the requirements, we were able to compile a shortlist of suitable MES providers and select the most suitable partner.
- The selected MES covers key functions in its standard configuration and offers essential submodules such as production data acquisition, scheduling, and warehouse management. Only minimal programming effort is now required.
- The realignment of the IT system landscape unlocks potential for increased efficiency in both direct and indirect areas.
- The foundation that has been laid will help Féron achieve future growth and ensure long-term profitability.

An integrated IT architecture with a suitable MES forms the digital foundation for a future-proof production environment.



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