

# Innovative Business Models in the German „Mittelstand“



## MÜNCHNER KREIS - THE ORIENTATION FOR THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

The MÜNCHNER KREIS is the leading independent platform providing orientation  
for decision makers in the digital world.

**Prof. Dr. Michael Dowling**  
University of Regensburg  
Chairman of the MÜNCHNER KREIS  
Advisor to the Executive Board of acatech





# Mission

- The mission of the MÜNCHNER KREIS is to provide **orientation** for meeting the **challenges** of the digital transformation.
- It serves as an **independent, interdisciplinary, and international platform** for active and **diverse discussions amongst key players** from business, academia, and public policy.
- In our various **activities**, we analyze future developments, providing valuable impulses on the technical, economic, political, and **social challenges of the digital transformation.**

# Members (examples)

ATOS  
A.T.Kearney  
Bain & Co  
BearingPoint  
Bosch  
Boston Consulting Group  
Burda Digital  
Detecon International  
Deutsche Telekom  
ENISA  
Federal Networking Agency  
Federal Office for Information Security  
Fraunhofer Institutes  
German Public and Private TV Stations  
Google

- IBM Germany
- Intel
- Kathrein
- Microsoft Germany
- Munich International Trade Fairs
- Max-Planck-Institutes
- McKinsey & Co.
- Nokia Networks
- Rohde&Schwarz
- SAP
- Siemens
- Telefónica Germany
- VDE
- Universities (Germany and abroad)
- WIK Consult



# Agenda

1. What is the Mittelstand?
2. What are Innovative Business Models?
3. Examples in Germany
4. Summary and Conclusions



## What is the German Mittelstand?

- The ***Mittelstand*** commonly refers to small and medium-sized enterprises in German-speaking countries, especially in Germany, Austria and Switzerland
- Mittelstand firms are usually defined as enterprises with annual revenues of up to 50 million Euro and a maximum of 500 employees.

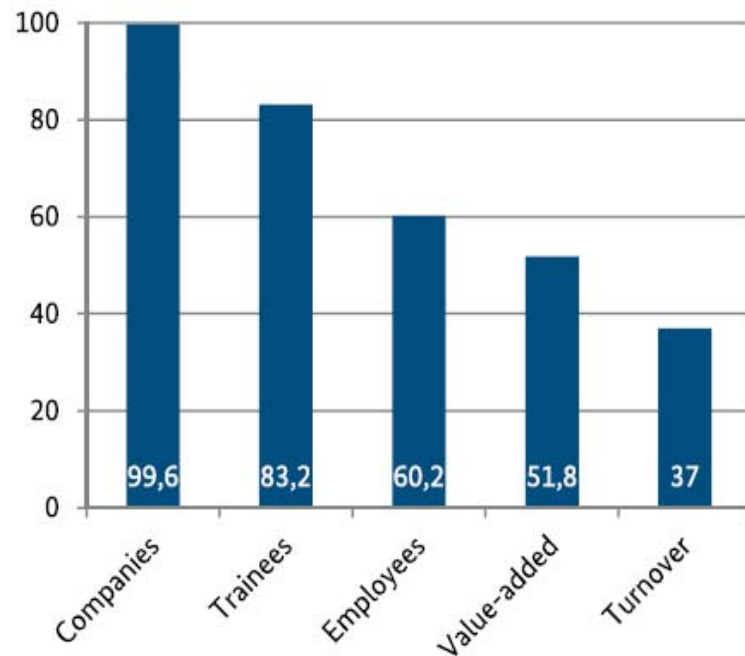
# The Importance of the German Mittelstand

- More than **99% of all German firms** belong to the “German Mittelstand”.
- Almost all of Germany’s Mittelstand are **family-owned**, many are managed by their owner, and their business policies tend to be especially long-term.
- Characteristics:
  - Family ownership or family-like corporate culture with generational continuity
  - Long-term focus
  - Investment into the workforce
  - Lean hierarchies
  - Innovativeness
  - Customer focus
  - Social responsibility
  - Strong regional ties

MADE   
BY   
MITTELSTAND.  


# The Mittelstand is the backbone of the German Economy

**Proportions accounted for by the German Mittelstand**  
Percentages, 2010/2011 figures

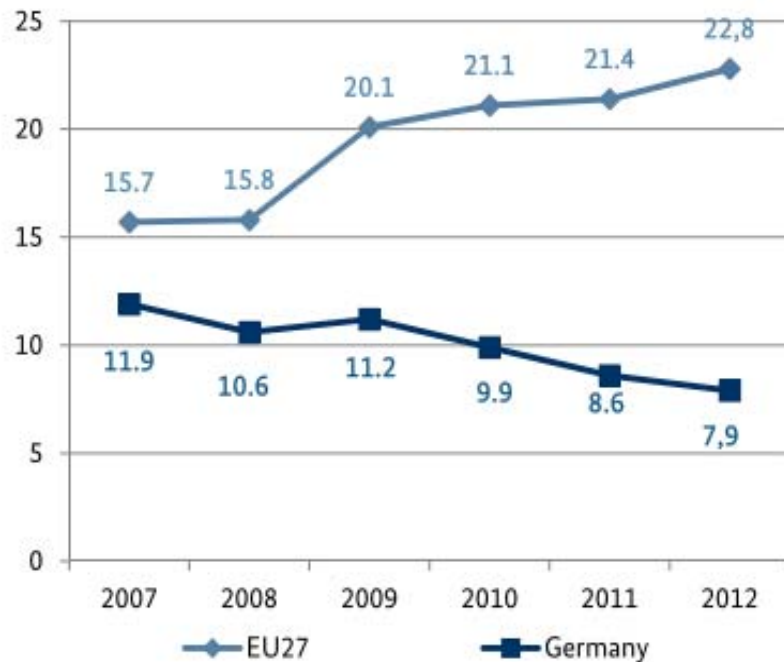


- 99.6% of all companies
- 60.2% of all employees
- 52% of the value-added
- 37% of turnover

Source: Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology,  
*German Mittelstand: Engine of the German economy*

## Youth Unemployment is Low due to “German Mittelstand”

**Youth unemployment in the international comparison**  
Percentages



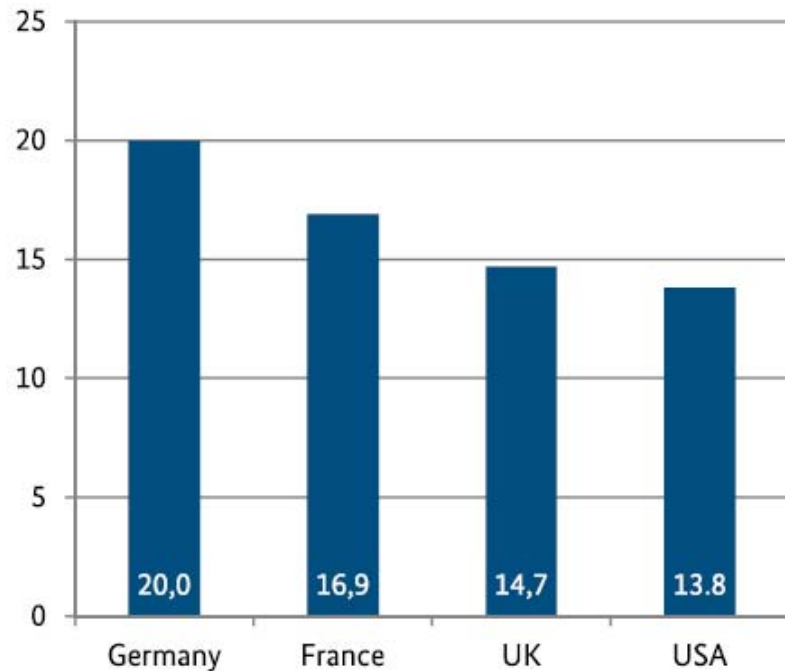
- 83.2 of all trainees
- Reduced unemployment levels
- Apprenticeship system is a model around the world

Source: Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology,  
*German Mittelstand: Engine of the German economy*



# The Mittelstand is strong in manufacturing.

**Employees of Mittelstand in industrial sector**  
Figures in percent, 2012 figures\*



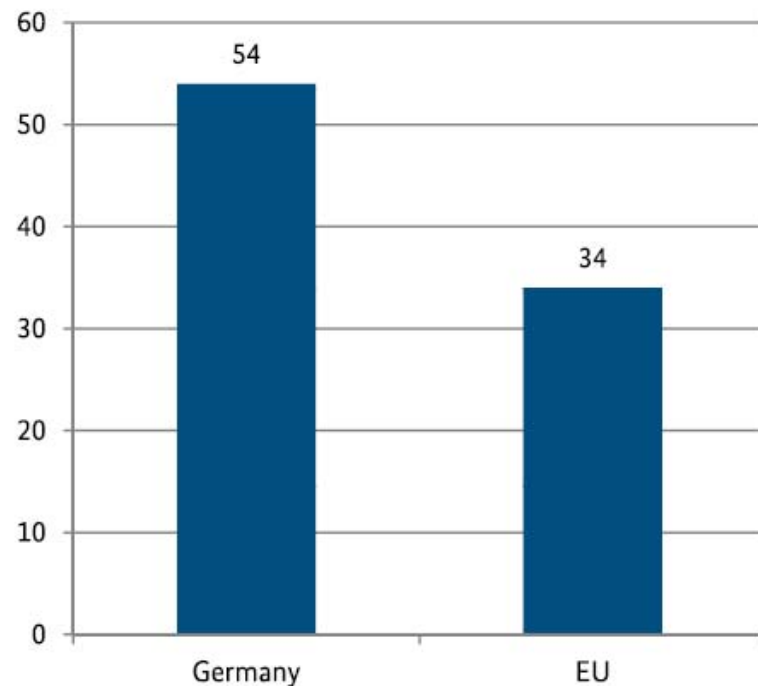
- Mittelstand is very important in the manufacturing sector
- Mittelstand companies are global players

Source: Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology,  
*German Mittelstand: Engine of the German economy*

# The Mittelstand is very innovative!

## Innovative SMEs

Figures for 2010 in %

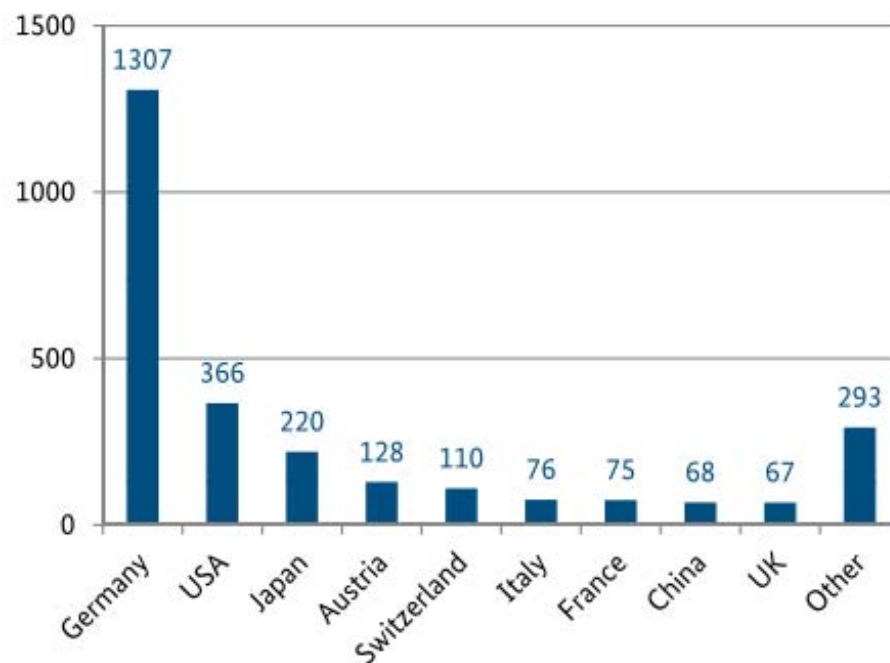


- 54% of Mittelstand companies have brought new products or process to the market in the last two years.
- Mittelstand companies spend significantly on R&D

Source: Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology,  
*German Mittelstand: Engine of the German economy*

# The Hidden Champions of Germany

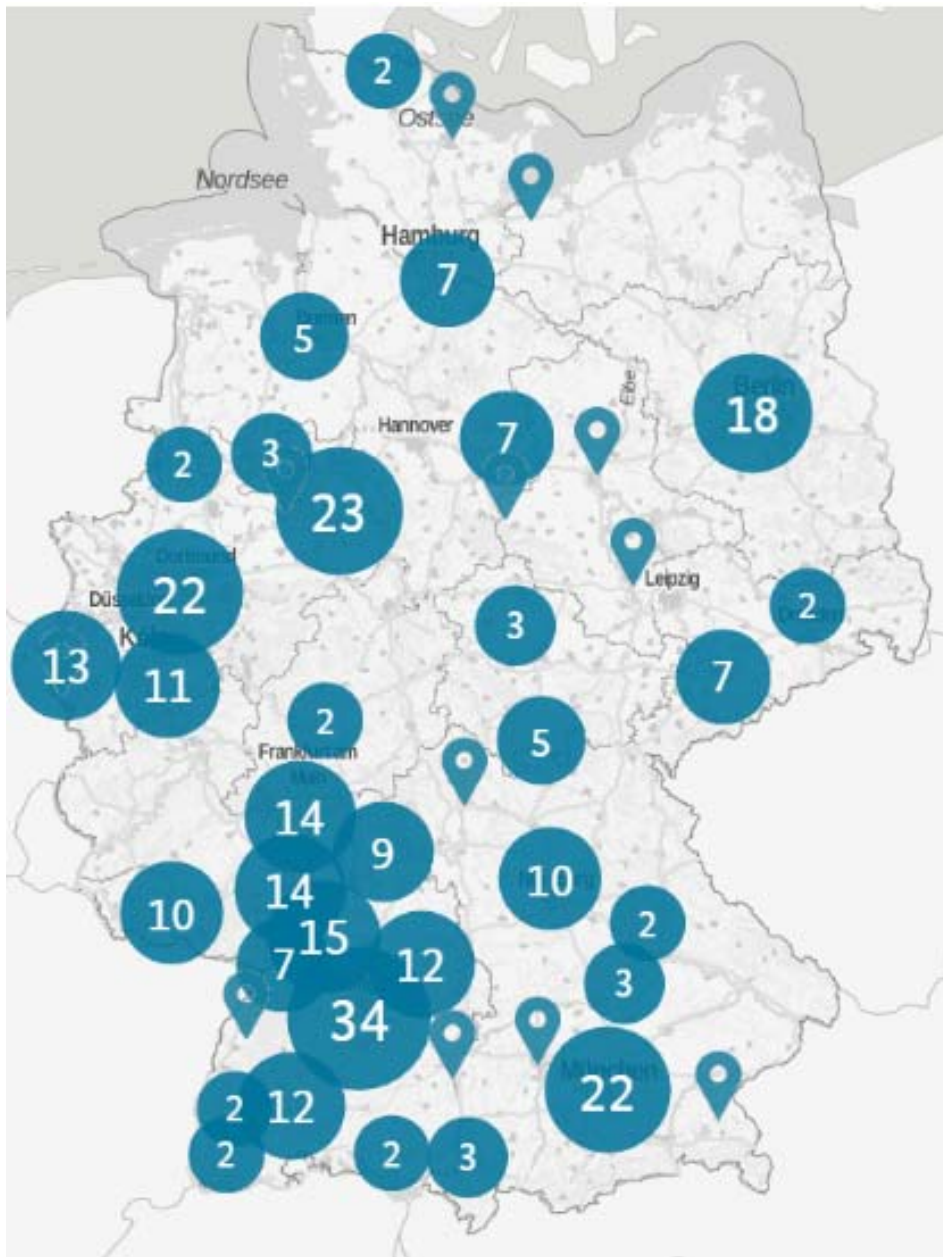
“Hidden Champions” in the international comparison, 2012 figures



- Germany’s Mittelstand has „Hidden Champions“ with niche products serving world markets.
- Especially strong in manufacturing industries.

Source: Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology,  
*German Mittelstand: Engine of the German economy*

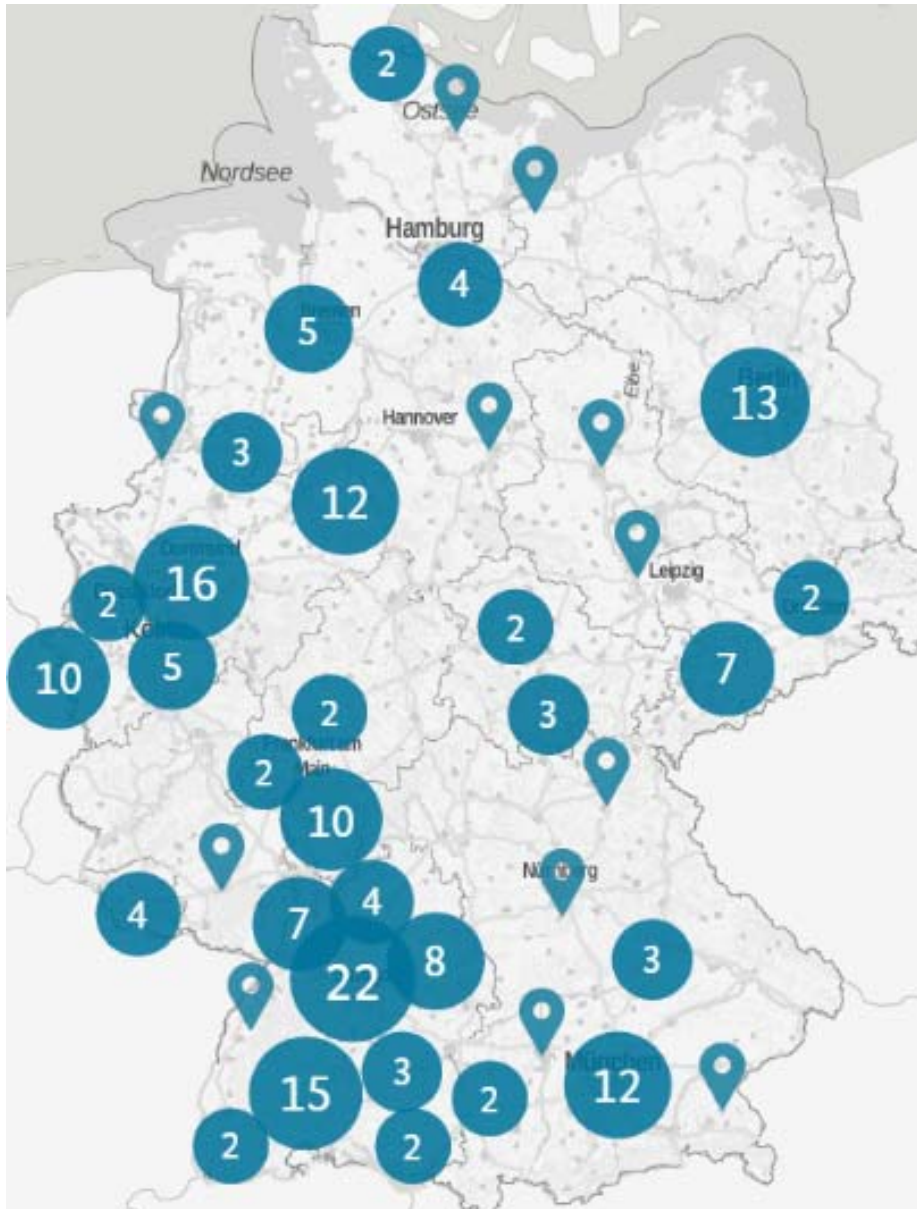
# The Mittelstand and Industrie 4.0



- A map of Industrie 4.0 shows 317 projects in Germany ....

Source: <http://www.plattform-i40.de>

# The Mittelstand and Industrie 4.0



**...and 196 (62%)  
are in companies  
with less than 5000  
employees.**

Source: <http://www.plattform-i40.de>



# Agenda

1. What is the Mittelstand?
- 2. What are Innovative Business Models?**
3. Examples in Germany
4. Summary and Conclusions

# Business Model Patterns

## Changes in Business Models over Time

### Internet as Business Infrastructure

- E-Commerce
- Freemium
- Customer Data
- Open Source
- Digitalization

### Internet as Social Media

- User Designed
- Crowdsourcing
- Crowdfunding
- Long Tail
- Open Source

### Internet of Things

- Digitally Charged Products
- Physical Freemium
- Digital Lock-in
- Product via Pay per Use
- Remote Usage Monitoring
- Preventive Maintenance

1995

2005

2015

Source: Fleisch/Weinberger/Wortmann 2014

# Technologies will Shape the Transformation of Business Models for Industrie 4.0

## Technology Fields



Data, Computing Capacity, Networks



Analytics and Artificial Intelligence









Human-Machine Interaction



Robotics and Additive Manufacturing

## Anticipated Business Models

<p><b>Value as a Service:</b> pay-by-usage services to satisfy needs</p> 	<p>BM based on <b>process and status data</b> from production/product</p> 
<p><b>Platform as a Service:</b> for the development of software-, hardware, service modules</p> 	<p>BM through <b>intelligent networking</b> of the market players</p> 
<p><b>Infrastructure as a Service:</b> Infrastructure landscape as the basis for platforms</p> 	<p><b>Digital refinement</b> of products and services</p> 

Emmrich et al. 2015; Becker/Knop 2015; Plattform Industrie 4.0 2016; BITKOM 2016; McKinsey & Company 2015



## Digital Enhancement of Existing Product



### Ibin Optical Ordering System:

the quantity, number, and ordering information for the bolts can be obtained via the built-in camera; this is then transmitted to the ERP system and more bolts are ordered automatically.

Source: <https://www.wuerth-industrie.com>

# Digital Enhancement of Existing Products

## Krones AG in Regensburg: Barcodes and RFID Tags on Products

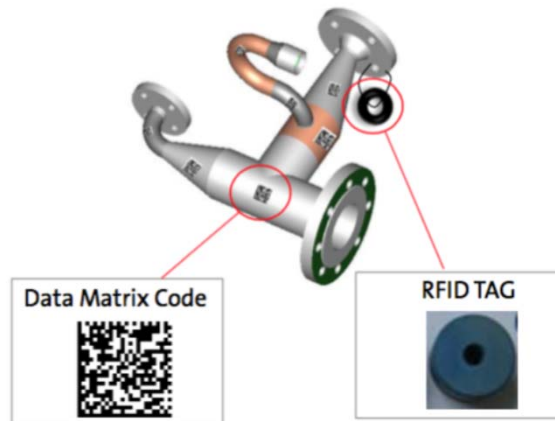
### Production data

#### Material data:

- Material number
- Parts list

#### Production program data:

- Temperature
- Machine Data





### Order data

- Order number
- Batch number
- Work plan
- Assembly sequence


# Technologies will Shape the Transformation of Business Models for Industrie 4.0

## Technology Fields

 Data, Computing Capacity, Networks

 Analytics and Artificial Intelligence

 Human-Machine Interaction

 Robotics and Additive Manufacturing

## Anticipated Business Models

**Value as a Service:**  
pay-by-usage services to satisfy needs



BM based on **process and status data** from production/product



**Platform as a Service:**  
for the development of software-, hardware, service modules



BM through **intelligent networking** of the market players



**Infrastructure as a Service:** Infrastructure landscape as the basis for platforms



**Digital refinement** of products and services



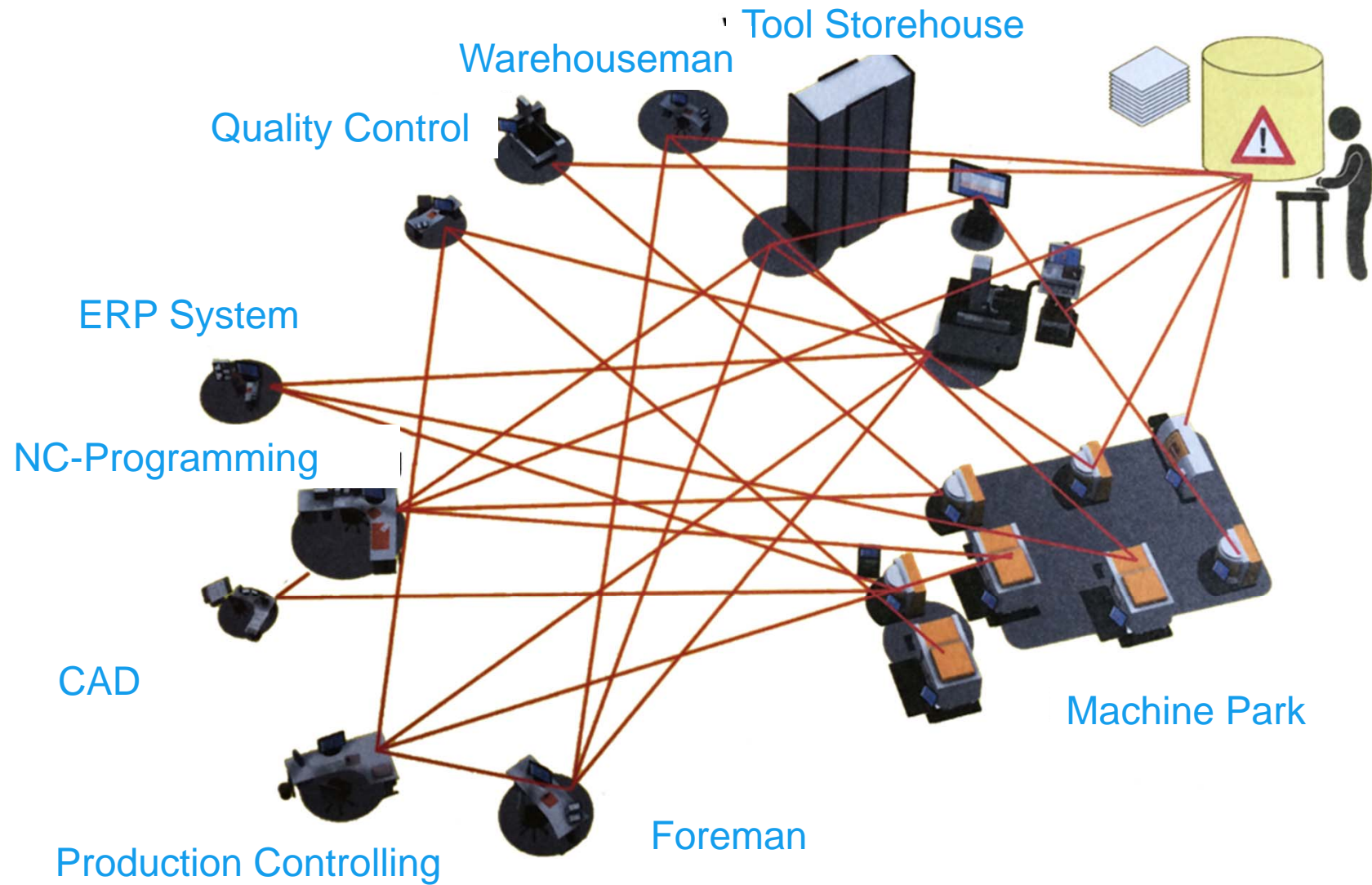
Emmrich et al. 2015; Becker/Knop 2015; Plattform Industrie 4.0 2016; BITKOM 2016; McKinsey & Company 2015

# Process and status data from production/product

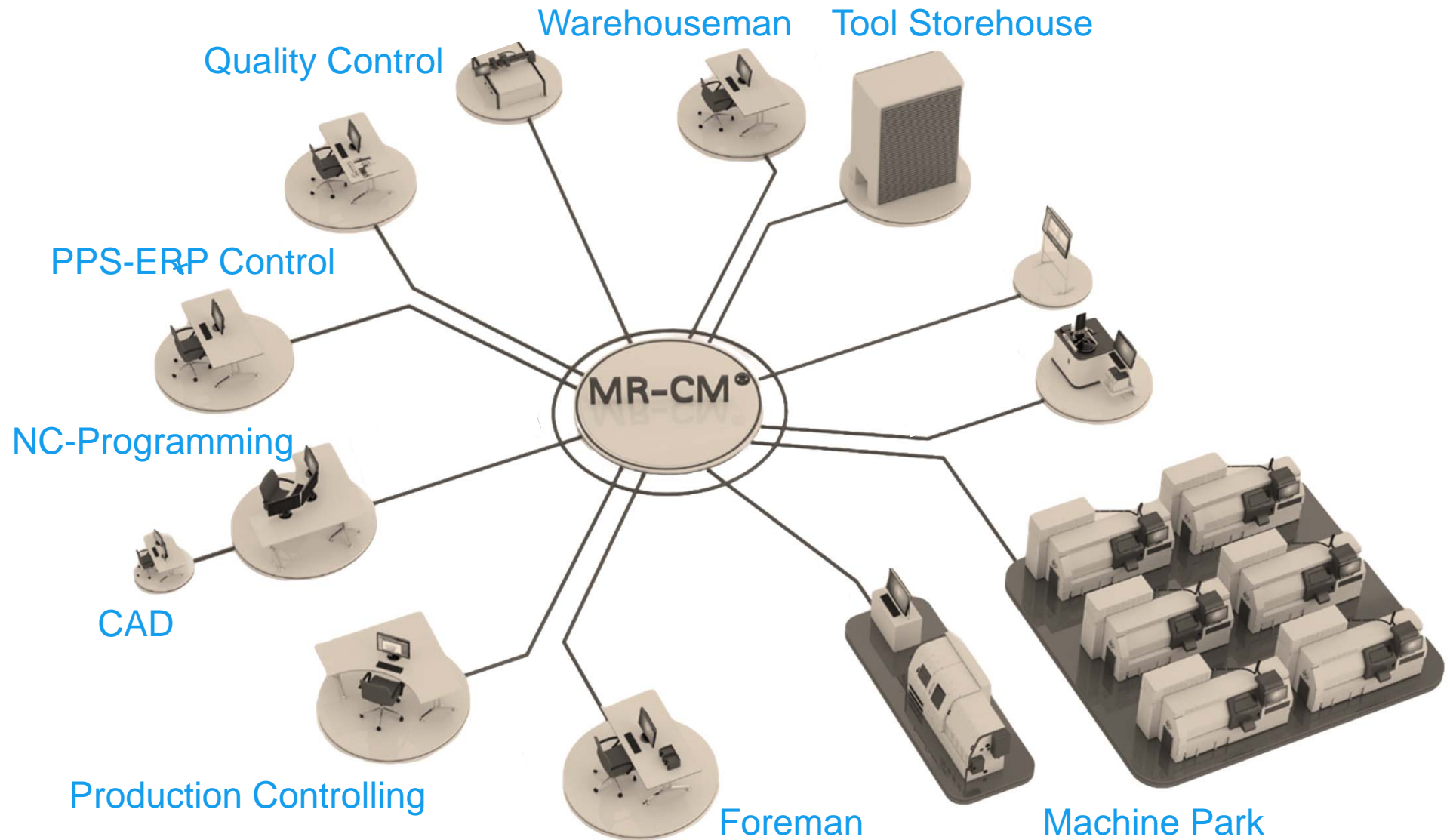


- Family-owned firm founded in 1868 in Regensburg (Bavaria), Germany
- Hidden champion in high voltage technology (On-Load Tap-Changer)
- Machining processes (turning, drilling, milling)
- 2700 employees
- Turnover: 630 Million €
- Awarded the first German Industrie 4.0 Award

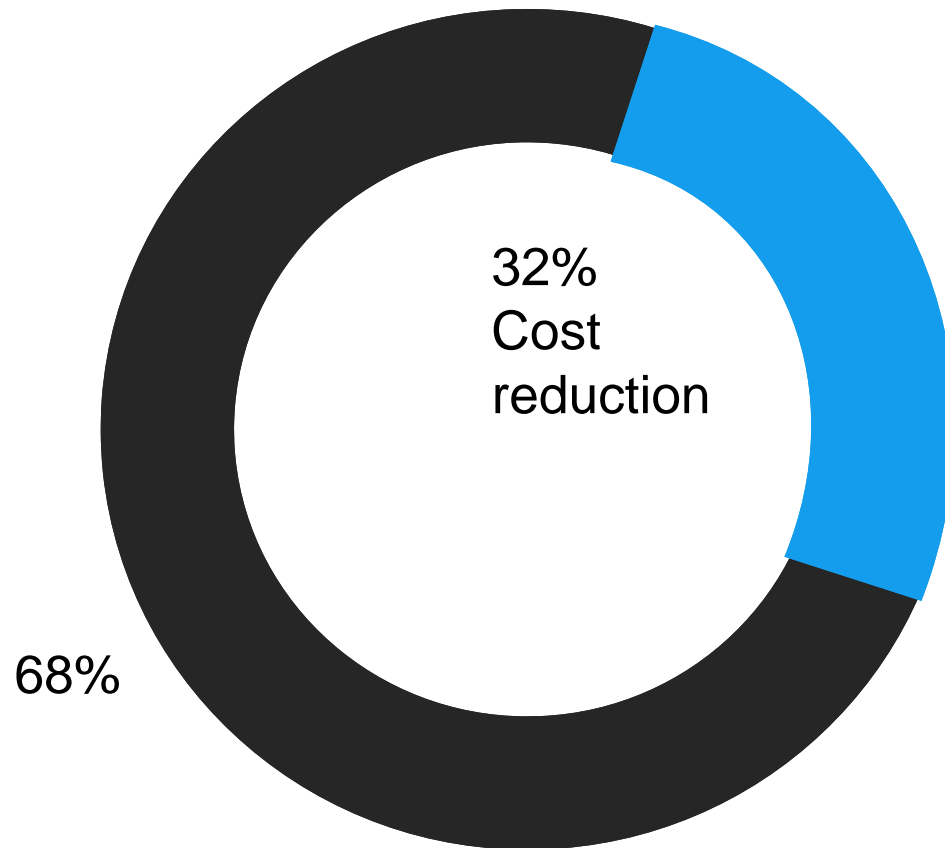
# Traditional Manufacturing at MR



# New Industrie 4.0 Production System



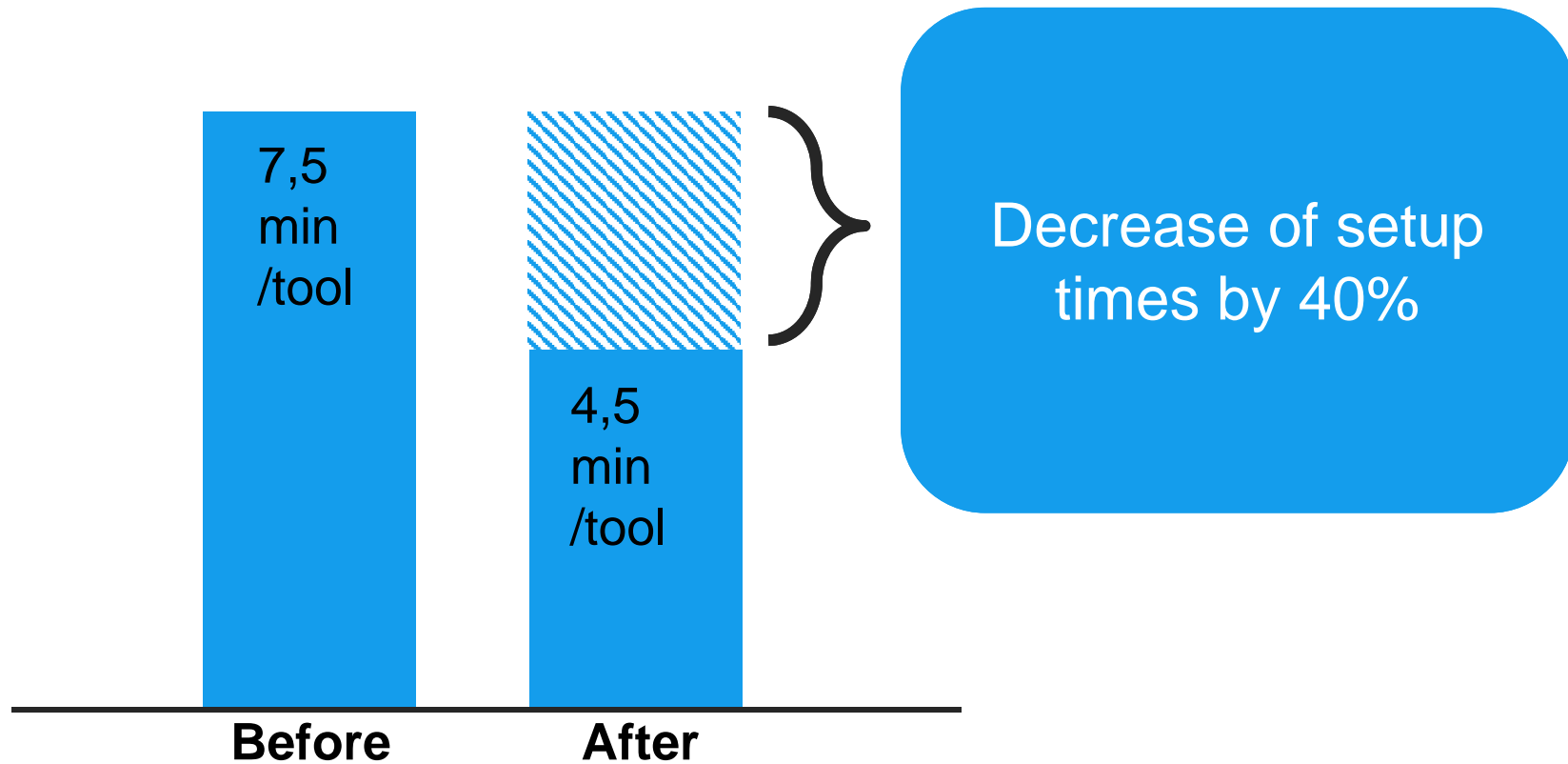
## Benefits of the System: Lower Costs



Machine park with 17 machines:  
Reduced costs by  
500,000 € per year

Source: [www.reinhausen.com](http://www.reinhausen.com)

## Benefits of the System: Decreased Setup Time



Source: [www.reinhausen.com](http://www.reinhausen.com)



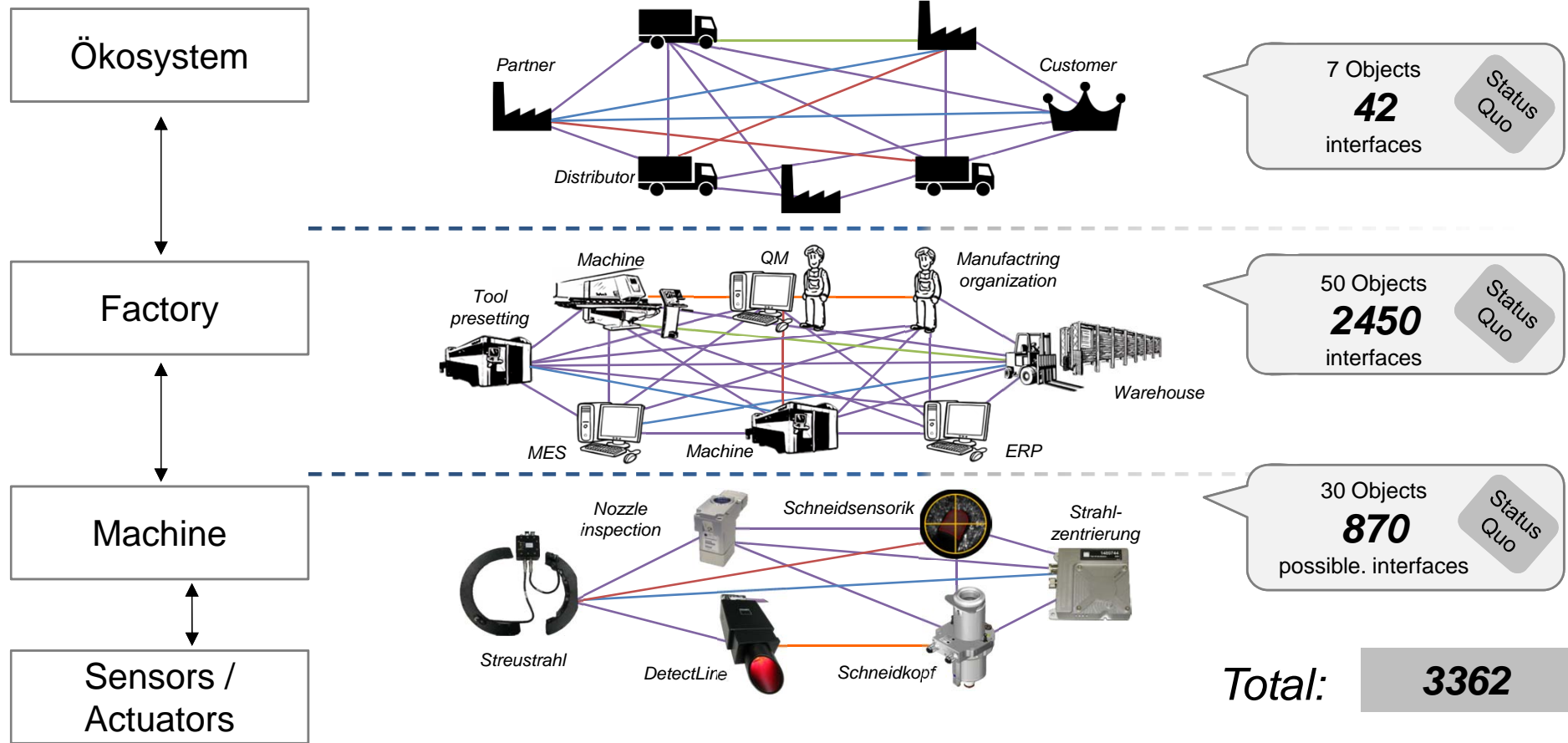
**TRUMPF**



## Project Industry 4.0

- One of the world's leading suppliers of machine tools
  - Networking of machines with TruConnect System
- 
- Goals:
    - Higher machine utilization, with smaller lot sizes
    - Transparency and asset management
    - Process stability and traceability
    - Better energy efficiency and increased productivity

# Trumpf had high complexity along the value chain



Quelle: TRUMPF and Innovationszentrum für Industrie 4.0

# TRUMPF's solution: TruConnect Smart Factory

## TruConnect

- Covers all stages of the production process
- Tailored to meet the individual needs of the customer
- Modular can be extended, step by step optimization possible
- Increased efficiency in production
- Smaller lots viable

## Fields of Application

- Quote generation
- Production planning
- Intralogistics
- Shipping and Contracts


- 75 % Planning /  
Management Costs


- 50 % Logistics Costs


Quelle: TRUMPF and Innovationszentrum für Industrie 4.0


# Technologies will Shape the Transformation of Business Models for Industrie 4.0

## Technology Fields

 Data, Computing Capacity, Networks

 Analytics and Artificial Intelligence

 Human-Machine Interaction

 Robotics and Additive Manufacturing

## Anticipated Business Models

**Value as a Service:**  
pay-by-usage services to satisfy needs



BM based on **process and status data** from production/product



**Platform as a Service:**  
for the development of software-, hardware, service modules



BM through **intelligent networking** of the market players



**Infrastructure as a Service:** Infrastructure landscape as the basis for platforms



**Digital refinement** of products and services



Emmrich et al. 2015; Becker/Knop 2015; Plattform Industrie 4.0 2016; BITKOM 2016; McKinsey & Company 2015

- **Claas** is a family-owned agricultural machinery manufacturer founded in 1913, based in Harsewinkel, Germany, North Rhine Westphalia.
- Their product range includes combine harvesters, forage harvesters, balers, mowers, rakes, tractors, and other harvesting machines.

# CLAAS



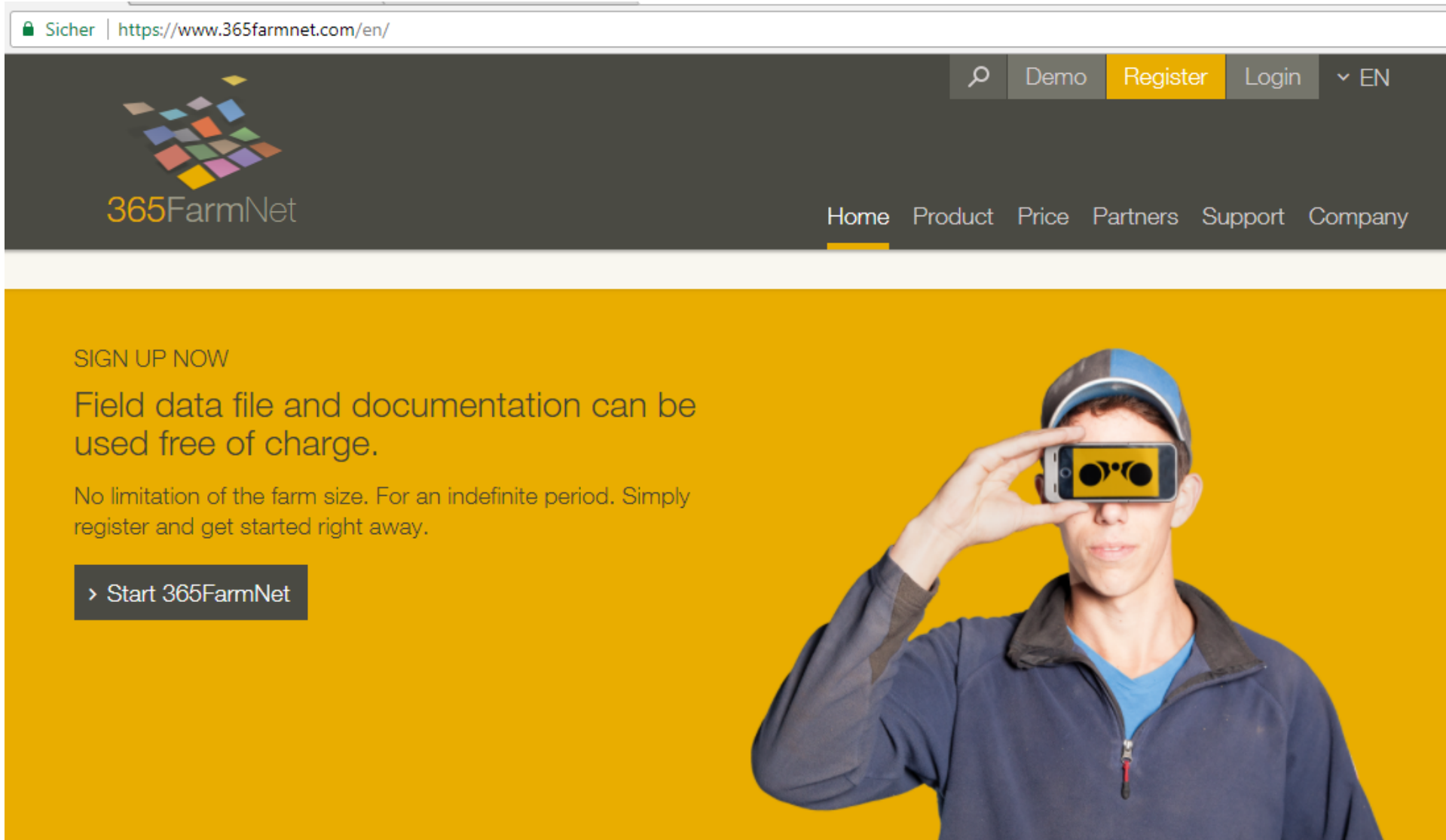


# Digital Platform for Farmers: 365 FarmNet

- Claas first attempted to develop an internal platform without success.
- Created in 2013, **365FarmNet** is a spin-off from Claas, with 50 employees based in Berlin and with an open architecture based on cloud services.
- **365FarmNet** allows over 35 other producers and service providers to offer their services to farmers. For example...
  - The chemical company Bayer AG provides weather information and recommendations about what pesticides are appropriate.
  - The seed company KWS provides information about which seeds can best be planted to achieve higher yields.
- More than 2000 farmers are paying for this information.

Source: Geschäftsmodell-Innovation durch Industrie 4.0  
Chancen und Risiken für den Maschinen- und Anlagenbau,  
Fraunhofer-Institut für Produktionstechnik und Automatisierung IPA, 2015

# Digital Plattform for Farmers: 365 FarmNet



Sicher | <https://www.365farmnet.com/en/>

365FarmNet

Home Product Price Partners Support Company

SIGN UP NOW

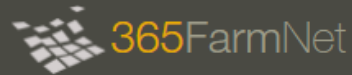
Field data file and documentation can be used free of charge.

No limitation of the farm size. For an indefinite period. Simply register and get started right away.

> Start 365FarmNet

# Digital Platform for Farmers: 365 FarmNet

Sicher | <https://www.365farmnet.com/en/partners/partner-companies/>



Home Product Price **Partners** Support Company

## 365FarmNet Partners

A total of 27 renowned agricultural partners already support 365FarmNet with their know-how and by making further intelligent components available, from machine manufacturers, plant protection and manure product producers, breeders, feed suppliers to equipment manufacturers for livestock farming. They are all a part of this modern and future-oriented online platform that links the applications of different manufacturers together.

They are part of a strong association of companies for farmers and partners.







## New and Specialized Platforms are Emerging!

- **ADAMOS** is a strategic alliance for machinery and plant engineering and stands for:  
**AD**aptive **M**anufacturing **O**pen **S**olutions.
- The joint venture was founded by **DMG MORI**, **Dürr**, **Software AG** and **ZEISS** as well as **ASM PT**.
- The aim of the alliance is to bundle knowledge in mechanical engineering, manufacturing and information technology and to establish ADAMOS as a global industry standard.
- The two pillars are:
  - **DAMOS IIoT platform**: Provides basic functionalities of a "Platform as a Service" (PaaS). It is the technological basis for digital marketplaces (ecosystems) of ADAMOS partners.
  - **ADAMOS App Factory Alliance**: creates a development environment in which app innovations and technology standards can be implemented equally, quickly and efficiently.

# ADAMOS Platform

Deutschland

**ADAMOS**

PARTNERING

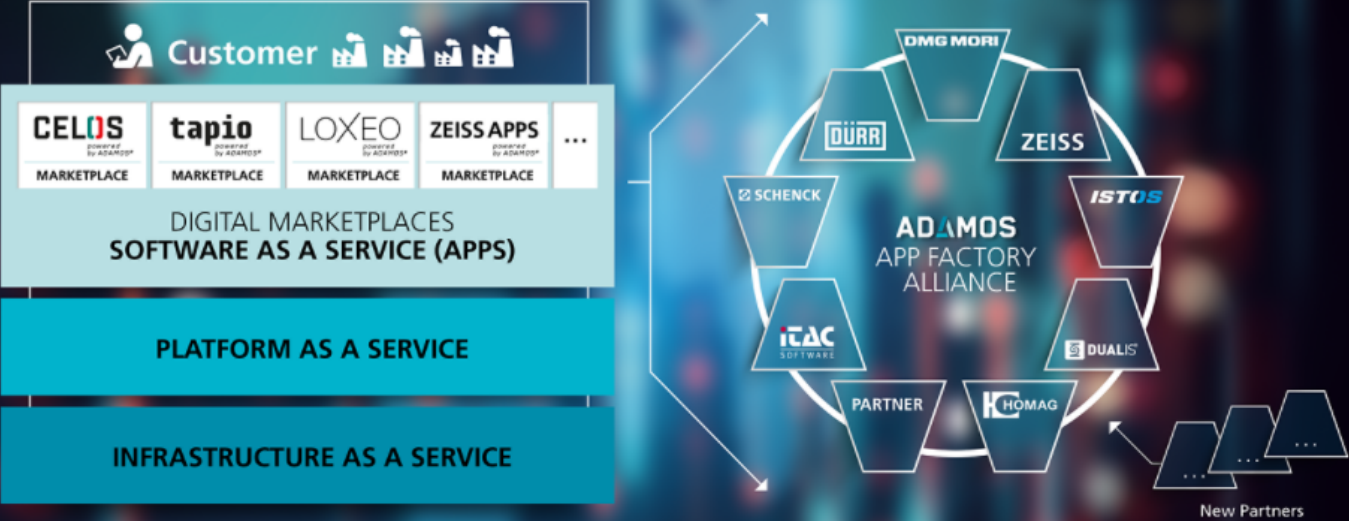
APP FACTORY ALLIANCE

DIGITAL MARKETPLACE

IIOT PLATFORM



## MECHANICAL ENGINEERING SHAPES DIGITIZATION





## Conclusions

- The German Mittelstand is taking advantage of Industrie 4.0, but there is still great potential.
- Various new business models are possible.
- Attracting enough digital talent is difficult.
- Industry 4.0 will bring significant benefits, but large investments are required.
- More partnerships are needed between large established firms and the Mittelstand.
- International standards must be developed and international cooperation is crucial.

## acatech calls for a Mittelstand Initiative



 **acatech**

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF  
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Co-President Dieter Spath at  
the acatech annual meeting in  
October 2017

- “Small and medium sized companies must have better access to cooperative research.
- In developing Industrie 4.0 and by building learning systems, Germany needs the strengths of academia, global corporations, hidden champions, small and medium-sized firms, and start-ups.
- acatech will start an innovation offensive for the Mittelstand in Germany.”



Print this page

[HOMEPAGE](#)

[MISSION STATEMENT](#)

[EVENTS](#)

[PUBLICATIONS](#)

[WORKING METHODS](#)

[ORGANISATION](#)

[INTRANET](#)

[PRESS](#)

[Download Brochure](#)

## HERZLICH WILLKOMMEN BEIM MÜNCHNER KREIS

### CURRENT EVENTS

#### Digitalisierung und Big Data als Treiber für ein patienten- und outcome-orientiertes Gesundheitswesen

16.05.2018

Hotel „Le Méridien“, Bayerstraße 41, 80335 München

[Vorträge](#) | [Pressemitteilung](#)

#### Quantum Technology – Impact on Computing and Communication

05.07.2018

IBM Watson IoT Center, Mies-van-der-Rohe-Straße 6, 80807 München

[Einladung und Programm](#) | [zur Veranstaltung anmelden](#)

#### Fachsymposium in Erinnerung an Arnold Picot: Internet Economy – Reflektiert: Strategien für die digitale Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft

09.07.2018



# Thank You!



NATIONAL ACADEMY OF  
SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

**Prof. Dr. Michael Dowling**

[dowling@muenchner-kreis.de](mailto:dowling@muenchner-kreis.de)

[www.muenchner-kreis.de](http://www.muenchner-kreis.de)

