

Future-proof Smart Factory at KRONE

The machine factory Bernard KRONE GmbH & Co. KG wants to make production future-proof. A new plant should therefore be launched as a smart factory. The IT architecture required for this is supplied by NTT DATA.



DIGITAL SUCCESS STORY / INDUSTRY

The challenge: New system and process landscape

KRONE is a large, renowned European manufacturer of agricultural machinery and commercial vehicles. The good market position and situation allows them to invest in corresponding capacity expansion. In order to remain competitive in the future, KRONE has decided to build the new plant in Ibbenbüren, Westphalia, as a smart factory. This required a fundamentally different system and process landscape. The new IT architecture must enable a production which is as automated and event-driven as possible (Event Driven Architecture) on the basis of measurement and process data.

Edwin Benz
VP, Client Partner
Manufacturing
at NTT DATA DACH

» Together with our partners FIR e.V. at RWTH Aachen University and Cybus, we are taking shop floor management at KRONE to the next level and optimising the whole production.«

The solution: Networking of all machines and applications

NTT DATA assumes the planning and implementation of a new architecture at KRONE on the basis of a rough requirement specification document. Using design thinking, NTT DATA defines the subsequent use cases, selects the appropriate applications, designs the connection of the production components and relevant peripheral systems, and ensures the networking of all machines and applications in a central integration platform – at local and global level. Initially, the Factory Data Hub from Cybus is used. It “translates” the data protocols between IIoT and AI applications. For event streaming and real-time analyses, the open source platform solution from Apache is integrated. KRONE Business Centre experts are supporting the planning and implementation of the on-premise solution and the IT architecture.

Dr. Goy Hinrich Korn
CIO / CDO Bernard Krone
Holding SE & Co. KG

»The IT architecture that NTT DATA has created with us is nothing less than a revolution. It optimises production and ultimately transforms our plant into a true and future-proof smart factory.«

The benefits: Noticeably quicker and more efficient

Thanks to the networking of all components via a central integration platform and the standardisation of transactions between different systems, KRONE can now process customer orders significantly faster, more precisely, and with less manual effort: Orders are automatically converted into data objects, read, enriched, and finally implemented by production machines. These then return the corresponding information in data form to the peripheral systems after completion of the order. The result is a state-of-the-art and efficient production which also offers better occupational safety. In short: a prime example of a future-proof smart factory.

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About NTT DATA

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