

1984 – 2014: Eplan celebrates 30th anniversary

Three new subsidiaries in Japan, South Africa and Turkey: all signs point to expansion for solutions provider

Eplan. The company is celebrating its 30th anniversary at the Hannover Messe. More than 40,000 customers, over 100,000 installations in more than 50 countries and over 700 employees – these are the signs of success for the company which began as a three-person shop in 1984.

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“Our market for CAE solutions is the world,” states Maximilian Brandl, President of Eplan. He adds, “Eplan

is excellently positioned as a global company and I see huge opportunities in view of growth markets around

the world.” Eplan, the market leader for CAE solutions, is already present in more than 50 countries.

Greater

expansion is planned for growth markets in the USA, China, India and Japan. Timely investments in the area

of consulting have ensured the continual growth of the solutions business. Professional Services, including

consulting, implementation and support, now make up a substantial portion of Eplan’s revenues. And the

bar for growth has been set quite high; Eplan is aiming for substantial double-digit growth in 2014 as well –

and the creation of more than 100 additional jobs.

Clear commitment to software and engineering

The Friedhelm Loh Group, the group of companies to which Eplan belongs, is also making massive investments in software and engineering. Cideon, a SAP system integrator and Autodesk Reseller with about

500 employees, joined the group in September 2013. “Mechanical and electrical engineering are merging into mechatronics,” says Friedhelm Loh, owner of the Friedhelm Loh Group and goes on to explain the

group’s vision. “As a rule, Industry 4.0 scenarios require many elements; from software to interfaces on

through to automation.” Friedhelm Loh first invested in Eplan back in 1986 (when it was still known as Wiechers & Partner) because he recognised an opportunity early on. Today he is specifically steering the

Friedhelm Loh Group in the direction of optimised value chains: “Our customers expect potential improvements and savings from us, and that’s something we can achieve with Industry 4.0. In this context,

the strong service network of Eplan, Cideon, Rittal and Kiesling is an excellent foundation for increasing our

customers’ added value.”

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we can achieve with Industry 4.0,” says Friedhelm Loh, owner and Chief Executive Officer of the Friedhelm

Loh Group.

Innovation upon innovation

What began in 1984 by substituting paper & ink with a PC & software has continued to develop: Eplan was

and remains a trendsetter for optimising engineering processes. With Eplan Engineering Center and the automatic configuration of machine documentation based on modular design, Eplan’s experts have launched pioneering technology. And with the seamless Eplan Platform, customers in machine and plant

engineering, in the automotive and transport sectors, in mechanics and automation and even in medical and

energy technology also benefit from the increased efficiency of product development processes brought by

standardised procedures, automated processes and continuous workflows.



EPLAN Software & Service develops engineering solutions that accelerate the product engineering process. Interdisciplinary expert systems ensure a maximum of productivity and data integration. The solution provider develops tailor-made PDM and PLM concepts customer-specifically and provides comprehensive services such as customizing, consulting and training. Innovative development competence, a consistently practical approach, and international presence are the success factors. EPLAN is part of Rittal International and thus of the Friedhelm Loh Group with 11,500 employees worldwide and generated revenues of about € 2.2 billion in 2011. EPLAN is therefore synonymous with continuity and investment security. The company's presence in 50 countries support 40,000 customers with more than 100,000 installations worldwide. 'Efficient Engineering' - the corporate motto underlines the consequence of optimized, efficient processes which keep companies competitive in the long term.

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