

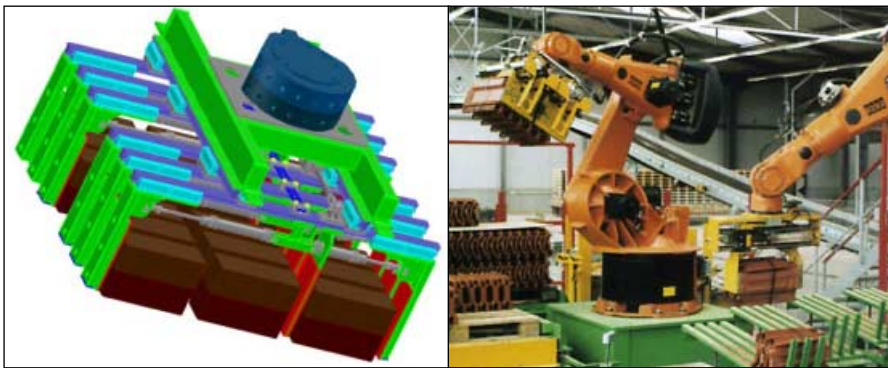


Market leadership thanks to CoCreate solution

The Situation

“We have always been ahead of our time and were one of the first in our industry to implement the CoCreate solutions. It helped us become the market leader.”

Jürgen Hofmann, Manager CAD/CAM/Network, Lingl GmbH & Co.KG



Company Profile

Lingl was founded in 1938 and is today, with its vast know-how, one of the world's leading suppliers of robust and reliable machinery and equip-



The Challenges

- We were looking for CAD solutions that were an optimal fit with our situation and that are fast, functional, user friendly and can be integrated.
- The 3D solution had to have a bi-directional interface; we didn't want to import/export with dxf or similar.
- Both solutions (2D and 3D) should use the same EDM/PDM system, which should run with our PPS system.
- A 3D solution is necessary because we produce robots. The turning movements of the robots' arms, for example, cannot be constructively viewed in 2D.

The Solutions

- 113 licenses of OneSpace Drafting, 8 licenses of OneSpace Modeling

The Results

- Market leader thanks to joy in innovating
- Increased productivity and quality through:
 - Avoidance of misunderstandings
 - Minimization of error quota in production
 - Better visualization thanks to 3D

ment for the production of ceramic construction materials.

The company employs ca. 900 persons in its plants and manufacturing subsidiaries throughout the world. The consistent use of leading-edge technology along with energy- and environmentally friendly production methods guarantees a high standard of quality. Computerization at the highest level of development and the freedom to select between automated systems and advanced dry- and fueled systems are standard for Lingl.

Enterprises such as ACME Brick Company – the largest American brick manufacturer –, Creaton AG/ Wertingen, Germany, and many others have put their trust in Lingl for years.



“We produce customized equipment and machinery that demand a very high level of innovation, safety, and quality – at low costs,” relates Jürgen Hofmann, Manager CAD/CAM/Network at Hans Lingl GmbH & Co. KG.

“Though all of our products are unique, our employees must be able to quickly comprehend the scope of each of them. Ideas must be integrated quickly and constructively and changes must be easy to integrate,” says Hofmann.

“We knew in the beginning that the demands on our products would increase and that we couldn’t meet them all with 2D. That’s why we looked for a 2D solution with growth potential. We wanted to be in the position to design in 3D as well. That meant that the 2D- and 3D solution had to be compatible,” describes Hofmann the challenge they faced. “Equally important was a link to our PPS system and a future link to an EDM/PDM solution because we have to manage 60,000 2D drawings,” explains Hofmann.

The enterprise solved the complex challenge step by step.

“To decide on a 2D solution, we did a benchmark as a real-life test. We evaluated all the current solutions by developing a product. For us, OneSpace Drafting based on ME10 was the only solution with a lot of functionality that was fast, intuitive, and could be integrated. Our employees were enthusiastic and were mainly responsible for the OneSpace Drafting decision,” says Hofmann happily. This led to the expansion of over 100 2D seats today.

The selection process for the 3D solution was similar. “Because we mainly design in 2D, the top criteria was a bi-directional interface,” Hofmann remembers. Lingl did not want to work with dxf or other formats. So, they planned real-life tests, using CoCreate’s OneSpace Modeling and Pro/E, among others.

“It quickly became clear that a lot of the promises made by the competition couldn’t be kept. Except for OneSpace Modeling, none of the 3D solutions had a bi-directional interface, and capable management of our existing drawings was questionable for most of them.

We visited Liebherr in Ehingen, Germany, to look at their product development environment from CoCreate and were completely convinced,” remembers Hofmann – so much so that the enterprise discontinued further benchmarks. “We were skeptical of parametric 3D solutions because the history and its dependency makes changing anything very difficult. For us, such a solution is not user friendly,” says Hofmann of his decision.

Lingl’s joy in innovating led early to the market leader position. “Thanks to CoCreate’s solutions we were able to increase not only productivity, but also quality because we could simply avoid many sources of error. Of course this sunk our costs drastically,” continues Hofmann.

When robots are used, the functionality required for the design is clearly defined up front. “The designer has to decide how he can constructively implement the requirements with OneSpace Modeling and he has to check the functionality with RobCAD (simulation analysis),” says Hofmann, describing the design process. “The demands on the designer and the CAD solution are very high, because we are dealing with highly-flexible, functional, and safe products,” he continues. As an innovative and standard-setting enterprise, Lingl wants to evaluate CoCreate’s OneSpace Collaboration. “Collaboration would certainly further optimize our design process. Ideal would be if we could take the CAD processes all the way to the construction site,” muses Hofmann wistfully.

For more information, please contact us directly or visit www.cocreate.com.

Europe
Phone: (49) 7031-951-2222

USA
Phone: (1) 970-267-8000

Japan
Phone: (81) 42-352-5654

Taiwan
Phone: (8862) 2759 5505

Korea
Phone: (82) 2 559 0711

Singapore
Phone: (65) 550 9665

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