

On solid ground



Economically optimised processes – they are the mission of Keller Grundbau. In the fields of electronic filing and document management, the company reaches this goal thanks to the Microsoft SharePoint-based products by d.velop.

Keller Grundbau Ges. mbH (www.kellergrundbau.at) is a member of the Keller Group plc., a London stock exchange listed company specialising in underground engineering. Founded 1860 with its own machine factory in Germany, Keller Grundbau has been continually expanding its activities for the last 40 years. Today, it runs numerous regional offices in Austria and its neighbouring states.

All tasks related to underground engineering from the planning of details to project realisation are seen through by ex-

perienced geotechnicians.

Both equipment and methods developed by Keller Grundbau have made the company the most important industry partner worldwide for all issues related to underground construction. Regardless of the project size, customers benefit from the existing know-how clearly focused on economic optimisation.

The South and East European subsidiaries are coordinated by the headquarters located in Vienna.

■ Point of departure

As engineer Alexander Peither, responsible for IT at Keller Grundbau, reports, mainly the processes with regard to the search for filed orders were the centre of attention. Moreover, the valuable soil surveys needed safe, structured and legally conforming electronic archiving.

The paper archive occupied 300 sqm of space – for the Vienna office alone. 6,000 folders were piled on 4 metre high shelves.

Understandable that manual file administration and document search were tedious and time-consuming matters.

■ Project

The company DATAplexx in Vienna recommended Alexander Peither to use the solutions offered by d.velop GmbH. He was soon won over by the comprehensive and precise consulting provided in a workshop.

During the subsequent product presentation via video conferencing Mr Peither was introduced to the easy integration and handling of the sophisticated solution. The ideal partner for Keller Grundbau had



picture: Keller Grundbau

been found: d.velop Austria and the Microsoft SharePoint solutions by ecspan.

■ Project progression

The test period started in August 2008 and took one month – enough for process optimisation and preparation of live operation. The IT department was the first to be

provided with ecspan. Today, the ECM solution is implemented in all technical departments.

Staff were prepared by training courses. The training concept presented by d.velop was another positive factor as the effort was not high in comparison with other training courses.



As the workload was considerably reduced thanks to the simplified processes, the employees could easily see their benefit and reacted very responsively to the changes involved by the project.

When being asked if he could name obstacles hit during integration of the d.velop solution into the existing computer system Alexander Peither responded: "There were no unsolvable problems. The d.velop team always had a solution to offer."

Up to now, Keller Grundbau has been able to file 1,000 projects electronically and shred 2,000 paper files.

Old data are now subject to digital administration. Knowledge management was established by the focused marking of expertises. The results: less space required and happy users.

Operation is easy. Documents as well as soil surveys are available for all employees anytime. The digital file supports the structuring of the existing data.

■ Resume

Alexander Peither is very satisfied with the success of the ecspan project at Keller Grundbau: "Cooperation with d.velop during the project phase was flawless. All processes could be optimised just the way we planned."

The accompanying services provided by d.velop such as hotline etc. were classified by Mr. Peither as "excellent". And he comes to the same conclusion for the complete project phase: "The d.velop team have a truly professional and skilful approach. They quickly understood our problems and solved them perfectly. Thanks to ecspan, the gathering of information has become much easier."

There are further issues at Keller Grundbau that will be subject to optimisation. For example, the solution implemented in the technical depart-

ments is going to be expanded to administration by means of an ingoing invoice workflow. Another task perfectly addressed by the ECM experts with d.velop.

Mr. Peither's final statement needs no further comment: "My personal expectations as well as those of the users and all requirements of Keller Grundbau were fully met."

Status: August 2009

Why ecspan with Microsoft SharePoint Server?

The web-based solution is easily operated and requires little effort in terms of implementation and maintenance.

Moreover, the Microsoft SharePoint Server also serves as an intranet solution at Keller Grundbau.

All files can be quickly found over the SharePoint Server regardless of location. The search modus is very comfortable. For instance, it is possible to look for working site or offer numbers or soil surveys. Single documents are digitally reconstituted into files to be displayed by an integrated viewer. In addition, notes can be attributed to the documents.

Information according to ecspan and Microsoft SharePoint

The products by ecspan, a d.velop subsidiary, enhance the Microsoft SharePoint to become an entire ECM system. The SharePoint Server is a powerful technology platform for a wide range of requirements and offers versatile functions mainly in the fields ECM, workflow and search. Under the solution-oriented ECM perspective there is currently no complete solution for the integrations and functions needed for document-based processes.

Only with the ecspan products, SharePoint becomes a comprehensive, central saving and controlling unit for business-related documents and processes.

Modules applied by Keller Grundbau:

ecspan storage manager, ecspan cold, ecspan Basis, ecspan capture batch, ecspan Storage, connection to EMC Centera