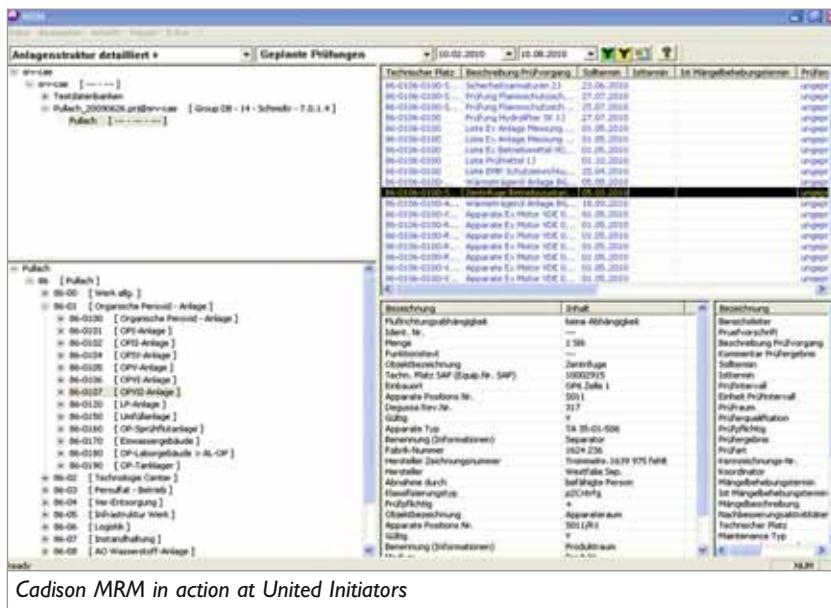


The picture has been taken from the brochure of United Initiators' new organic peroxide DTBP S-500 which reduces the risk of electrical discharge during handling operations.



Cadison MRM in action at United Initiators

Photos (2): United Initiators

# Two Mainstay Businesses and one Safety Standard

In many ways the speciality chemicals supplier United Initiators isn't really so different from any supplier of chemical base materials. But the company's decision to install Cadison as a solution for its service and maintenance applications has got what it takes to catch on in the process industry in general.

Although the gross profit in the speciality chemicals industry has dropped by an average of 3.4 percent in the last ten years (1), this sector is still in good shape compared to base chemicals. As a consequence of massive overcapacities and much tougher competition from Asia, the suppliers of chemical commodities have seen their profits slashed by a third. As in the discrete manufacturing industry, companies in the process industry are well advised to become more focussed. United Initiators GmbH & Co. KG (2), a supplier of speciality chemicals, has been a key employer in the south of Munich for many decades. Up to July 31 2008 it was part of Evonik Industries and now is owned by the US financial investor Speyside Equity. In Pullach the company produces and markets organic peroxides and persulphates mainly used in the production and processing of polymers. Besides its main site in Pullach, at which around 300 people are employed, it has bases in the USA, Australia and China.

Germany's Isar Valley has been a base for the chemicals industry since 1911. With the production of hydrogen peroxides ( $H_2O_2$ ), the scientists Gustav Adolph and Albert Pietzsch laid the foundations for the set-up of industrial plants on what is now United Initiators' company site. Like persulphates, peroxides are initiators that trigger chemical reactions.

## “Safety Forms the Basis for our Business”

“Safety forms the basis for our business,” is the maxim at United Initiators. This maxim is firmly anchored in the awareness of every employee and shapes their behaviour and the way they work. All technical activities, irrespective of whether these involve a new installation or a conversion, the introduction of or changes to production processes and workflows, are preceded by exhaustive hazard analyses conducted by highly qualified experts. Owing to the properties of the pro-

ducts made and the raw materials used, the company equipment and its employees must meet very high requirements. Accordingly, the systems for monitoring and guaranteeing safety as well as for the continuous improvement of all processes are highly developed.

In a talk with our editors, Karl-Heinz Böttcher, Technical Manager at the company's Pullach site, spoke about the successful application of organizational and technical instruments and methods at the facility.

The tasks and responsibilities of the Technical Department comprise design and planning, new installations and conversions as well as maintenance, including performing all monitoring duties for all technical equipment on site. As a key instrument for reliable and efficient processing, the planning tool Cadison is used. Cadison is a product supplied by ITandFactory GmbH based in Bad Soden (Germany) and uses Autocad as its geometry engine.

Another important criterion for this choice was migratability of data, which were in the past captured by a system provided by Evonik. Obviously, the team from ITandFactory managed this with flying colours, after all otherwise this talk would never have taken place in this form. “The migration of the legacy data was a real challenge,” stresses



Rainer Schmidt

Rainer Schmidt, who is responsible for the technical revision/regular tests now controlled with Cadison. In a period of around five months, everything was finished. Strictly speaking, only four weeks were effectively needed to convert the documents of the 5 000 test cycles already completed. A certain haste was necessary as the next tests were already pending. "Migration always means a certain time in which the old system no longer functions, but the new one is not yet available," Schmidt pointed out.

While prior to the introduction in June 2009, certain maintenance functions were already supported in the MRM module (Maintenance & Revision Management) from Cadison, these were not sufficient for the intended purpose. Special modifications were necessary. For the application at United Initiators, it is particularly important for a large number of different testing intervals to be meticulously maintained. The different types of test, e.g. TÜV (Technical Control Board) or mass tests, in connection with certain technical requirements for the objects, apparatus or machines to be tested must be supported by Cadison. Böttcher states, "United Initiator's requirements aren't particularly exotic." Many owner/operators have to comply with similar test obligations, says the expert. The documentation within the Cadison MRM is now designed such that both the test specification and the test log as documentation is linked to the tested object. If any faults are detected during testing, subsequent remediation of these faults is also recorded in the IT system.



Karl-Heinz Böttcher

You might ask why United Initiators doesn't use the installed SAP system to coordinate its service and maintenance work. This would be feasible, after all the Walldorf-based company does include a dedicated module in its range of software solutions. The reason is the rather complex document management in SAP version 3.1i. Till to the update only maintenance cost accounting is still done with the SAP system.

There is no question of replacing it with the other system at the present time, instead a synergistic coexistence is planned. So as part of the data migration to Cadison, the so called "Technische Plätze" of SAP was copied. As a unique reference an equipment number generated by SAP is used and allocated to each object, like a serial number (e.g. for drives or pumps). "In addition, the user navigation and prompting in Cadison is what we expect from a modern IT tool," explains Schmidt.

### The start of an intensive partnership

ITandFactory regards the decision taken in Pullach as one with strategic consequence. The add-ons in the MRM module are to be further refined and made accessible to a wider clientele in the operator environment, says Account Manager Jens Weingärtner from ITandFactory.

Certainly, United Initiators is aware of the additional potential offered by Cadison, says Böttcher: "Cadison is currently not yet used as a planning engineering tool, but exclusively as a service and maintenance tool. But we put emphasis on the entire lifecycle of our equipment. Everything that has to be documented and managed during the operating phase is to be stored centrally in one single source database." Ideally, in this database for each object, e.g. the quotation, the order, the technical drawings, the test and maintenance protocols and the disposal certificate, all documents are to be linked. And it is exactly this that Cadison is capable of doing. So there are no further obstacles to widening the domain of application at United Initiators.

BERNHARD D. VALNION

### INFOCORNER

- (1) [www.deloitte.com](http://www.deloitte.com)
- (2) [www.united-in.com](http://www.united-in.com)

More information about the computerized maintenance management system (CMMS) Cadison MRM via [www.cadison.com](http://www.cadison.com)

### Letter From the Editor

The plant industry is a remarkably successful and most of all a global acting branch.

As an important step in the development of digitalPLANT Business+Engineering and in order to deliver a coverage to a broader readership henceforth we decided to publish this part in English language.

For those of our readers who prefer to read it in German we present most of our papers in German on our website:

[www.economic-engineering.de/de/digitalplant.html](http://www.economic-engineering.de/de/digitalplant.html)

Enjoy the reading furthermore!

