



1972 | 2022

the spirit of moving forward

futronic's success story

From garage shop to global player

Vacuum Process Control

VPC makes processes visible in the vacuum cycles and detects manufacturing problems before they occur

Raw sales power

René Elling and Pascal Bohmann are helping to shape the company's future

Shoulder-to-shoulder success

Harnessing synergies: futronic is a traditional believer in constructive networks and strong cooperation partners



Major anniversary

Success story from Lake Constance

It may be just a coincidence that futronic's 50th anniversary coincides with the International Year of Glass. But the timing couldn't be better. After all, the futronic story is closely linked to the industrial production of container glass. In this anniversary year, Managing Director Michael Preuss looks back on an eventful past, a challenging present and a promising future.



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1972
futronic GmbH is founded by Gerhard Funk in Tettngang

1982
Move to new premises in Schäferhof Industrial Park



2004
Michael Preuss and Wolfgang Lachmann become Managing Directors

futronic launches the new FMT24S IS machine control system



1978
The MP-ST – our first IS machine control system – enters into service

1986
Oberland Glas AG of Bad Wurzach takes over futronic

2006
futronic is sold to Jetter AG

2008
Move to new premises in Tettngang's Bürgermoos Industrial Park



futronic turns 50! What an achievement! An anniversary like this obviously needs to be celebrated in a fitting manner. The original plan was to invite business partners and associates, suppliers and customers from all over the world plus the company's employees and people from the local region, of course, to toast our round-number birthday. However, in view of the pandemic, the current economic mood in Germany and the terrible war in Ukraine, "we decided to celebrate in a quiet way", says Michael Preuss, the firm's Managing Director since 2004. "We'll make up for it one day, I promise." For the moment, he is happy to look back on an eventful but illustrious past. To face up to a challenging present. And to look forward to a promising future.

Groundbreaking invention

futronic was established in Tettwang in 1972 by General Manager Gerhard Funk, who also gave the company its name, and Production Manager Günther Scharpf. The two of them were joined not long after by Horst Dieter Reinsch, who was responsible for the technical side. futronic had nothing to do with glass production in the beginning. On the contrary, the first orders came from the food processing sector and it wasn't long before more projects followed from customers in other industries. It was in 1978 that futronic secured its first contract to design a control system for glass machines from Oberland Glas in Bad Wurzach, now Verallia. This system, known as MP-ST, marked the entry of computer technology into glass production, displacing transistor logic and relays which were no longer up to the challenge. It was a groundbreaking invention. "It put futronic a huge step ahead of the competition", Preuss declares. futronic has been a subsidiary of Jetter AG of Ludwigsburg since 2006 and the MPST paved the way for the firm's success story as a top supplier of automation solutions for the container glass industry.

Success as a collective achievement by every single employee

"We've not only continued to develop our products significantly since then; we've also realised umpteen exciting and unusual projects. After all, that's our core business: I wouldn't want to single out anything in particular", Preuss comments. "And it's really great that we'll be celebrating our 50th anniversary this year!" He confesses that steering the company in a dynamic environment through all the crises of the last five decades, through all the ups and downs – of which there have been more than a few – moving it forward, keeping it on course for growth, responding to new trends and realigning the business again and again has probably been the greatest achievement of all. "And it hasn't been the achievement of just one person, because we're not a family firm and we never have been", Preuss explains. "Credit is due to everyone here at futronic – to every single employee for their collective contribution to our success. We have every reason to be proud of them."

Evolving technologically, strategically and structurally

Looking forward, Preuss is very confident "that we can continue on our growth journey in spite of the difficult situation right now". And of course the company also wants to evolve technologically, strategically and structurally. It's common knowledge that standing still means going backwards. It goes without saying that futronic's experts are devoting considerable attention to digitalisation issues. To the technologies and the data that are the essence of it all", the Managing Director adds. All R&D staff have this at the back of their minds whenever they develop a new control system. They also cooperate closely here with various partners, exchange ideas and experiences and reflect together on which technologies, solutions and data can add genuine value for customers.



Looking forward to the next ten years

What's more, the Tettwang control system specialists listen carefully to what their users are saying, so that they know what's going on where and can identify needs. And draw the right conclusions to allow them to develop products that meet the requirements of futronic customers – and the market in general. "That's always been important to us and it will be in the future too", Preuss remarks. In short, his company has to stay on the ball and not wait too long if they're going to play an active part in shaping the future of automation, particularly in the container glass industry. Amongst other things, that means expanding and consolidating futronic's position as one of the world's leading providers of complex automation solutions for machines and equipment. Preuss: "We've set our sights high and we're looking forward to the next ten years."



2012
futronic celebrates its 40th anniversary – on Lake Constance

New partnership with Forma Glas – and a successful start for the new Tableware division

2013
Extension of the company premises – total investment: nearly one million euros



2018
Wolfgang Lachmann, Managing Director Development & Technology, retires after some 30 years at futronic. Michael Preuss and Christian Benz take over at the helm

Even more shop floor capacity is created at futronic

2022
futronic celebrates its 50th anniversary

2020
futronic invests in a photovoltaic system and charging points for employees' electric cars