



GROB-WERKE

Technological competence through generations

In the beginning
there is an idea.



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GROB Mindelheim plant: The beating heart of GROB-WERKE nestled in Bavaria.

National roots and regional responsibility

What was first set up on 1500 square meters of ground in the Bavarian town of Mindelheim in the Unterallgäu country back in 1968 as a supplier plant to the headquarters in Munich, has grown some four decades later into one of the largest employers and training facilities in the region. A workforce of over 2500 people is currently employed over 150,000 square meters in eight halls at the Mindelheim facility.



And the success story goes on and on. The expansion of the Mindelheim facility is in full swing. New production and assembly facilities are being built at the headquarters in Mindelheim, representing an investment of over 45 million euros, and the workforce will be increased by a further 15 per cent.



Gemeinsam

And not only that. With the expansion of Mindelheim, existing production processes are being upgraded to leave the facility better prepared for the global challenges posed by the ever more hard-fought markets. The Mindelheim plant will continue to be pivotal to GROB-WERKE with increasing responsibility for the GROB facilities and subsidiaries around the world, firmly embedded with its national roots in nearly a century of tradition.



As a forward-thinking family-run business, GROB-WERKE will continue to live up to its high degree of regional responsibility and make a telling contribution towards the sustained positive development of the Bavarian rural district of the Unterallgäu country and to the town of Mindelheim.



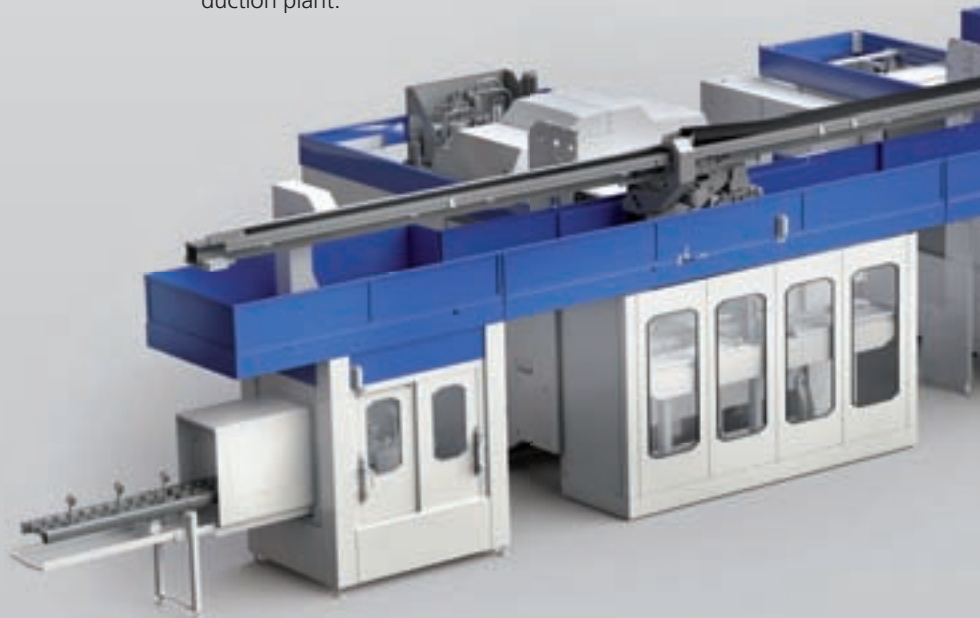
System business:
Boundless permutations.

Competence in state-of-the-art technology around the world

What matters most to GROB-WERKE are its customers and their products - the workpieces. In order to ensure optimum implementation of production, GROB fosters a close relationship with its customers, acting as a point of contact on all strategic matters. Decades of experience, high quality and dependability in design and delivery serve to ensure that GROB customers enjoy optimum support in all aspects of the system business. GROB, which is now being run by the third generation of the family, demonstrates its competence for state-of-the-art technology right around the world.



GROB is synonymous with machine tools which are at the leading edge in their technology and which are perfect for customers' needs, as well as with system solutions in series production for complex workpieces. When the need arises, GROB takes on complete responsibility in turnkey projects. During the planning phase, GROB provides advisory support within simultaneous engineering. GROB is able to draw upon a highly extensive portfolio in machine tool engineering in the creation of a production plant.



Ranging from the standard machine to complex production system or from ancillary assembly cells to fully automated assembly lines – processes and know-how from GROB are consistently of the highest quality. GROB machines and production facilities meet the stringent requirements and demands of the automotive manufacturing industry in every respect. Machine availability requirements are met with a 98 per cent-plus performance. They guarantee stability and precision under every machining condition and ensure that the very highest standards of quality are always delivered, combined with simple and quick maintainability.



GROB machines are constructed and designed with the utmost precision and efficiency. The needs of the automotive manufacturing industry and its suppliers have been taken into account in the development of the new G-module series. It has brought GROB a wealth of recognition worldwide.



Standard machine business:
An innovation makes its mark.

The G-success story goes on and on

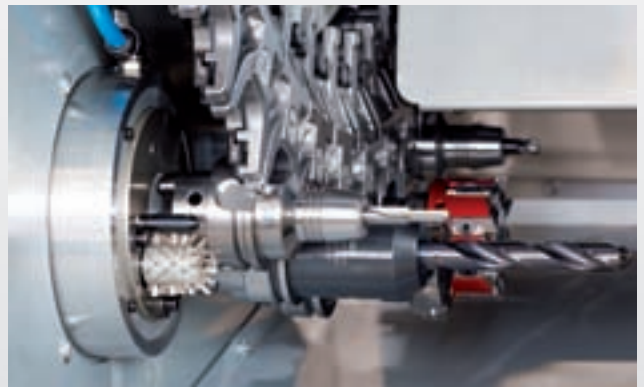
Drawing upon their wealth of development experience, GROB engineers have developed a five-axis machining center for all cutting users. The proven G-module technology, built upon experience and expertise acquired from the automotive manufacturing industry, has been transferred to the technology and design of the G350 and G550. Further innovative developments, such as the hydraulics-free machine tool and the milling and turning center, have led to fast successes in the hard fought standard machines' market, quickly elevating the G350 and G550 to being market leaders in their class.



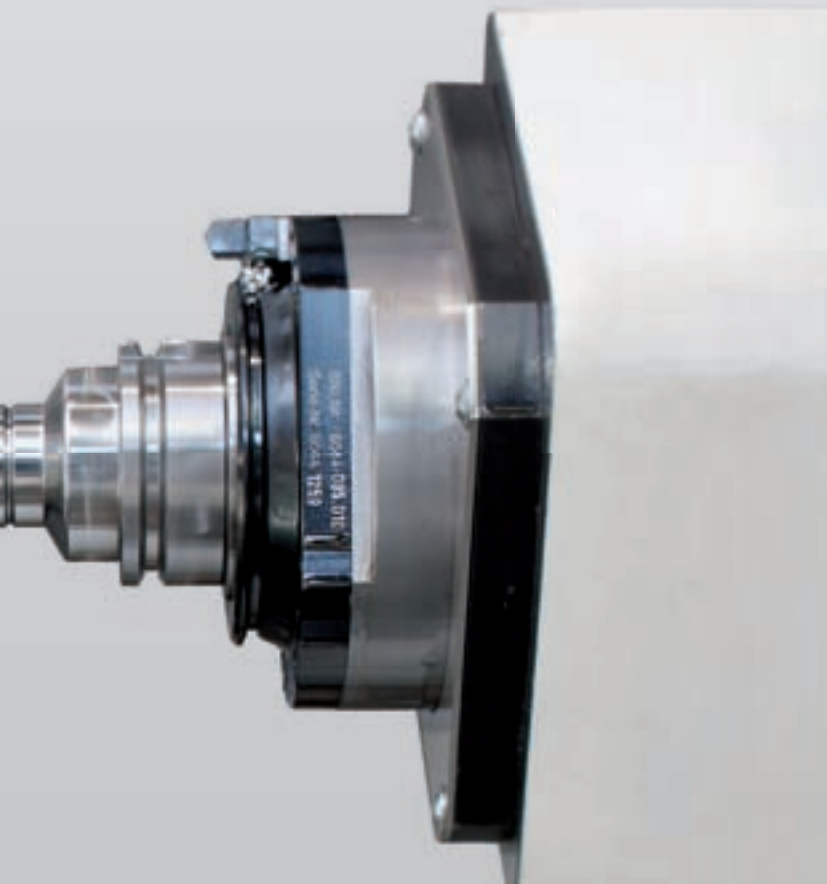
All the models in the G-module series are based upon a shared structure and design across all subassemblies. The G350 and G550 model subassemblies are identical to those in the G300 and G500 size models, with single and twin-spindle design. They satisfy the flexible requirements of the machine shop market, at the same time boasting the high accuracy and precision required in the automobile industry, making them genuine all-rounders.



The Technology and Application Center (TAC) at the company headquarters in Mindelheim is located at the very heart of the GROB standard machine business and is the central testing and trial facility for innovative technologies. It is a facility which was originally built for staging product presentations for customers. There are barely any materials which haven't been machined on one of GROB standard machines in the TAC at some time or other.



GROB customers attending the regular conferences, seminars and other events can find out what state-of-the-art engineering "Made in Germany" has to offer.



Planning:
The nucleus for successful ideas and products.

Link between requirements and process design

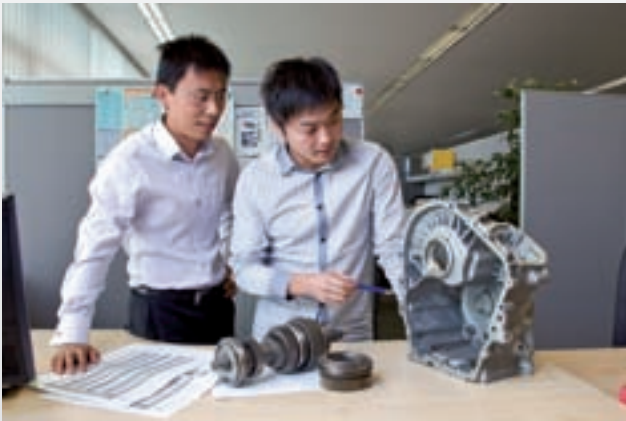
In Planning, ideas are conceived as the cornerstone for success in projects for customers. Here at GROB, Planning is not interpreted as a catalytic convertor for customer requirements with existing technologies; for years we have seen it as a source of innovation and a link with Design and Development. It brings together decades of experience, high levels of technical expertise and optimum competence right along the process chain, from cutting to assembly and on to engineering.



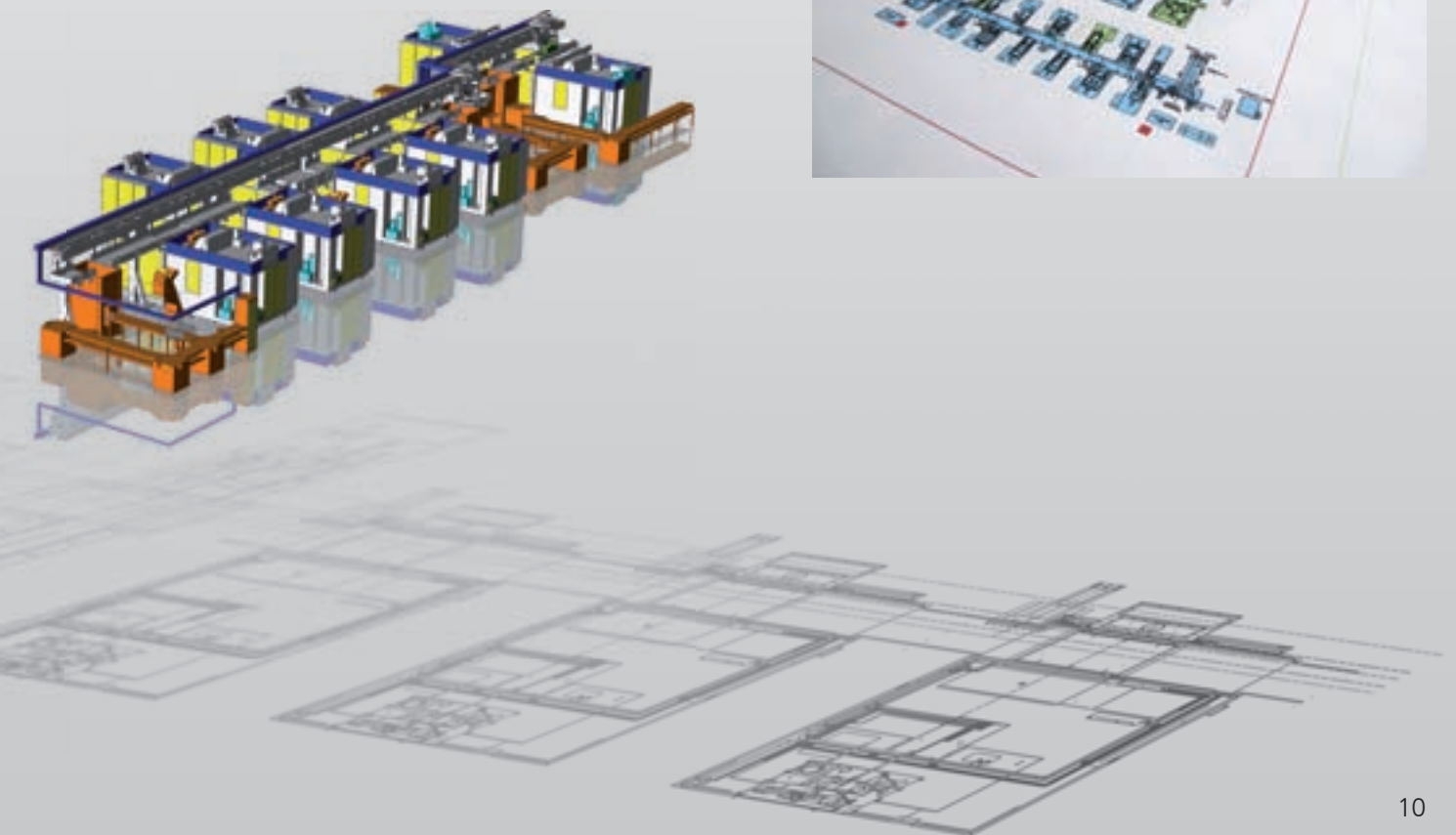
Complete installations are configured as turnkey facilities, including the integration of outsourced machines within the process chain of machining centers or special machines. The design of processes, production and assembly facilities are specially geared towards customer-specific requirements in Planning.



Our customers benefit from the global networking of our facilities and subsidiaries on all continents. They guarantee the utmost quality in the machining centers, modular special machines and automation facilities manufactured by GROB. This is also true of the few peripheral parts that are outsourced and, thus, of the plant as a whole.



Virtual planning and simulations of production lines are generated early on as during the quotation process, employing state-of-the-art planning methodology, such as workflow, material-flow or machining-process simulations.



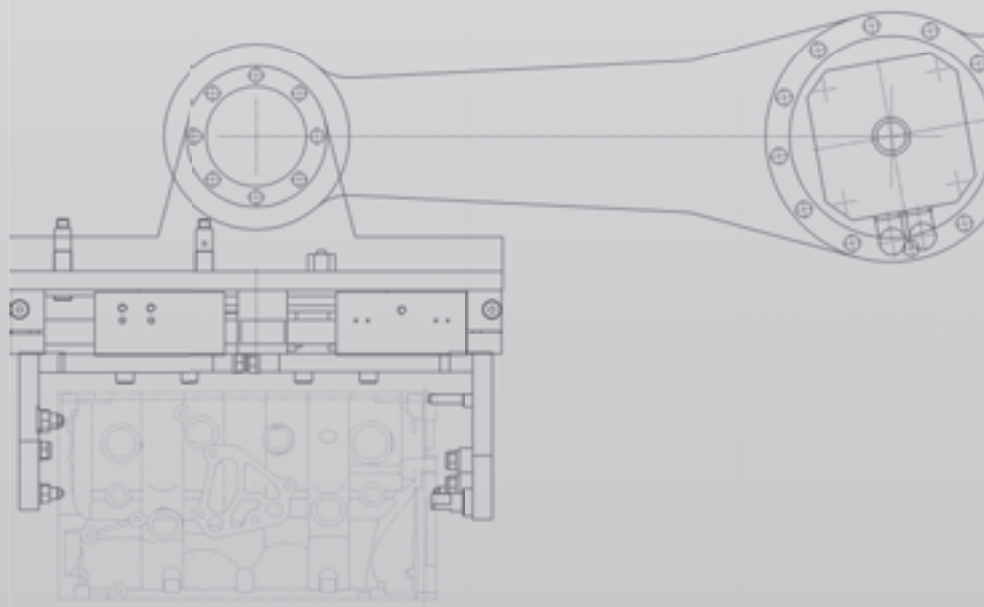
Design and Development: The heart of the company.

Ahead of its time – with its sights set on reality

Here at GROB, Design and Development are the significant starting points for the competitiveness and success of the company. In order to rise to this challenge, the technicians and engineers have to fulfill a variety of requirements, some of which can be rather contradictory.



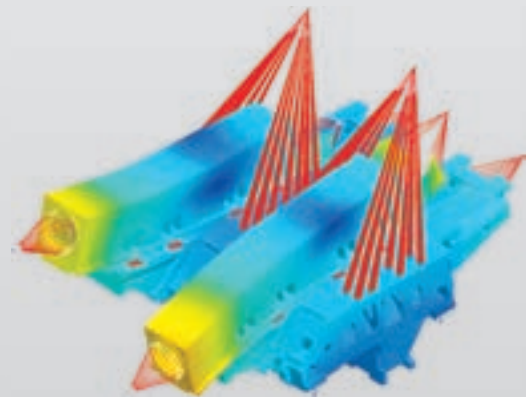
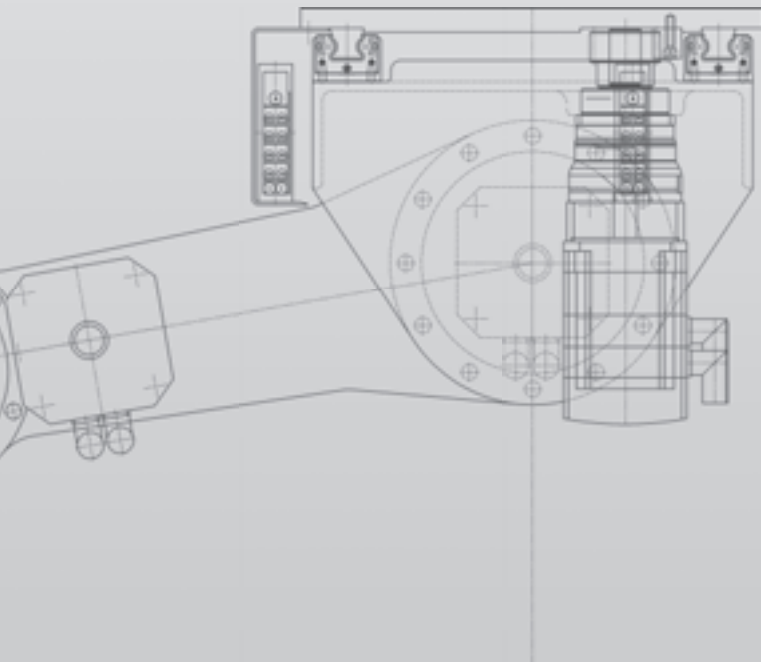
Exhibiting a wealth of creativity and a large dose of lateral thinking, they veer away from paths that necessity steers them down in order to develop new innovative concepts. This is always done under the premise of processing customer requirements within the specified budget and within the standardized modular structure, optimizing solutions right down to the very last detail.



With a view towards meeting production requirements, they develop precisely toleranced and dimensioned mechanical drawings of individual parts, as well as electrical cabinets and fluid plans and programs with the appropriate control software. Last but not least, they compile the definitive documentation including maintenance and servicing manuals for all machines and production facilities.



This results in machinery and solutions which our customers regard as a benchmark for precision and dependability. Thanks to their expertise as designers, the GROB development engineers manage to make the tightrope walk between innovative creativity and what is technically realistically achievable time and time again.



Production:
World class - production of the highest standard.

Taking shared responsibility

GROB-WERKE have achieved their ambitious target of world class production through different optimization processes. Segmenting production work flow, reducing internal cycle times and the refinement of process strategies have all factored into the optimization process. The highly vertical process along the entire production chain, including a wide variety of machining technologies and employee expertise, creates the perfect basis to meet customer needs. This vertical production process allows for the utmost flexibility and independence.



Here at GROB, world class production means the vision to optimize the creation of added value both in production and in installation, and thus to achieve the best overall commercial outcome for the company. "Taking shared responsibility" is the motto with the aim of producing 100% of the components in the required quality and passing on zero defects to departments further along the production chain.



Furthermore, the integration of the very latest methodology in lean management along with high-tech production facilities utilizing GROB's own machines on which it makes its own products, forms an excellent symbiosis and provides for an uncompromising standard of quality. GROB-WERKE takes their responsibility towards their customers seriously and are mindful of this at all times.



Assembly & Installation:
Experience and dexterity.

Core competence in all aspects of the machining process

Starting with sub-assembly followed by installation and proceeding through to start up and commissioning, GROB employees demonstrate their core competence in all aspects of processing customers' needs in a fine-tuned installation process. GROB Logistics Management ensures that workflows run with optimum results right from the sub-assembly stage.



A specially developed system of shop-floor management integrates the employees into the assembly line. State-of-the-art IT support makes material availability transparent in real time, creating an optimized logistics supply.



Thanks to their modular construction, the high quality of the GROB products is already evident during the installation of the machines. Exhibiting a great deal of dexterity, they are joined together to form the whole unit by an experienced team of employees in a matter of a few working days. Extensive quality testing is an integral part of each stage of installation.



During the commissioning of the line, the harmonic interaction of the entire process is checked with a view towards producing a defined number of workpieces of the utmost quality reliably and cost-efficiently, within a defined cycle time, this guarantees that customers enjoy the greatest possible benefits.



Service:
Worldwide ambassadors for the GROB-WERKE.

GROB service connects – any time, any place

Service begins at GROB with the planning and coordination of machine installation and supports the start of production. It also includes coordinating training services, advice on optimizing system utilization and overhauling installations and support of machine faults during the production process. This applies to all deliveries from the four production facilities in Bluffton (USA), São Paulo (Brazil), Dalian (PR China) and Mindelheim (Germany) to all corners of the globe.



GROB's extensive package of services includes status analyses, advice on optimizing energy efficiency and on increasing the effectiveness of the overall plant. Our customers can rest assured that there is a team of service technicians close by wherever they are in world, around the clock, 360 days a year. If necessary, they can be dispatched within one hour.



Our customers get to know their service manager when the machines are being set up. It is his job not only to coordinate the installation of the equipment, but to also familiarize himself with our customers specific needs by maintaining constant contact with them. He has to develop an understanding of modifications which customers plan to make to their production process and pass on their requirements to the service department.



When the need arises, our specialists in the GROB repair centers, which are set up worldwide, can overhaul the component which lies at the very heart of our machines, the motor spindle. The availability of replacement components is enhanced through consultation with our customers even before the problem has arisen. This enables the GROB service technicians to guarantee a reliable and prompt supply of spare parts.



Technical training:
Foundations for a successful future.

In the long tradition of our company

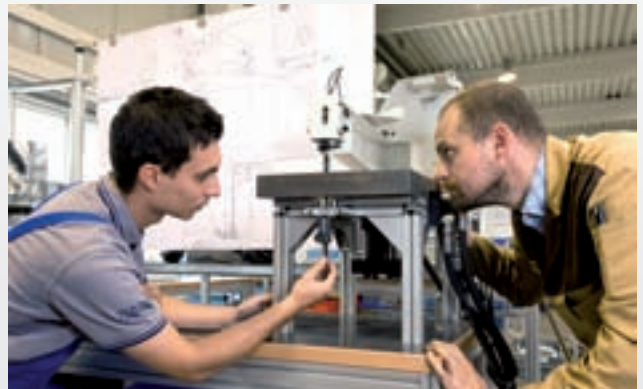
The 1300-plus young apprentices in Mindelheim personify our ongoing commitment to training the next crop of skilled workers. And not just in Germany. GROB has been writing its own success story in Brazil and the US in particular with its dual vocational training system, setting an example for the whole sector to follow.



GROB offers training opportunities for all young prospective employees in five different areas of the business. This includes training for industrial mechanics in mechanical engineering, for electronic engineers in automation technology, for mechatronic engineers, for technical draftsmen and for office administrative support. In addition, young people leaving school and technical college can also do a joint work/college-based course of study leading to a Bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and electronics.



There are ideal training opportunities available in our high-tech training department, as well as in carefully selected training centers in the different technical departments.



In order to maintain the quality of training at the highest possible level over and beyond vocational college, our apprentices attend internal courses offering them additional training in a variety of areas throughout the entire apprenticeship. They not only relate to the technical aspects of jobs, but also to health management, environmental training and the most important soft skills.



Once they complete their training, the young skilled workers have access to international job opportunities offering a variety of possibilities for work and development, opening doors to virtually limitless areas of deployment.



GROB departments:
Reliable basis for the success of the company.

The silent networkers in the background

As with sports, team skills are also especially important for companies. Everyone in the company is responsible for successes and failures. Everyone plays their part in how the company performs. This is also especially true of the areas and departments which are not always in the public eye.



GROB realized the importance of the teamwork ethic to the company early on and actively fostered it. For example, the Logistics Department quickly became recognized as an integral aspect of the economic process and was equipped with a state-of-the-art logistics management system. Quality, which is equally sought by the company and by customers, is ensured at GROB by a closely interwoven network of GROB quality management. Even the in-house suggestions system has developed into a modern, ideas management system. Even GROB's excellently equipped plant medical service enjoys a good reputation outside the company for its activities and areas of specialization in health management.



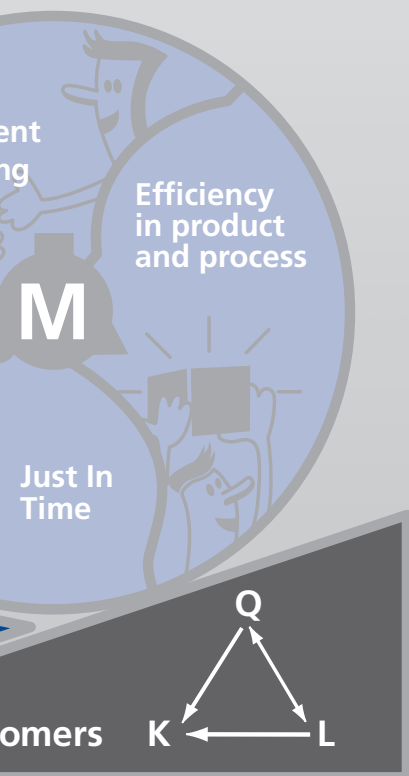
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GROB has explored particular avenues in process and cost optimization. The company performs pioneering work with its "GROB Production System" (G-PS). G-PS describes methods and principles that make an important contribution towards the further development of products or processes throughout the entire company. Not least of all, the proportion of added value within the company has been improved decisively due to G-PS.



At the end of the day, its is the employees and their ideas that lead to the overall success of the GROB-WERKE. There is nothing new about this, it has already been in practice at GROB for 85 years.





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