



Parts engagement for tubing systems in aircraft through bin management solutions

A Boeing Distribution Services and PFW Aerospace Case Study

Company Overview

PFW Aerospace GmbH has been in operation for over 100 years. The company is seen as global leader in the field of tubing systems and a key supplier in civil aircraft. The entire range of services also includes structural components, such as belly fairings, pressure bulkheads, pressurized floors, support constructions, RAT frames, landing flaps, lighting covers, ram-air outlets, APU compartments and also fuel tanks.

PFW Aerospace GmbH, part of the Hutchinson Group, has locations in Speyer (Germany), Nuneaton (Great Britain) and Izmir (Turkey).

The Challenge

PFW Aerospace's core competence is the processing of steel, aluminium and titanium, and also plastics (PEEK). Extensive production lines are complemented by a high level of process automation, engineering and concept development, including series production support. This is further supplemented by their bended and welded pipe systems, structural components and fuel tanks, which are represented together with their entire added value.

In 2007 PFW Aerospace were looking to improve their reliability, speed and efficiency within their production floors across the organization. The company was also looking to improve their parts availability by a factor of 10 as well as improve their reactivity on urgent demands.

All of these elements were addressed through the development of a new strategic focus and execution of this strategy, a component of which was the collaboration with Boeing Distribution Services.

Our Solution

Through our parts and services optimization model analysis we evaluated the situation at PFW Aerospace and implemented a bin management solution. Due to the complexity and diverse range of parts we also introduced a bin management service site manager to help support the coordination of stock for their production. This allowed PFW Aerospace to ensure parts were readily available at all points of production in a timely manner.

As their only integration supply chain solutions provider, we also provide standard hardware and chemical solutions across all three locations in addition to our bin management solutions in Germany and Turkey.

The bin management solution implemented in 2007 at PFW Aerospace was the first one adopted in Germany by Boeing Distribution Services.

How we helped

Boeing Distribution Services has helped to reduce cost and to streamline parts distribution with their production floors in Germany and Turkey.

In 2015, we entered into a buy-back partnership for three years which further strengthened our commitment and relationship with PFW Aerospace.

As a result of our effectiveness in bin management, PFW Aerospace continues to build on this relationship and we have continued our operation solution partnership for a further five years. We are also continuing to develop our collaboration by looking at ways to further improve pipeline efficiency.

Benefits

- We have consistently delivered performance of 98+% over the past 14 years
- Our bin management solution has helped
 - Improve production effectiveness
 - Reduce throughput times
 - Reduce buffer stocks
- Focus on their core business with peace of mind that we continue to support their operational needs
- Ensure a healthy and trustful supply chain of parts and chemicals
- Single supplier thus saving time in the sourcing process and reducing operational work load

Consistently delivered performance over past 14 years of

+98%

“We have a long standing history in the aviation industry and as such we look for a strong partnership with companies we work with. Boeing Distribution Services provides the trust and support that we need from an operational solutions partner. They have helped us to grow and continue to adapt to our business requirements as we evolve.”

Klaus Humpert
VP Procurement
PFW Aerospace GmbH

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