

The task

The vision at GF Casting Solutions is to offer global solutions and increase productivity worldwide. The company operates 13 production sites and is positioned as an innovation leader offering Swiss quality in its target markets. This places a particularly high priority on vendor management.

Norms, standards, and drawings need to be securely released and communicated with suppliers. Historically, there have been a variety of processes and systems to accomplish this. The objective was to find a solution that would integrate internal employees and suppliers in equal measure. In addition, it was important to optimise traceability in the cooperation with suppliers and to completely automate document versioning.

A major focus was placed on completely digitising data relating to the tools, such as those used in the die-casting moulds of GF Casting Solutions, consolidating this data from several sources, and making it available to the various departments at GF Casting Solutions as a source of know-how. In doing so, information needs to be compiled both from the various locations where the corresponding tool is used as well as from the supplier.

The solution

GF Casting Solutions relies on the Fabasoft Business Process Cloud to facilitate structured cooperation with suppliers for the lifecycle management of die-casting tools. For this purpose, data relating to the tools (costs, deadlines, technical execution, and so on) is digitally recorded, compiled from the individual locations, and made available to all employees and suppliers involved in what are now the standardised processes, in accordance with the specific requirements. By migrating GF Tool Manager to the Fabasoft Business Process Cloud, a comprehensive solution was created that digitally manages the entire tool life cycle: from the specification phase to specification sheet preparation and regular reporting, right through to the selection of the tool. GF Tool Manager is now being used in Austria, Germany, China, and the US.

Advantages of the cloud solution

Implementing the Fabasoft Business Process Cloud means that there is now only one standard system for document management with the suppliers of GF Casting Solutions. Data security is guaranteed by certified European quality, such as the C5 certificate of the German Federal Ministry for Security (BSI).

Before documents are released to suppliers, they have to undergo a defined approval process. Users can view the version history of documents, folders, or entire projects using the “time travel” function and even recover them when needed. The cloud-based solution provides the option of setting deadlines for activities, for example, to request suppliers to submit binding acceptance of released documents on specific dates. This ensures security, transparency, and improved process quality. “With the launch of the Fabasoft Business Process Cloud and the roll-out of GF Tool Manager, our organisation can now work more easily, quickly, and more securely with all suppliers,” says Alois Edtbauer, MSc, Buyer Sourcing Group Capex and Tooling at GF Casting Solutions.

About GF Casting Solutions

With over 4,400 employees at 13 production sites around the world, cutting-edge manufacturing processes, and a broad range of materials, GF Casting Solutions is making the casting innovations of the future a reality. GF Casting Solutions is one of three core divisions of Georg Fischer AG, a listed company that has been independent for over 200 years. www.gfcs.com

About Fabasoft

Fabasoft is one of the leading software product companies and providers of cloud services in Europe for the digital control of documents as well as electronic document, process and records management. www.fabasoft.com