



Case Study

Hans Kupfer & Sohn GmbH & Co. KG

noax industrial PCs simplify
sausage production at
meat processing plant



noax industrial PCs ensure traceability and support employees in the production of meat and sausage products

Reliability for over 15 years

"Innovation is a part of our tradition." For over 100 years, Hans Kupfer & Sohn GmbH & Co. KG has always aligned the company with the wishes of their

„My colleagues are very happy. Even with gloves, the noax industrial PCs can be operated quickly and accurately.“

customers and to design the product portfolio accordingly. Innovation means continuously training employees. Innovation is apparent through the continuous use of the

latest technical systems in meat processing. They have been using noax industrial PCs since 2004 to support the staff, record manufacturing data and ensure product quality.

Simple and intuitive

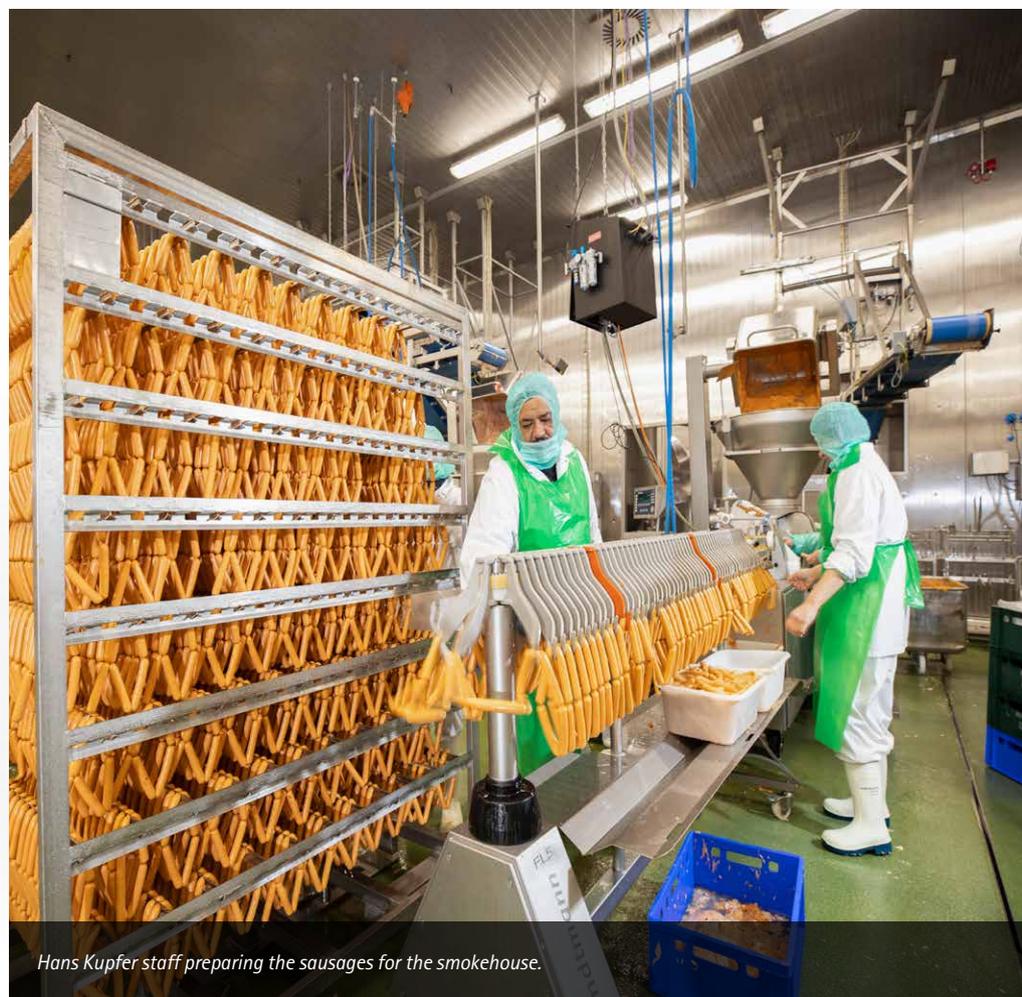
"We want consumers to be 100% satisfied. We try our best to maintain and ensure a consistent high level of quality of our goods. It is a personal concern of mine, the philosophy of family business", the managing director, Mr. Kupfer, explains. Quality assurance starts at the receipt of goods. This is where the delivered meat is received and documented to determine exactly where they go and how they are processed. During this process, the fat content, delivery temperature and weight are recorded using noax's industrial touchscreen PCs. Several 21-inch stainless steel hygienic, S21WR terminals are installed at the receiving area. They run html-based software and SAP. These systems are used to process data at Hans Kupfer & Sohn GmbH & Co. KG. The browser-based program is designed for users to only have the information, associated buttons and tables required for the process. This layout of the user interface makes it easy for employees to find their way around this system." The data acquisition software and industrial PCs should be as easy as possible to use. If one employee fails, another

can immediately take his place and take over the tasks," says the managing director, explaining the concept behind IT.

Using high pressure & disinfectants

The hardware must meet the highest hygienic standards in the processing of raw materials.

The stainless steel IPCs have an IP69K protection rating, which noax developed especially for food processing companies, and guarantees safe operation, even after high-pressure or steam jet cleaning. "noax stainless steel IPCs are used in wet areas, ie: wherever raw meat is processed," explains the managing director. noax guarantees that neither water nor debris



Hans Kupfer staff preparing the sausages for the smokehouse.

Customers of Hans Kupfer & Sohn GmbH & Co. KG expect taste and quality at a good price. The family-owned company supplies to retail chains who conduct regular audits and reviews data recorded during production. Hans Kupfer can guarantee complete transparency in the production process with the use of noax's industrial PC's. The rugged touchscreen computers have been 100% reliable for over 15 years. Quality is of utmost importance to Hans Kupfer, with their own products and in the equipment they use.

When the sausage meat is put into casings, all data is documented to ensure transparency using noax industrial PCs. The robust, fully sealed waterproof construction guarantees reliability in the wet environment and below freezing temperatures.



can get inside the stainless steel housing of the industrial PC. Not even with high pressure wash-down cleaning every day.

Consistent transparency

As soon as the sausage meat has been documented in the receiving area, it goes through the cutter, gets crushed, and is seasoned with salt and spices. The seasoned meat is then put into casings with special machinery and made into sausage. The employees use an RFID chip on their ID cards, to log on to a workstation via the industrial PC. If an error were to occur, the batch number is used to understand exactly what happened in production and who worked with the raw goods. This transparency is part of the agreement they have with the companies they supply to, and ultimately guarantees the consumers always receive quality products. „We have nothing to hide. We are always praised by experts. If we fail an audit that our customers regularly perform, we are no longer allowed to deliver.“ Orders are also recorded using noax industrial computers in packaging and shipping. Hans Kupfer & Sohn GmbH & Co. KG mainly delivers to retail chains and discount stores. The noax terminals are used in the packaging area to relay information about the product, the customer and the type of packaging material to be used.

Highly ergonomic

Before the products in the shipping area are transported, they go through several quality checks. This data is recorded using the S21WR industrial PC's. The S21WR IPC's are equipped with a firmly bonded splinter protection, which complies with the international food standard (IFS). In the shipping area, the raw goods must

go through more testing. Hans Kupfer also uses the high-resolution, 21-inch touchscreens in this area because of the display quality and ease-of-use. The screen brightness automatically adjusts to the ambient conditions. „The display is large enough to leave the on-screen keyboard open at all times, which simplifies processes. The rugged IPC's also work well with gloves, helping my colleagues and I do estimates, especially in the cooling area,“ explains a production employee.



The 21-inch monitor is efficient and safe with splinter protection, in accordance with IFS.

The company first began using noax industrial computers in 2004. Some of the original noax models are still running reliably, after more than 15 years. Management recently made the decision to gradually replace the first generation noax IPC's with newer models. „The industrial PCs from noax have proven themselves. We have all had a great experience using the noax computers, for the last 15 years now,“ says Mr. Kupfer. He adds, „That's why we chose noax again.“

Professional collaboration

The executive team wants a uniform IT standard. If the industrial PCs need to be replaced, they won't have to be reconfigured. This significantly reduces maintenance. The meat processor's first noax computers had a 15-inch screen size. They now use the 21-inch size, which is significantly more convenient. In cooperation with Hans Kupfer, noax has built a special adapter plate allowing the 21-inch devices to be mounted to the same brackets that were used for the 15-inch IPC's. The adapter plate helps to avoid a huge backup effort in the hazardous area.

Solid partnership

A special IP69k plug connector was also created. noax now offers both solutions as standard products for everyone. The managing director is consistently happy with noax, stating, „If we replace the old noax industrial PCs, and swap out a few PCs at a time, the devil is always in the details. However, with noax, we have a partnership where we solve the many challenges together, and they optimally honor our wishes.“

„We have computers that have been running unchanged since 2004.“



Hans Kupfer & Sohn GmbH & Co. KG

Company profile:

Hans Kupfer & Sohn GmbH & Co. KG produces traditional specialty sausage at three locations in Germany. The company processes 38,000 tons of meat a year, in about 500 different products. The family-owned company was founded in 1906 in Heilsbronn, Nuremberg and is still managed by the family. They employ approximately 960 employees, including 620 at the company headquarters in Heilsbronn.

For more information, visit:
www.hanskupfer.de

Requirements and Applications

Objectives:

- ✓ Production data acquisition
- ✓ Ensure traceability
- ✓ Support in production and logistics
- ✓ Visualization and control of recipes
- ✓ Ensure product quality
- ✓ Improve work ergonomics

IPC requirements:

- ✓ Use in the production of sausage
- ✓ Hygienic and easy-to-clean design
- ✓ Withstands high pressure & cleaning agents
- ✓ Waterproof and dustproof, IP69K rated
- ✓ Full-HD display
- ✓ Adjustable screen brightness
- ✓ Robust touchscreen for intuitive work
- ✓ Operates with gloves
- ✓ Easy maintenance and installation
- ✓ Reliable and highly available

Overview of Components

Hardware:

- Industrial PCs: Steel S21WR, Steel S15 and Compact C15
- In-house developed all-in-one motherboard
- Particularly robust, resistive touchscreen
- Firmly connected protective film (splinter protection) according to IFS Food Standard
- Bright, high-contrast TFT display
- IP69K protection rating
- Completely sealed, with no external fan
- Integrated RFID reader

Software:

- Operating system: Windows 10 Embedded
- Browser-based solution to ensure traceability
- SAP

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Case Study arranged in 2019

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