

# Spice specialist AVO-Werke | IFS Ultimo optimises asset management and audit processes with IFS Ultimo.

At AVO's manufacturing sites, the technical department is responsible for maintenance activities. The company required a new Enterprise Asset Management (EAM) system as it had become evident that the existing one could no longer support its needs.

## Cover all vital asset management processes

AVO wanted a solution that would cover all vital asset management processes but also offer a simple user interface to allow quick uptake amongst employees and enable a mobile and largely paperless operation. After a thorough review, the company decided to introduce Ultimo in 2020. During the introduction process, it worked closely with Ultimo's consultants to adapt the software to its specific requirements and made some further updates independently using Ultimo's customisation tool.

Currently, Ultimo is mainly used by the technical department to manage maintenance activities. However, shift supervisors looking after the production process also use Ultimo Self Service to create orders and track progress.

"All our maintenance processes from order management and reporting to cost control, procurement, and the management of spare parts are much better organised with Ultimo," says Dr Kurt Höfelmann, Technical Manager, AVO-Werke. "We get an excellent overview of the condition of our plants, which enables us to reduce downtime. Everything runs more efficiently, and that has a positive impact on our employees' motivation."

## Eliminating many steps and phone calls

"The new EAM solution allows us to be more flexible, working on the computer and processing orders on mobile devices using the Ultimo Go+ app," explains project manager Denis Roor, Technical Purchasing, AVO-Werke. "It's ingenious how you can create an order on the go, process it, and then report it as completed. It eliminates many steps and phone calls, and the time saved can be used more productively."

## About AVO-Werke

AVO-Werke August Beisse GmbH is a market-leading spice specialist, serving many major food manufacturers, B2B operators in the food trade, and artisan butchers across Europe. The company produces approximately 50,000 tonnes of raw herbs and spices annually and boasts a portfolio of around 8,000 products, including organic and processed spices, spice blends, marinades, seasoning sauces, and dressings as well as food processing products such as nets and casings for ham and sausages.



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Previously, the technical department relied on various Excel spreadsheets for an overview of files, spare parts and the maintenance status. Switching to Ultimo has revolutionised the process.

Denis Roor explains: "Simple order management, visibility over the availability of spare parts, and access to key documentation on mobile devices are just some of the improvements that make our daily work significantly easier."

"During audits, we have to be able to provide the requested information very quickly. Be it safety data sheets for a food-grade lubricant or documentation on periodic maintenance orders for a certain facility, the paperless and mobile operation with Ultimo means that all the required information and documentation is quickly at hand," he adds.

As a next step, AVO is currently planning on extending the use of Ultimo to its new central warehouse for the technical department once the planning and construction phase has been finalised.

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Denis Roor, Technical Purchasing at AVO-Werke

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#### Challenges AVO-Werke faced:

- Previous solution unable to support future challenges.
- Mobile working not possible.
- Poor control over asset management and maintenance processes.
- Managing spare parts difficult, with no visibility of available stock.

#### Benefits seen using IFS Ultimo

- Clear visibility over asset condition and efficient order management.
- Improved reporting and documentation.
- Enhanced ease of use and quick user acceptance.
- Paper-free operation with Ultimo Go+.
- Flexible and easily customisable solution.
- Better cost control for maintenance and spare parts management.
- Accurate inventory overview of spare parts stock.
- More efficient audit processing.

### Find out more

Further information, e-mail [info@ultimo.com](mailto:info@ultimo.com), contact your local IFS Ultimo office or visit our web site, [ultimo.com](http://ultimo.com)

