



Manz presents software platform smartPRODUCTIONKIT for monitoring and evaluating production data

- **New software platform merges data from process modules of different manufacturers**
- **Data analysis using smartPRODUCTIONKIT increases plant availability and production quality**
- **Data evaluation both in real-time and retrospectively to enable IIoT applications such as Predictive Maintenance**

Reutlingen, 07. April 2021: High-tech engineering company Manz has combined its extensive expertise in monitoring production facilities in the new software platform smartPRODUCTIONKIT. The platform will be available to all users of Manz process modules and fully integrated production lines across all industries. New Manz machines can be equipped with the smartPRODUCTIONKIT at the customer's request, while older models can be retrofitted.

Manz's new software platform obtains machine and production data via the standardized OPC UA interface. This means that the smartPRODUCTIONKIT can also be used to monitor and evaluate manufacturing steps in process modules that do not come from Manz. With its open development environment, the new smartPRODUCTIONKIT software platform can be continuously expanded with new applications and features. Users can use the solution both cloud-based and edge-based.

"The trigger for the development of the smartPRODUCTIONKIT was the feedback from our customers that they wanted a complete solution for their production data monitoring covering all process steps of their manufacturing. One of the market's most important requirements was the ability to evaluate data in real time in order to ensure high system availability while maintaining the highest product quality," says Andreas Schöller, head of the Basic



Technologies division at Manz AG. "Many manufacturing companies had become aware that their production lines often have very high-quality, integrated measurement and inspection equipment - but that they rarely intelligently evaluate the wealth of data generated in this way in order to systematically increase their machine utilization and profitability. This is exactly where smartPRODUCTIONKIT comes into play. "

smartPRODUCTIONKIT from Manz obtains data from all desired process or inspection modules of a production line. This data is displayed numerically or graphically on a screen that can be freely configured with widgets, the *Production Cockpit*. Production data can be evaluated individually for each process module or across the entire line and, for example, can be provided with alarm functions. The entire production process can be analyzed and optimized using all available data points, including the network or data storage capacities. New OPC UA-enabled systems can be integrated into the production data monitoring per mouse click. Seamless traceability and documentation of the products to be manufactured is also possible with the smartPRODUCTIONKIT if all assemblies and also workpiece carriers are provided with unique ID markers. Manz thus fulfills a key requirement of the automotive and medical technology industries.

Finally, Manz wants to use the smartPRODUCTIONKIT to enable its clients to introduce Industrial Internet of Things or IIoT applications. These include, for example, a forecast function for better production planning or Predictive Maintenance, the predictive maintenance of production equipment, also via remote access. This enables processes to be optimized and maintenance costs to be reduced.

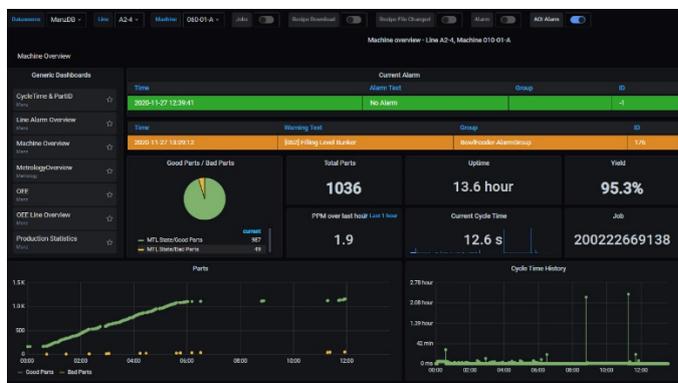
Technological highlights of Manz's new smartPRODUCTIONKIT software platform

- monitors and analyzes previously often unused production data from process modules or entire production lines with OPC UA interfaces, not just "Made by Manz"
- Data evaluation in real time or retroactive for machines and network
- Complete traceability of the products to be manufactured enables fast error analysis and optimization



- as a software platform open development environment for quick extension with new apps
- enables IIoT applications such as forecasting functions or Predictive Maintenance

Figure 1:



Data evaluation in real time or retroactive for machines and network using Manz's smartPRODUCTIONKIT

Figure 2:



Monitoring and analysis of previously often unused production data from process modules or entire production lines with OPC UA interfaces, not just “Made by Manz”



Company profile:

Manz AG - passion for efficiency

Founded in 1987, Manz AG is a global high-tech equipment manufacturing company. Its business activities comprise the areas of Solar, Electronics, Energy Storage, Contract Manufacturing and Service.

With many years of expertise in automation, laser processing, vision and metrology, wet chemistry and roll-to-roll processes, the company offers manufacturers and their suppliers innovative production solutions in the areas of photovoltaics, electronics, and lithium-ion battery technology. The company's product portfolio includes both customer-specific developments and standardized single machines and modules, which can be linked to create complete custom systems. Manz AG offers high-quality, needs-based solutions that can be integrated early into customer projects to contribute significantly to customer success.

The company, listed on the stock exchange in Germany since 2006, develops and produces in Germany, Slovakia, Hungary, Italy, China and Taiwan. It also has sales and service branches in the USA and India. Manz AG currently employs roughly 1,400 workers worldwide, around half of whom work in the Asia region, which is key to the company's target industries. Manz Group revenue in the 2020 financial year totalled around 237 million euros.

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