

## WITTENSTEIN – from sewing machines to cybertronic drive solutions

### It all began with an idea

The WITTENSTEIN group's evolution from sewing machine manufacturer to an international one-stop shop for electromechanical servo actuator system solutions began in 1949, when DEWITTA was founded by Walter Wittenstein and Bruno Dähn, two spirited entrepreneurs, in Steinheim near Heidenheim. Using borrowed equipment, this small firm specialized in the manufacture of double chainstitch machines for glove-making.

### The fifties: From Steinheim to Bad Mergentheim – and from there to the rest of the world

The Steinheim premises soon became too cramped to manufacture glove sewing machines efficiently, forcing the firm's proprietors to begin the quest for a new production facility and a new home. Their attention was drawn to Bad Mergentheim, where the young company took up residence in 1952. The first production plant was a converted barracks and originally only intended as an interim solution. Before long, business with DEWITTA glove sewing machines was thriving not only within Germany but also to an increasing extent abroad.

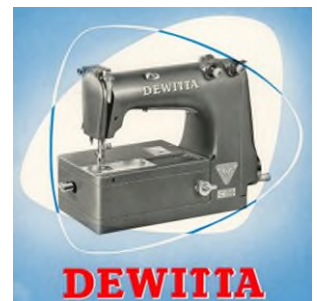
### The sixties: The triumphal advance continues unbroken

The triumphal advance of DEWITTA glove sewing machines continued unbroken into the sixties – not least thanks to ongoing enhancements and regular innovations. From the outset, Walter Wittenstein and Bruno Dähn accorded top priority to premium product quality – and attributes such as precision and reliability have remained the hallmarks of all WITTENSTEIN products to this day. In 1963, the need to expand its development and production capacities left DEWITTA with no option but to relocate again – this time to Herrenwiesenstrasse in Igersheim.

### The seventies: Conquering new markets

The transformation of society during the seventies heralded the most difficult decade in the history of DEWITTA. Fewer and fewer women wore gloves – a consumer trend that directly impacted on the demand for sewing machines. The founding fathers perceived this shift in behavior as an opportunity to develop new solutions for new markets. The existing technical know-how of

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Still in use today:  
DEWITTA glove sewing machines

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their workforce was leveraged to prepare the introduction of several new products such as guns for steel nails, machines for filling and sealing tubes or equipment for packing sliced bread.

At the same time, the way was paved for a new generation to take over the helm at DEWITTA. Walter Wittenstein, the textile maker and machine builder, went into gradual retirement and was succeeded by his son, Dr Manfred Wittenstein, in 1979.

### **The eighties: Sewing machines make way for gearheads**

Shortly after joining the firm, Manfred Wittenstein set to work modernizing its production and product portfolio. In the search for adequate products with unique attributes, he quickly recognized the market potential of low-backlash planetary gearheads. He knew he could draw on an experienced team and proven manufacturing technologies for sewing and special-purpose machinery, built up over the last few decades, to make them.

The initial milestone was passed at the 1983 Hannover Messe, when Manfred Wittenstein unveiled the first high-precision planetary gearhead in the SP series. The first low-backlash planetary gearhead worldwide, it enabled new, precise servo applications. The SP gearheads turned out to be so successful that alpha getriebebau GmbH was set up in 1984 as an independent WITTENSTEIN subsidiary in collaboration with Bastian, a medium-sized company in Fellbach, not far from Stuttgart.

As in other boom decades earlier in the century, commercial success soon caused the company to outgrow its premises. An assembly shop, warehouse and various office buildings were consequently erected in Herrenwiesenstrasse. As a result of the new buildings constructed in the mid-eighties, floor space was more than doubled. The workforce also increased steadily in size, and for the first time a large number of technicians and engineers were recruited too.

Reaping the harvest of an impressive stream of new and improved products as well as innovative production processes and assembly solutions, the manufacturer appeared to be riding the success trail permanently, regularly recording double-figure growth in turnover.

Company founder Walter Wittenstein was lucky enough to witness the continued successful realization of his life's dream by his son Manfred – right up until his death in Igersheim in 1988.

### **The nineties: WITTENSTEIN becomes a system supplier for servo actuator systems doing business across the globe**

The unstoppable growth of WITTENSTEIN's alpha getriebebau subsidiary rendered further expansion inevitable. The complete assembly side was



DEWITTA quick-release chuck



WITTENSTEIN SE headquarters in Igersheim-Harthausen

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transferred to Weikersheim in 1990. This move also marked the end of the DEWITTA sewing machine era. The entire sewing machine business was sold off, including all spare parts, milling machines and equipment.

In the early nineties, WITTENSTEIN was realigned to the international markets for servo actuator technology. As part of the globalization strategy, alpha réducteurs Sarl was set up in Paris (France) as the first foreign subsidiary, followed shortly afterwards by alpha getriebe Ltd., Tokyo (Japan). Today, the group comprises 60 or so subsidiaries and agents in total in approximately 40 countries.

The next important milestone was the establishment of WITTENSTEIN motion control GmbH in 1992, accompanied by a departure from the traditional role of pure component supplier. The newly founded company spearheaded the group's transition to a provider of electromechanical servo actuators and actuator systems.

### **The mid-nineties: Expansion in Igersheim-Harthausen**

WITTENSTEIN's increasingly dynamic development led to the decision in the mid-nineties to build a new group headquarters on a greenfield site in Igersheim-Harthausen – in a star-shaped complex of administrative buildings, production shops and logistics center. Gearbox housings, input shafts, attached motor components, etc. are still manufactured and machined in Igersheim while Fellbach remains responsible for gear wheels. State-of-the-art machine tools and equipment guarantee the required high precision at all production facilities.

In 1999, the group was able to celebrate yet another topping-out ceremony – in only three years, floor space in Harthausen was more than doubled with the erection of a development and sales center, a training and communication center, a second production and assembly shop and a new logistics hall.

### **2001: WITTENSTEIN AG – a new company is born**

In 2001, the WITTENSTEIN group acquired a new corporate structure. At the Supervisory Board meeting on September 13, WITTENSTEIN GmbH & Co. KG became a non-listed public limited company. Strategic leadership and control of the entire WITTENSTEIN group passed to WITTENSTEIN AG. The newly established WITTENSTEIN aerospace & simulation got off to a successful start in three countries. Only a few months later, in the spring of 2002, a second logistics hall and third assembly shop were officially opened in Igersheim-Harthausen; they were joined by a fourth shop in July 2007.

### **2008: WITTENSTEIN acquires a unified global brand identity**



Now and then: the company's most important capital are the people who work for it



A vision of the nineties, realized in 2001: the intelligent alpha<sup>®</sup> IQ gearhead

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A new, unified corporate identity fitted WITTENSTEIN for the world market and the central challenges of the future. In the meantime, high-precision planetary gearboxes, complete electromechanical actuator systems and AC servo systems and motors, to name but a few, were developed, produced and marketed worldwide by around 1400 employees (March 2009). An alliance of eight strong Business Units, the company presented a new, single, global face to the customer from mid-2008 with its claim “WITTENSTEIN – one with the future”.

### **2015: Galaxie® Drive System – a world first – revolutionizes high performance engineering**

The Galaxie® Drive System – a completely new gearbox class – was officially unveiled by WITTENSTEIN at the 2015 Hannover Messe. The innovative core is formed by the radically redesigned gearhead kinematics, where each tooth is an independent and dynamic entity and hydrodynamic tooth contact is made over the full surface. This WITTENSTEIN world first was honored with the HERMES AWARD technology prize, the world’s most important industrial award.

### **2016: WITTENSTEIN AG becomes WITTENSTEIN SE**

On September 29, 2016 the name of WITTENSTEIN AG changed to WITTENSTEIN SE and the business was operated from then on as a European Company

## **Chronology**

### **1949**

- DEWITTA Spezialmaschinenfabrik (today: WITTENSTEIN SE) established with headquarters in Steinheim
- Founders: Walter Wittenstein, Bruno Dähn
- Just 3 employees: Aenne and Walter Wittenstein, Bruno Dähn

### **1952**

- Head offices and DEWITTA relocated from Steinheim to Bad Mergentheim

### **1955**

- DEWITTA renamed DEWITTA Spezialmaschinenfabrik Wittenstein & Co.

### **1963**

- Bruno Dähn retires from the firm owing to ill health; Walter Wittenstein continues as sole director



The WITTENSTEIN Galaxie® Drive System: a world first and winner of the HERMES AWARD 2015

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### 1964

- DEWITTA moves to Herrenwiesenstrasse in Igersheim

### 1979

- Manfred Wittenstein takes over the running of the family firm

### 1983

- First low-backlash planetary gearheads (WPE, SP series) built to our own design principle unveiled at the Hannover Messe

### 1984

- alpha getriebebau GmbH (today WITTENSTEIN alpha GmbH) established

### 1988

- Company founder Walter Wittenstein dies in Igersheim

### 1989

- alpha réducteurs Sarl, the first foreign subsidiary, established in Paris (France)

### 1990

- Next stage of the globalization strategy launched
- Assembly moves to Weikersheim

### 1991

- alpha getriebe Ltd., Tokyo (Japan), becomes the first subsidiary in Asia

### 1992

- WITTENSTEIN motion control GmbH established
- Transition from simple manufacturer of gearheads to a system supplier for electromechanical servo actuators and actuator systems
- alpha gear drives Inc. subsidiary established in the USA

### 1996

- Fatec Co. Ltd. joint venture set up in Seoul (South Korea); alpha drives ab established in Sweden
- Construction work on the third plant completed with a new administrative building and assembly shop in Igersheim-Harthausen
- Assembly transferred from Weikersheim to the new premises

### 1997

- WITTENSTEIN Limited Partnership (USA) established

### 1999

- WITTENSTEIN intens GmbH established in Igersheim
- WITTENSTEIN Aktiv Technologies Limited established in Bristol (UK)
- alpha gearheads Limited established in Staffordshire (UK)



Unveiled at the Hannover Messe back in 1983: the first SP low-backlash planetary gearhead



TPM\* servo actuator with rack and pinion

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- WITTENSTEIN cyber motor GmbH established in Igersheim
- Cyber Motion Park opens
- Major construction project completed in Igersheim-Harthausen with the inauguration of a new development and sales center, a training and communication center, a second production and assembly shop and a logistics hall

#### 2001

- Merger with Bastian GmbH to form WITTENSTEIN bastian GmbH; WITTENSTEIN ternary Co. Ltd. (Japan), WITTENSTEIN Holding (USA), WITTENSTEIN AG (Switzerland), alpha getriebebau (Austria) and alpha riduttori s.r.l. (Italy) established
- WITTENSTEIN AG established
- Building work commences on a third assembly shop and second logistics hall at the Igersheim-Harthausen site

#### 2002

- Two new halls open in Igersheim-Harthausen
- Igersheim production site renovated and refurbished
- WITTENSTEIN wins two coveted awards: TOP 100 (alpha getriebebau GmbH elected Germany's most innovative small or medium-sized enterprise from a field of 454 companies) and TOP JOB (WITTENSTEIN voted third-best SME employer)

#### 2003

- WITTENSTEIN aerospace & simulation (formerly WITTENSTEIN Aktiv Technologies Limited, Bristol) established
- alpha benelux (Belgium) established
- Purchase of another five hectares of land in Harthausen
- Chancellor Gerhard Schröder visits WITTENSTEIN and alpha getriebebau
- Company founder and WITTENSTEIN authorized representative Aenne Wittenstein celebrates her 90th birthday on August 21
- impulse business magazine includes WITTENSTEIN in its list of Germany's top 50 family-owned firms (August 2003 issue)
- WITTENSTEIN honored with Deutsche Sportbund's "Pro Ehrenamt" award for the promotion of honorary commitment to sports in February 2003

#### 2004

- WITTENSTEIN group honored as Germany's top SME employer out of 118 entrants, winning special awards for its orientation towards family and social values and its remuneration concepts
- New Hall 5 constructed in Igersheim-Harthausen (2500 square meters)

#### 2005

- alpha mechatronics (Hangzhou) Co. Ltd. established as WITTENSTEIN's Chinese subsidiary
- Grand opening of the new Hall 5 in Igersheim-Harthausen



WITTENSTEIN SE World Garden in Igersheim-Harthausen

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- N24 Good News Award presented to WITTENSTEIN in the “Job miracle” category
- Winner in the “ETHICS IN BUSINESS” competition
- December: Romanian subsidiary WITTENSTEIN transilvania SRL established in Sibiu

#### 2006

- WITTENSTEIN World Garden is one of the 365 places selected in the “Land of Ideas” competition
- Award for excellent innovation management in the “Factory of the Year” competition, the toughest benchmarking test for manufacturing companies

#### 2007

- WITTENSTEIN President Manfred Wittenstein elected President of the German Engineering Federation (VDMA)
- WITTENSTEIN electronics GmbH subsidiary established
- New Hall 6 officially opens in Igersheim-Harthausen
- WITTENSTEIN obtains basic certification as a “Career and Family” employer

#### 2008

- Spanish subsidiary WITTENSTEIN ibérica S.L.U. established
- WITTENSTEIN Co., Ltd. subsidiary established in Taiwan
- Grand opening of the WITTENSTEIN talent arena
- New Romanian production facility officially opens in June
- The WITTENSTEIN group forges ahead on its path to becoming an internationally active one-stop shop for electromechanical servo actuator system solutions with the launch of the global WITTENSTEIN brand
- Acquisition of a majority share (74%) in attocube systems AG
- “Career and Family” certificate awarded to WITTENSTEIN in recognition of the company’s family friendly human resources policy
- Presentation of the German Lutheran Church’s WORK PLUS award for WITTENSTEIN’s commendable contribution to human resources and employment policies

#### 2009

- WITTENSTEIN AG Switzerland (Grüsch): Construction work begins on a production and logistics center for WITTENSTEIN racks. Start of production in fall 2010

#### 2010

- Renewed participation in the TOP 100 competition: WITTENSTEIN is one of Germany’s top innovators among small and medium-sized enterprises
- New WITTENSTEIN AG Switzerland production facility opens in Grüsch



2009: Chancellor Merkel visits the WITTENSTEIN booth at the Hannover Messe

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### 2011

- WITTENSTEIN wins the Axia Award 2010 in the “Culture of Innovation – a Success Factor for SMEs” category
- Groundbreaking dig for the “Future Urban Production” plant in April: WITTENSTEIN invests 12 million euros in a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility with a zero carbon footprint in Fellbach
- The visionary among machine builders: Dr Manfred Wittenstein is named “Entrepreneur of the Year 2011” in the “Industry” category and nominated for the “World Entrepreneur of the Year 2012” award. The award honors his outstanding entrepreneurial commitment
- Klaus Spitzley officially steps down from the WITTENSTEIN AG Management Board on October 31
- attocube systems AG becomes a wholly owned subsidiary of the WITTENSTEIN group

### 2012

- Groundbreaking dig for the Innovation Factory in April: WITTENSTEIN invests 30 million euros in a new, ultra-modern and resource-efficient Mechatronics Center in Igersheim-Harthausen
- WITTENSTEIN do Brasil Engenharia Mecanica LTDA established as WITTENSTEIN’s Brazilian subsidiary
- Dr Manfred Wittenstein is Germany’s representative in the “World Entrepreneur of the Year 2012” awards and admitted to the Hall of Fame as one of the world’s top entrepreneurs
- WITTENSTEIN bastian GmbH celebrates the grand opening of its “Future Urban Production” site in Fellbach in June
- Topping-out ceremony for the WITTENSTEIN Innovation Factory in December

### 2013

- 30th anniversary: Exactly thirty years ago in 1983, the world’s first low-backlash planetary gearhead was unveiled by WITTENSTEIN at the Hannover Messe. It was so successful that the company known today as WITTENSTEIN alpha GmbH was set up in 1984
- Aenne Wittenstein celebrates her 100th birthday on August 21
- Professor Dieter Spath succeeds Dr Manfred Wittenstein as Chairman of the Board and CEO of WITTENSTEIN AG on October 1, 2013. Manfred Wittenstein and Karl-Heinz Schwarz complete the Management Board
- WITTENSTEIN bastian GmbH and its “Future Urban Production” site are among the 100 official winners in the nationwide German innovation competition “Landmarks in the Land of Ideas 2013/14”

### 2014

- Dr Manfred Wittenstein steps down from the Management Board and takes over as Chairman of the WITTENSTEIN AG Supervisory Board on April 1, 2014
- Senior partner Aenne Wittenstein passes away in Igersheim on April 6, 2014 at the age of 100. As company founder and authorized



Dr Manfred Wittenstein is “Entrepreneur of the Year 2011” in the “Industry” category



View of Wittenstein SE’s “Future Urban Production” site in Fellbach



Vision for the future: a highly compact electric drive system

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representative of WITTENSTEIN, she played a leading role in the mechatronics corporation's development for more than sixty years

- The WITTENSTEIN Innovation Factory is officially opened on May 23, 2014 in the presence of some 600 invited guests and philosopher Peter Sloterdijk as keynote speaker. The development, sales and production areas of several mechatronic Business Units are combined on about 18,000 square meters. In a 30-meter radius, the new building houses the entire added value process – from concept to finished product
- attocube systems AG acquires a majority stake in neaspec GmbH. Based in Martinsried just outside Munich, neaspec develops optical near-field microscopes which overcome the limited resolution of conventional optical microscopes, opening up a new era for modern nano-analytical applications

### 2015

- The “Oscar for engineers”: WITTENSTEIN is selected from a field of almost 70 entrants from ten different countries as winner of the HERMES AWARD 2015 for its revolutionary Galaxie® Drive System. The world's most important industrial award is presented by Professor Johanna Wanka, Federal Minister of Education and Research, at the Hannover Messe in April 2015. The innovative core of Galaxie® is formed by the radically redesigned gearbox kinematics

### 2016

- Karl-Heinz Schwarz steps down from the Management Board on March 31, 2016 and leaves the company after almost thirty years
- Dr Anna-Katharina Wittenstein, Dr Dirk Haft, Erik Roßmeißl and Dr Bernd Schimpf are officially appointed to the WITTENSTEIN AG Management Board with effect from April 1, 2016. Professor Dieter Spath remains Chairman of the Board and CEO
- WITTENSTEIN Güç Aktarma Sistemleri Ticaret Ltd. Şti is established in Istanbul (Turkey)
- On September 29, 2016 the name of WITTENSTEIN AG changes to WITTENSTEIN SE and the business is operated from now on as a European Company
- The long-planned generational change in leadership at WITTENSTEIN SE is now complete: Professor Dieter Spath, Chairman of the Board and CEO, leaves the company on September 30, 2016. The new Management Board is comprised of Dr Anna-Katharina Wittenstein (Spokeswoman), Dr Dirk Haft, Erik Roßmeißl and Dr Bernd Schimpf
- Groundbreaking dig for the new headquarters of attocube systems AG in November: WITTENSTEIN invests 20 million euros in the new building in Haar near Munich, where neaspec GmbH and part of the sales team of WITTENSTEIN alpha will also move in

### 2017

- Investment in the future: WITTENSTEIN acquires the entire share capital of baramundi software AG. The acquisition strengthens



The WITTENSTEIN Innovation Factory is officially opened in May 2014 in Igersheim-Harthausen

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WITTENSTEIN with strategically important competencies as the group treads the digital transformation path

- Various reorganization and restructuring measures are implemented to strengthen WITTENSTEIN's market orientation.
  - WITTENSTEIN electronics GmbH: Integrated into WITTENSTEIN cyber motor GmbH
  - WITTENSTEIN motion control GmbH: The Industrial Systems Business Division is divided between WITTENSTEIN cyber motor GmbH and WITTENSTEIN alpha GmbH. The Oil & Gas and Defense Business Divisions remain
  - WITTENSTEIN bastian GmbH: Development and Sales are integrated into WITTENSTEIN alpha GmbH
  - The "Future Urban Production" facility in Fellbach continues to be established as a production and competence center for gearing components and special-purpose gearboxes

WITTENSTEIN alpha is now a competent partner for all aspects of mechatronic drive technology – from customized, special-purpose gearboxes to standard actuators – while WITTENSTEIN cyber motor specializes in servo motors, drive electronics and mechatronic systems

- The WITTENSTEIN group takes advantage of the 2017 Hannover Messe to unveil the IDS3010 from attocube systems AG – an industrial grade optical sensor that invites superlatives
- Dr Bernd Schimpf takes over as Board Spokesman in July from Dr Anna-Katharina Wittenstein, who is absent on maternity leave until the end of November. The composition of the four-member Management Board remains unchanged
- Dr Manfred Wittenstein, Chairman of the WITTENSTEIN SE Supervisory Board, celebrates his 75th birthday on September 2
- Topping-out ceremony for the new attocube headquarters in September
- The German Research Association for Power Transmission (FVA) publishes a special book to mark its 50th anniversary, in which the Galaxie® Drive System is referred to as a "milestone in engineering"
- The WITTENSTEIN Innovation Factory is awarded the title "Exemplary Building" by the Baden-Württemberg Institute of Architects

## 2018

- WITTENSTEIN purchases a 10,000 square meter lot in the Augsburg Innovationspark, where a new home will be erected for baramundi software AG
- Dr Manfred Wittenstein is winner of the "German Leadership Award 2018"
- The 2018 Hannover Messe centers around the Galaxie®, which has achieved scientific acclaim as a novel gearbox class: the exhibit includes new sizes and a brand new design
- The NanoFactory, the new headquarters of attocube systems AG, is officially opened in Haar near Munich less than two years after the groundbreaking dig. The new building offers space for up to 300 people



IDS3010 optical sensor for nano-measurements



New, versatile Galaxie® sizes expand the mechatronic solution space

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- Groundbreaking dig for the expansion of the WITTENSTEIN AG manufacturing facility in Grüşch: WITTENSTEIN invests 22 million Swiss francs in this future center of competence for mechatronic drive components within the WITTENSTEIN group
- Groundbreaking dig on March 13, 2019 for the new manufacturing plant at WITTENSTEIN's Romanian facility in Șura Mică as a center of competence for mechatronic drive components and stators within the WITTENSTEIN group. The total investment amounts to 8.5 million euros
- Dr Manfred Wittenstein and Thomas Bayer, our team of inventors, are nominated with the Galaxie® gearbox for the Deutscher Zukunftspreis 2018, the Federal President's Award for Innovation in Science and Technology. They are also officially inducted into the "Circle of Excellence"
- In 2018, WITTENSTEIN SE is honored for the development of FLASH, the employee centric troubleshooting and escalation tool, and is now one of "100 places to see Industry 4.0"

### 2019

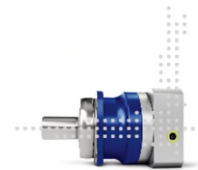
- Dr Bernd Schimpf steps down from the Management Board on March 31, 2019 and leaves the company after more than 17 years
- Dr Bertram Hoffmann takes over as CEO of the WITTENSTEIN group on April 1, 2019. Dr Dirk Haft, Erik Roßmeißl and Dr Anna-Katharina Wittenstein complete the Management Board
- WITTENSTEIN SE is honored with the Rudolf Diesel Medal 2019, Germany's oldest innovation award, for the "Most Sustainable Innovation"
- At the 2019 Hannover Messe, WITTENSTEIN alpha becomes the first component manufacturer to offer smart gearboxes as standard – gearboxes with cynapse. The integrated sensor module enables Industry 4.0 connectivity
- WITTENSTEIN acquires a nearly 10,000 square meter building lot on an adjoining property in Fellbach
- South-East Asia sales hub officially opened
- Official opening of the WITTENSTEIN SE talent arena extension in Harthausen: WITTENSTEIN invests 1.6 million euros in this new, 600 square meter training center building

### 2020

- The extensions at the two production sites in Grüşch (Switzerland) and Șura Mică (Romania) are officially opened
- WITTENSTEIN SE parts company with WITTENTEIN intens GmbH's medtech business, comprised of the two products FITBONE® and FITSPINE®, which is sold to Orthofix Medical Inc., a global leader in the field of medical devices
- WITTENSTEIN Performance Upgrade: Various reorganization and restructuring measures are implemented to maximize WITTENSTEIN SE's customer focus and position us closer to the international market.



The inventor team nominated for the Deutscher Zukunftspreis 2018 with German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier



WITTENSTEIN alpha's smart gearboxes with the "cynapse" feature are equipped with integrated sensors, a data logger and an IO-Link interface

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The key priorities are to strengthen the regional organizations, give more overall responsibility to the Strategic Business Divisions and concentrate the Corporate Functions on normatively and strategically relevant excellence

- From an idea to a separate business division: a new subsidiary, WITTENSTEIN galaxie GmbH, is set up by WITTENSTEIN SE on April 1 to enable the radically innovative Galaxie® Drive System to be positioned in the market and strengthened in an even more targeted way in the future
- The two subsidiaries WITTENSTEIN motion control GmbH and WITTENSTEIN aerospace & simulation GmbH are legally merged, also with effect from April 1, 2020. The integration of WITTENSTEIN aerospace & simulation GmbH allows WITTENSTEIN motion control GmbH to pool expertise and expand its business activities as a competent and innovative partner when it comes to mechatronic drive systems for extreme environments. Six strong Strategic Business Divisions are now organized under the roof of the WITTENSTEIN group
- On November 4, 2020, attocube systems AG and neaspec GmbH join forces under the name attocube systems AG, with three Strategic Business Divisions for nano positioning, cryogenic nanoscopy and nano spectroscopy

## 2021

- Manfred Bastian, co-founder of alpha getriebebau GmbH, meanwhile WITTENSTEIN alpha GmbH, passes away on January 26, 2021 at the age of 83. In 2001, he merged Bastian GmbH, which he ran until his retirement in 2003, with the WITTENSTEIN group
- Both WITTENSTEIN Italy and WITTENSTEIN Austria celebrate their 20th anniversary
- Topping-out ceremony for the new headquarters of baramundi software AG in June
- Dr Dirk Haft steps down from the Management Board
- Three in-house vaccination campaigns at the Harthausen site in summer and December in response to the Covid-19 pandemic
- Wittenstein Foundation established in September
- WITTENSTEIN Austria moves into the new Office Base in Bad Vöslau in November

## 2022

- Steffen Schwerd is appointed Chief Sales Officer (CSO) of WITTENSTEIN SE as of April 1, 2022.  
The composition of the Management Board is now as follows:  
Dr Bertram Hoffmann (CEO), Erik Roßmeißl, Steffen Schwerd, Dr Anna-Katharina Wittenstein
- Start of local gearbox assembly at WITTENSTEIN's Chinese subsidiary in Hangzhou, established in 2004



The Management Board

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### WITTENSTEIN SE

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- WITTENSTEIN France moves into new premises in Grosay in May
- Professor Khaled Karraï, founder of attocube systems AG and its present Scientific Director, is honored with the highest WI:SIONA award – the “Bust” – on May 12, 2022. He becomes the 6th person to receive this award after Dr Georg Konstas, Bernhard Orłowski, Erich Samper, Hans-Hermann Spohr and Manfred Bastian
- The baramundi software AG Software Factory is officially opened on June 2, 2022 in Augsburg
- Dr Manfred Wittenstein, Chairman of the WITTENSTEIN SE Supervisory Board, celebrates his 80th birthday on September 2, 2022
- September 16, 2022: The owners take the next step in the transition to the next generation of the family business. Dr Anna-Katharina Wittenstein steps out of the Management Board of WITTENSTEIN SE and joins the Supervisory Board. Dr Manfred Wittenstein, previously Chairman of the WITTENSTEIN Supervisory Board, becomes the body’s Honorary Chairman. Professor Michael Junker is elected new Chairman of the WITTENSTEIN SE Supervisory Board.
- Signpost for the future: Also on September 16, 2022, the new WITTENSTEIN logo sculpture is unveiled in Harthausen. Made from recycled stainless steel, it weighs 2.8 tons and is 3 meters in diameter. The WITTENSTEIN logo was created back in 2002 as a trademark for the entire group. It is modeled on the fundamental inner structure of a planetary gearbox, translated into dynamic, three-dimensional movements. As a powerful, distinctive symbol, it stands for mechanics, energy and precision as well as symmetries that interact – and through its three-dimensionality it conveys complexity and versatility
- 30 years of WITTENSTEIN motion control: The shareholders’ agreement was signed on December 15, 1992. The entry into the Commercial Register followed in March 1993, with Hans-Hermann Spohr as the new company’s first General Manager.

### 2023

- Resense GmbH: WITTENSTEIN and measuring equipment specialist WIKA Alexander Wiegand SE & Co. KG set up a joint venture to develop, manufacture and market miniaturized 6-axis force / torque sensors for the industrial market. This is the first time that WITTENSTEIN has trusted in the expertise of a partner with the requisite specific technological and manufacturing experience when launching a spin-off from a successful in-house innovation.
- The miniaturized Galaxie® celebrates its product premiere at the Hannover Messe 2023: The most compact hollow-shaft gearbox with the highest rigidity opens up new options in surgical robotics.
- baramundi software AG becomes baramundi software GmbH: The wholly-owned WITTENSTEIN subsidiary changes its legal form on April 26, 2023 with its entry into the Commercial Register, and in the



Professor Khaled Karraï is honored with the “Bust”.



The Software Factory



Logo sculpture in front of the Innovation Factory



The miniaturized Galaxie® opens up new options in surgical robotics

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future will profit from a less complicated and more cost-efficient organizational structure.

- **Continuity of management:** As expected, the WITTENSTEIN Supervisory Board renews Dr Bertram Hoffmann's appointment as the group's CEO for a further five years. His contract, which expires on March 31, 2024, is simultaneously extended until March 31, 2029. The contract with Board Member Erik Roßmeißl is likewise extended for the same period. The Supervisory Board and the owning family send out a clear signal of continuity with this decision.
- **Surgical Robotics Industry Awards:** The miniaturized Galaxie® is winner in the Groundbreaking Technology category.
- **Record turnover in the 2022/23 fiscal year:** For the first time ever in the history of the company, the WITTENSTEIN group achieves turnover of more than half a billion euros, namely EUR 519 million.

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