

Case Study | dodenhof

## IT modernization with no risk – Flexibility for the future guaranteed with Scheer PAS

Since 2014, the largest shopping center in the north of Germany has relied on Scheer PAS for flexible and agile management of its IT landscape. By now, the company says it has reached a level of integration that is unmatched in the retail sector. Scheer PAS is the central architecture element, which guarantees dodenhof agility and maximum flexibility to meet future challenges.

### Challenge

- An aging, extremely heterogeneous application landscape
- Inadequately documented point-to-point connections
- Lack of standardization in the ERP environment

### Solution

- Introduction of a central integration platform
- Avoidance of a “big-bang” modernization thanks to joint containment of old and new systems running in parallel
- Containment of existing systems and their data
- Step-by-step controlled migration of individual functions

### Results

- Secure transfer of existing software systems into a modern IT landscape
- Transparent interface management, also with reverse engineering of existing interfaces
- Information source for documentation and production through executable models
- Transparent and highly flexible IT infrastructure
- Permanent control and monitoring of business transactions using graphical service and process dashboards

### dodenhof

Dodenhof is northern Germany's largest shopping center and, at its headquarters in Posthausen near Bremen, more than 120,000 square meters of retail space host multiple product ranges. The products on offer range from household furnishings, fashion and technology goods, to sport and a world of luxury consumer goods. At its location in Kaltenkirchen, near Hamburg, household furnishings and fashion and sports goods are on offer in a 50,000 m<sup>2</sup> facility. dodenhof employs approximately 2,500 people. Since its foundation in 1910, the company has been run continuously by the Dodenhof family, now in its fourth generation of management.

“With our application landscape, we have now achieved a level of integration that is unrivaled in retail. Scheer PAS is the core application landscape element.”

dodenhof | CIO

**IT modernization necessary**

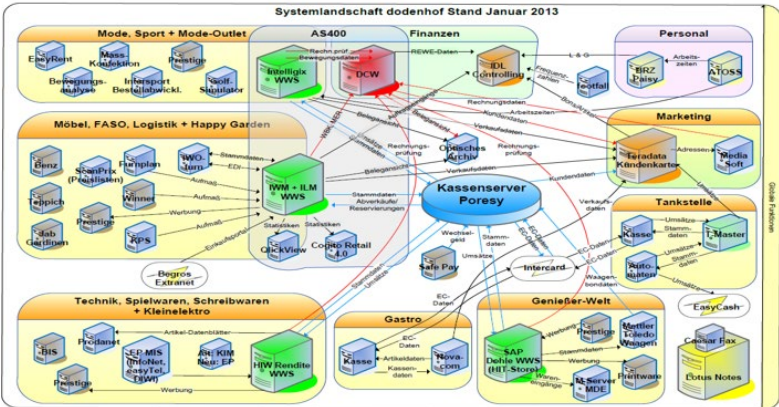
In recent years, as a result of various developments, dodenhof has acquired a difficult, and strongly heterogeneous IT landscape. The business flexibility, in particular, the development of the “dodenhof digital strategy” has been significantly inhibited by the IT landscape. The lack of a company-wide integration platform meant, for example, that the existing point-of-sale system was connected with a total of five different sector-specific ERP systems by numerous point-to-point connections. Interfaces were technically obsolete, inadequately documented, and functional dependencies between the systems were known only to individual developers. Modernization of the entire application landscape was urgently needed.

**Solution**

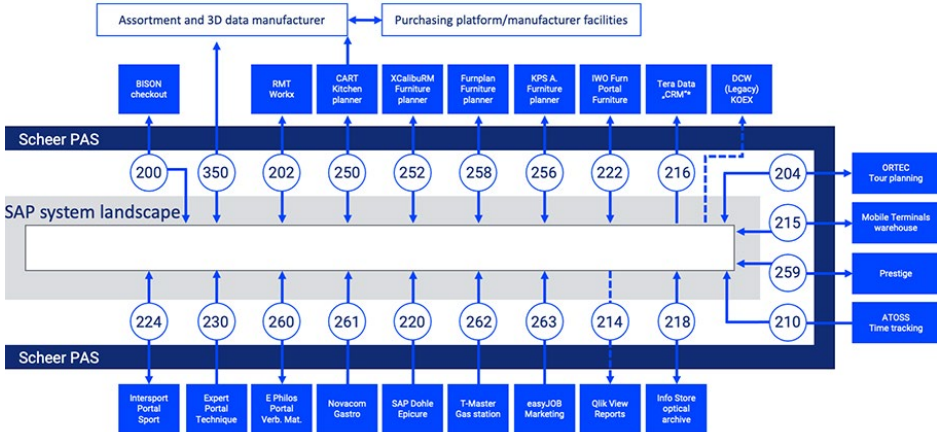
With Scheer PAS, dodenhof was able to avoid a high-risk, big-bang modernization. The opportunity to communicate with legacy and new systems running in parallel via a common interface meant that it was possible to use double transactions to thoroughly test the functioning of all components. This was done before switching off any legacy system in favor of a new application.

**IT modernization at dodenhof before und afterwards**

**Before**



**Afterwards**



## IT modernization with no risk!

In the first step, the existing point-of-sale system was connected to five merchandise information systems (IWM from Cogito, Intelligix, Rendite from HIW, DCW from Steeb, the customer data application from Teradata, and SAP). Preparations for the integration of the new point-of-sale system software, and its implementation to run in parallel with the existing PORES/IBM solution took place in the same step.

In a second step, the kitchen planning software CARAT was integrated into the dodenhof IT landscape with Scheer PAS. For the first time, via the use of a centralized integration layer, it was possible to avoid duplication integration effort. Finally, the new point-of-sale system was integrated and has been available in parallel operation since then for ongoing testing. After this, the functionality from the former five merchandise information systems was standardized in controlled steps in SAP.



**Scheer PAS has become not only a service provider operating a technical system for us but, in its role as partner, it has become a part of dodenhof – and the same applies to the software solution.**

**Alexander Giehoff | dodenhof | Project and Process Manager**

## Fit for the future, flexible and agile!

Dodenhof now has a highly integrated application landscape and the company's initial investment has paid off with massive acceleration in the implementation of projects. Thanks to the high level of flexibility in the development of interfaces coupled with fast reaction times to problems that arise, almost all requirements can be handled with Scheer PAS.

## About Scheer PAS

Scheer PAS is an innovative software company helping companies to implement necessary changes in processes and applications as easily and quickly as possible as part of their digitalization efforts.

Let's talk change!