

## CASE STUDY

# VICTORINOX AG, IBACH: IT INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTION FOR LOGISTICS CENTRE

Victorinox, the Swiss pocket knife manufacturer, relies on a shielded 10G cabling solution from Datwyler in the new European central warehouse in Seewen.



In 1884 Karl Elsener set up a cutlery business in Ibach in the canton of Schwyz. In 1897 he developed the Swiss Officer's and Sport Knife – known today as the Swiss Army Knife – thus laying the foundation stone for a thriving business. Today Victorinox is a global company supplying household and professional knives, watches, luggage and perfumes as well as pocket knives.

Until recently Victorinox operated 17 warehouse facilities in Switzerland and Europe. In the past two years a new European distribution and logistics centre has emerged on the former Usego site in the Swiss municipality of Seewen, only a few kilometres from the company headquarters. The central warehouse of Victorinox has a volume of 173,000 cubic metres, is fully automated and designed for between 30 and 35 workstations. It brings together six regional field warehouses, thus optimising storage and distribution.

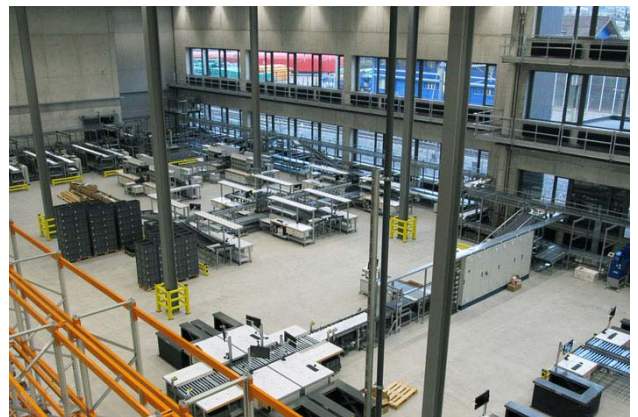
Die Communication in the modern central warehouse is based on a future-proof IT infrastructure designed for trans-

missions of up to 10 gigabits per second. In September 2018 those responsible for the Victorinox IT and electrical systems decided to equip it with Datwyler shielded cables.

### Cost-effective and risk-free

For Victorinox a shielded solution was the preferred approach for high-speed copper links. The advantage of the shielded system is that it allows a 10G infrastructure to be operated more economically and with less risk than with an unshielded solution. Nor is it necessary to field test the cabling for alien crosstalk due to the considerable performance margin of the shielded data cables. Last but not least, the Datwyler solution means that Victorinox is equipped for future leaps in technology.

The cabling was installed in several construction phases between December 2018 and April 2020. Today the central server room is connected by 24-fibre single-mode fibre optic cables to four distribution racks housed in two plant rooms and a storage area in the basement, and in the packing section on the ground floor.





## Secure high-speed connections

From the distributors the copper cabling ensures secure high-speed connections into the offices, to the packing conveyor belts and to the fully automated small parts warehouse. It comprises shielded type "CU 7002 4P" Category 7 data cables as well as patch cables and Category 6A connection technology. Wireless communication (WLAN transmitter) and the intercom system were integrated in the data network.

The test runs for the small parts warehouse and the conveyor system in the packing section were carried out at the end of 2019 and the beginning of 2020. The offices came into service between February and May.

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