

HEF Group consolidates development by harmonising processes



The HEF Group, a European leader in the surface engineering sector, is rolling out the IFS ERP solution to harmonize its processes across all of its plants globally. The rollout is being led by K4-U, a subsidiary of the Kardol Group and channel partner of IFS

Based in France, close to Saint-Étienne, the HEF Group offers a wide portfolio of surface engineering services and innovative coatings designed to reduce wear, abrasion and corrosion.

With international reach, the HEF Group provides its innovative solutions through a network of over 75 sites spanning 21 countries. HEF's applications and expertise are used in various fields, such as the automotive, railway, agriculture, defense and energy industries. The HEF Group continues with its global development in a planned and controlled manner.

IFS, the cornerstone of the HEF Group's development

To consolidate and support its growth, the HEF Group wanted to implement an agile and complete solution to replace its IT system, which was created about twenty years ago.

After examining the different solutions on the market, it swiftly chose the partnership of IFS and K4-U. The IFS solution, which combines coverage and functional depth, stood out for its ease of use.

"IFS is a very user-friendly tool with impressive functional capacity. On top of that, IFS is designed and developed by the publisher IFS, with no integrator verticalization, by contrast with its competitors, who often have to add extra modules to the standard package in order to meet the client's needs."

Romain GRIMAULT, Project Manager, HEF Group.

About the HEF group



The HEF Group is a world leader in surface engineering and can offer its clients, whether they are major principals or SMEs, an end-to-end service from research to operation of processes or supply of components, via industrial development and technology transfer.

To give its customers the best possible support in what they do and forge real partnerships, the HEF Group relies on strength and harmony with both its sales network, HEF Durferrit, and its custom treatments network, Techniques Surfaces, which have a presence in over twenty countries.

- More than 60 years of expertise in surface engineering
- Turnover: €207 million in 2019, 60% from exports
- 10% of turnover spent on R&D
- 3,000 employees

The integrator at the heart of the project

The integrator, K4-U, whose location is close to that of the HEF Group, won them over with its size and the very noticeable rapport within its teams. The HEF Group enlisted the integrator's project management team and created the project specification together—in partnership:

“The specification went beyond just the ERP project. We created it to remodel HEF's processes and functions. The Kardol Group was able to support us and had the intelligence to keep the project management assistance side of things separate from the integrator side so that it could stay focused on making a success of our project”.

Romain GRIMAULT, Project Manager, HEF Group.

Staged rollout

The IFS solution has been used since 1 March 2021 under Lot 1 for HEF's staff at its 10 plants in France.

Next, the HEF Group wants to continue with its staged project rollout internationally, including in the USA, China, India and Germany.

Within 3 years, the solution will enable nearly 500 employees of the HEF Group to support its key business processes such as production management, logistics chain management, finance, quality management and project management.

About k4-u and the kardol group

- A solution recognised by employees for its functional depth and usability
- An agile and responsive integrator who listens to the client
- The publisher/integrator partnership is with the client every step of the way

About K4-U and the kardol group



Established in 1981, the Kardol Group is a digital transformation company which supports its clients in rolling out solutions in France and abroad.

It is made up of 7 companies: Kardol, JHD, ERT Intégration, Alego Solutions, Kairios, RiaStudio and K4-U, and employs more than 215 people.

The Group's activities are based around integration of ERP solutions, expert software modules, web and mobility solutions, and its hosting/cloud offering.

www.kardol.fr

Find out more

Further information, e-mail info@ifs.com, contact your local IFS office or visit our web site, ifs.com

