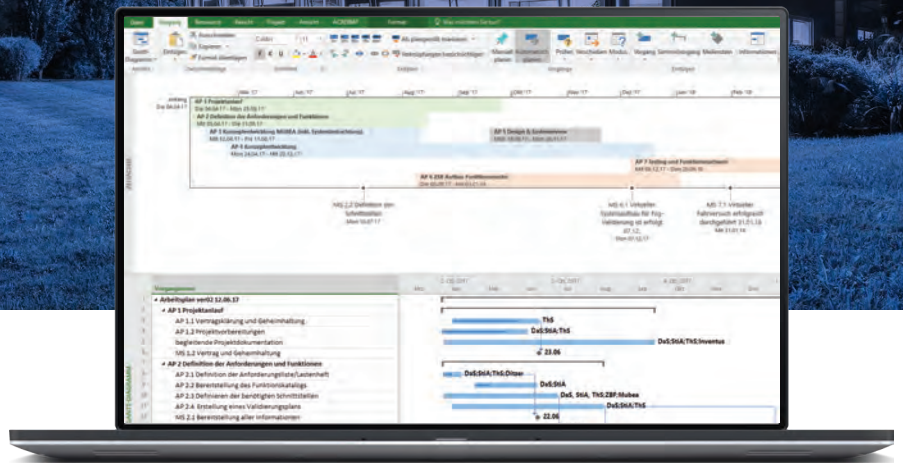# MindManager®

MUBEA automotive supplier for innovative chassis components

MindManager enables greater productivity and innovation in project planning, teamwork, and self-organization

Mubea

Results

GREATER SUCCESS
Increased personal productivity

PROJECTS AT A GLANCE
SWOT analysis and benchmarking

ALL-IN-ONE TOOL
Linking of personal
and project-related tasks

EYE-CATCHING PRESENTATION
Map-based presentation with the ability
to go in-depth on demand

"MindManager is the central
tool for my projects. It not only
accelerates the onboarding of
team members, but also helps
to avoid the loss of information
because everybody knows what
they must do."

Thomas Schrüllkamp
Head of R&D Chassis Systems
at Mubea Fahrwerksfedern GmbH

Company profile

MUBEA is an automotive supplier with a focus on lightweight construction for chassis and spring components, as well as body and powertrain products. As an owner-operated family company, it supplies worldwide automobile manufacturers and leading tier 1 system suppliers. MUBEA is the market leader in many segments of the spring industry. With over 14,300 employees in 45 production, sales and development sites on four continents, MUBEA generated a worldwide revenue of 2.4 billion euros in 2018.

The Challenge

Developing innovative products is at the core of MUBEA's success. An essential part of this is not only continuous market observation, analysis of the competition and appropriate benchmarking, but it's also important to set up innovation teams and development partnerships. The greatest challenge lies in establishing a common process that is flexible enough to include everybody, while also being structured in a user-friendly way.

"From the initial idea to the completed product, we capture and visualize everything in MindManager. The map helps us to overcome the complexity of working with multiple media simultaneously, and helps to drive our products in innovative ways."

Thomas Schrüllkamp
Head of R&D Chassis Systems
at Mubea Fahrwerksfedern GmbH

As Head of R&D Chassis Systems of MUBEA Fahrwerksfedern GmbH, Thomas Schrüllkamp is responsible for developing innovative products in the chassis segment. Together with his teams, he must regularly predict what new chassis systems might be required in the future, and ensure that MUBEA develops the required spring components.

Again, and again, Schrüllkamp must start from scratch and break new ground in his innovative projects. "In this process, we must often integrate different programs, file types and business units," says the head of development. Since Schrüllkamp's automotive engineering studies at the RWTH Aachen, he has been an enthusiastic mind mapper, and uses it as the basis for the three most important areas of his working life: self-organization, conceptual teamwork and project planning.

The Solution

At MUBEA, Schrüllkamp and his 60 colleagues use MindManager to develop new products. "We start with a blank map, in which, step by step, we develop the project and ultimately the product," he explains. "From brainstorming to scheduling to task distribution, we bring everything together in MindManager."

In addition to the visualization functionalities in MindManager, Schrüllkamp places great importance on a logical filing structure and meaningful naming of the many project-related files. He also uses MindManager to present project progress to managers and other key stakeholders. "This allows you to drill deeper into each individual aspect of the project, if necessary," explains Schrüllkamp.

Using the development of a roll stabilization system as an example, Schrüllkamp expands upon what this process looks like. This development project posed a challenge not only because of the complexity of the task but also because of the scope of systems and team members that had to be integrated. This was particularly challenging in the planning phase when you "literally sit before a blank sheet of paper and must define the objective from scratch."

Schrüllkamp managed this project planning stage as always by drawing up a map that everybody on the team can access. They established rules for how to conceive, plan, initiate and implement the project. Step-by-step, they developed tasks, timelines and defined milestones. "The success of all this was such that we now use MindManager even for our pilot production planning," says the project manager. But he emphasizes as well, that this process needs more than just a project map. Often, the filing system and network structure slip from focus. Therefore, he places great importance on file naming and on a clear and transparent filing structure to create a kind of knowledge pool that is accessible to everybody.

The Results

For Schrüllkamp, one this is clear: he could not complete his tasks as a project manager in such a quick, agile and successful way if he did not work with MindManager. The software, and the mind mapping method, are pivotal elements of his projects, his teamwork and, his personal task management.

"With MindManager, meetings take on a different level of efficiency. You can quickly see and present the content, and show the results of previous meetings with the click of a button, making it easier to follow up and to advance topics," says Schrüllkamp.

When working on new projects, the ability to present task schedules and timelines in a variety of diagram gives Schrüllkamp and his team the ability to quickly identify and eliminate bottlenecks at an early stage.

Finally, presentations are made much more efficient and effective with MindManager. Schrüllkamp particularly appreciates that everything can be shown in a single view: from a meta-level down to the smallest details. This makes it easier to get buy-in from all project stakeholders early on.

Mind**Manager**®

MindManager software helps individuals, teams, and enterprises do great work faster by simplifying the way they capture, organize, and share information.

Streamline how you and your team meet, collaborate and share. Get your free, full-feature 30-day trial today at:

www.mindmanager.com/myfreetrial