

Case Study

R&M Hima Südwest GmbH Almatis GmbH

Internationale Fachmesse
für industrielle Instandhaltung

M,O,C, München
18.-20. Oktober 2005

International Trade Fair for
Industrial Maintenance

M,O,C,
Messe München GmbH
Lilienthalallee 40
80939 München
Deutschland

Telefon (+49 89) 3 23 53-189
Telefax (+49 89) 3 23 53-197

info@maintain-europe.com
www.maintain-europe.com



Takeover and operate the maintenance department for an entire plant, which used to be run internally, in compliance with DIN 31051

Sector 1. Maintenance services / Maintenance management for plants/machinery
2. Servicing / Servicing supplies / Tribology

Industry Special-purpose chemistry

- Brief description**
- Outsourcing the maintenance operation, which is not one of Almatis' core competencies, to specialist R&M HIMA Südwest
 - Implement maintenance procedures for all production facilities at the Ludwigshafen location and ensure adherence to safety standards
 - Verifiable evaluation of maintenance services

Tasks To increase the medium- and long-term availability of plants and machinery and to reduce maintenance costs while maintaining high safety standards.

Preparation A feasibility study and a safety concept were compiled at the end of 2001. After Almatis decided to work with R&M, the terms of the agreement were spelled out in greater detail (over the course of some 4 weeks) and the companies agreed to a transition period with close coordination with Almatis of approximately 3 months, which ended on April 1, 2002, when R&M took over maintenance for the entire plant.

Maintenance of production facilities, taking strict safety standards into account *From the customer's point of view, the most serious concerns about outsourcing maintenance services to an external specialist were safety aspects, particularly given the need for strict safety standards when producing aluminum oxides. However, the feasibility study, which included a safety concept, convinced Almatis GmbH to go with the comprehensive service concept developed by **R&M HIMA Südwest GmbH**.*

R&M HIMA Südwest GmbH presented a concept to Almatis that included a detailed analysis of procedures at the Ludwigshafen plant and defined interfaces between Almatis' core competency and maintenance services. It also developed a rating system that ensured that all service and maintenance measures were both measurable and verifiable. The concept also included provisions for identifying the "current state," which would be used as a benchmark for subsequent optimization processes, especially in the areas of safety and plant availability. When R&M took over maintenance for the entire plant in April 2002, it also assumed responsibility for discretionary maintenance management including repair-related assembly work on plants and machinery.

In addition to its concept of budget-based full-service maintenance, R&M HIMA Südwest GmbH also implemented a series of extreme measures to further optimize the maintenance organization and material logistics. Modern IT systems were used in this process and were further developed for customer-specific applications. This reduced the customer's coordination requirements, allowing Almatis to focus entirely on its core competency, i.e. manufacturing aluminum products. Regular reporting provides proof of the measurable increase in efficiency and sustained minimal downtime. Regular meetings between both parties were held at the appropriate operative levels and at management levels responsible for process control to identify

additional cost-cutting potential. Given the success of the outsourcing project, Almatris extended the contract until the end of 2007.

Benefits

- Optimized safety concept
- Lower maintenance costs
- Increased plant availability
- Evaluation system for measuring success of maintenance concept
- Fewer coordination requirements due to outsourcing of maintenance processes

Customer

Almatris GmbH was part of the Alcoa Inc. Group until 2004. Since then it has been a member of the Almatris Group, one of the world's leading manufacturers of products made of aluminum oxides (including calcinated and fused alumina, catalysts) for steel, electronics, plastics, cement, paper and ceramics production as well as the petrochemical industry.

Internet: <http://www.almatris.com>

Contractor

R&M HIMA Südwest GmbH, which was founded in the year 2000, is a subsidiary of Rheinhold & Mahla AG in the Bilfinger & Berger Group that focuses on southwestern Germany. Founded in 1887, Rheinhold & Mahla AG has more than 11,000 employees worldwide and generates annual sales of more than 840 million euros. Its services cover a production plant's entire lifecycle, from initial construction and assembly to maintenance and disassembly. In the maintenance sector, R&M offers fixed-rate maintenance and repair services for process plants with availability guarantees.

Internet: <http://www.rheinhold-mahla.com/himasuedwest>

Contact: Franz Braun, Managing Director
R&M HIMA Südwest GmbH, An der Bundesstrasse 3, 69181 Leimen
Tel.: (+49 6224) 701-422
E-mail: franz.braun@hima-gmbh.de

Maintain 2005

Munich International Trade Fairs celebrated the premiere of MAINTAIN, the International Trade Fair for Industrial Maintenance at the M,O,C, Event Center, from October 18 – 20, 2005. MAINTAIN is the only exhibition in Germany that provides experts and decision-makers in the processing and manufacturing industries with non-sector-specific information about modern solutions for the inspection, repair and maintenance of industrial plants and machinery. Thanks to practice-oriented reference projects, optimum market proximity is guaranteed. The fair examines the topic of industrial maintenance as a core competency and a factor of production. The exhibition is rounded out by forums and an up-to-date Internet platform.

Contact: Sonja Kreitmeier, MAINTAIN Press Officer
Messe München GmbH, Messegelände; 81823 München
Tel.: (+49 89) 949-20714, Fax: (+49 89) 949-20719
E-mail: sonja.kreitmeier@messe-muenchen.de
Internet: <http://www.maintain-europe.de>