



## Effective layout planning at FILL

### Dynamic and efficient use of available space using AREAPLAN

For more effective layout planning of their machine assembly halls, Fill decided to move away from 2D cut-outs and use 3D simulations instead. The growing machine and plant manufacturing company now use AREAPLAN to optimize assembly hall areas with up to 30,000 m<sup>2</sup> of configurable space. The new 3D solution supports both scheduling and capacity planning in construction site assembly and is based on VISUAL COMPONENTS simulation platform for three-dimensional factory simulation.

## World market and innovation leader

Fill GmbH is a leading international machine and production line supplier for clients in the automotive, aerospace, wind energy, sports and building industries. With special expertise in a variety of materials, the company is seen as a market leader and innovator for aluminium de-coring, foundry machines, and wood bandsaw processing lines. Also with composites, Fill is the forerunner for ski and snowboard production machinery. Andreas Fill and Wolfgang Rathner are the managing directors. They founded the fully family-owned company in 1966, that today employs over 850 people.



YOUR FUTURE

### The Challenge: Installation of a large system within a limited floor space

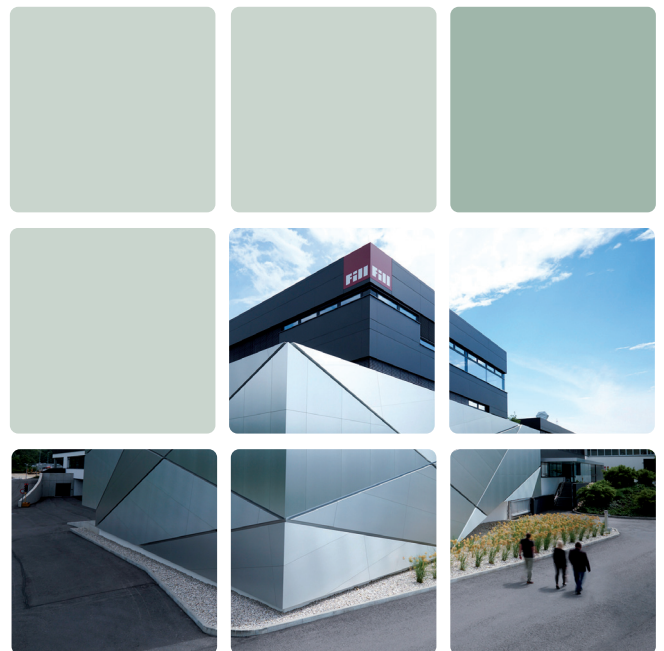
Often Fill needs to assemble a part of, or an entire factory project in their own production area for pre-commission testing prior to delivery and installation. To plan an effective hall layout, the available floor space needs to be optimized taking into account any physical restrictions such as height clearances, gantry crane capacity, and buffering areas for storage of sub-assemblies. With several ongoing projects being assembled at the same time, Fill needed a way to manage the available floor area the best way possible.

With DUALIS, Fill specified a solution for efficient floor space planning and called it AREAPLAN. It is based on VISUAL COMPONENTS' 3D simulation

platform and supports the ideal use of spatial and temporal degrees of freedom. Fill uses AREAPLAN to manage the assembly halls and all their project-relevant dates and times. In addition, Fill uses several VISUAL COMPONENTS software licenses to simulate their own production processes.

### The Initial challenge: Difficulty optimizing the assembly hall capacity

“Up until 2018 we used a pin-up board with 2D cut-out figures to plan the hall layout. Name and info labels were handwritten and stuck on to the individual equipment cut-outs. The process became quite complex and difficult to manage when several projects were stacked on top of each other to simulate a time schedule. Also, because every employee could make changes to the board and the layout, we ran into procedural difficulties very often,” says Günter Redhammer, Team Leader for Parts Manufacturing and Team Manager for Component Manufacturing at Fill.



Finding a suitable software that fitted Fill's complex requirements was difficult. As Günter Redhammer continues: “Market-standard solutions are focused on one-off modelling of static assembly areas and do not support a dynamically changing production hall sufficiently enough.”

Günter Redhammer, Team Leader for Parts Manufacturing and Team Manager for Component Manufacturing at Fill



## Numbers and Facts



100% more efficient area planning



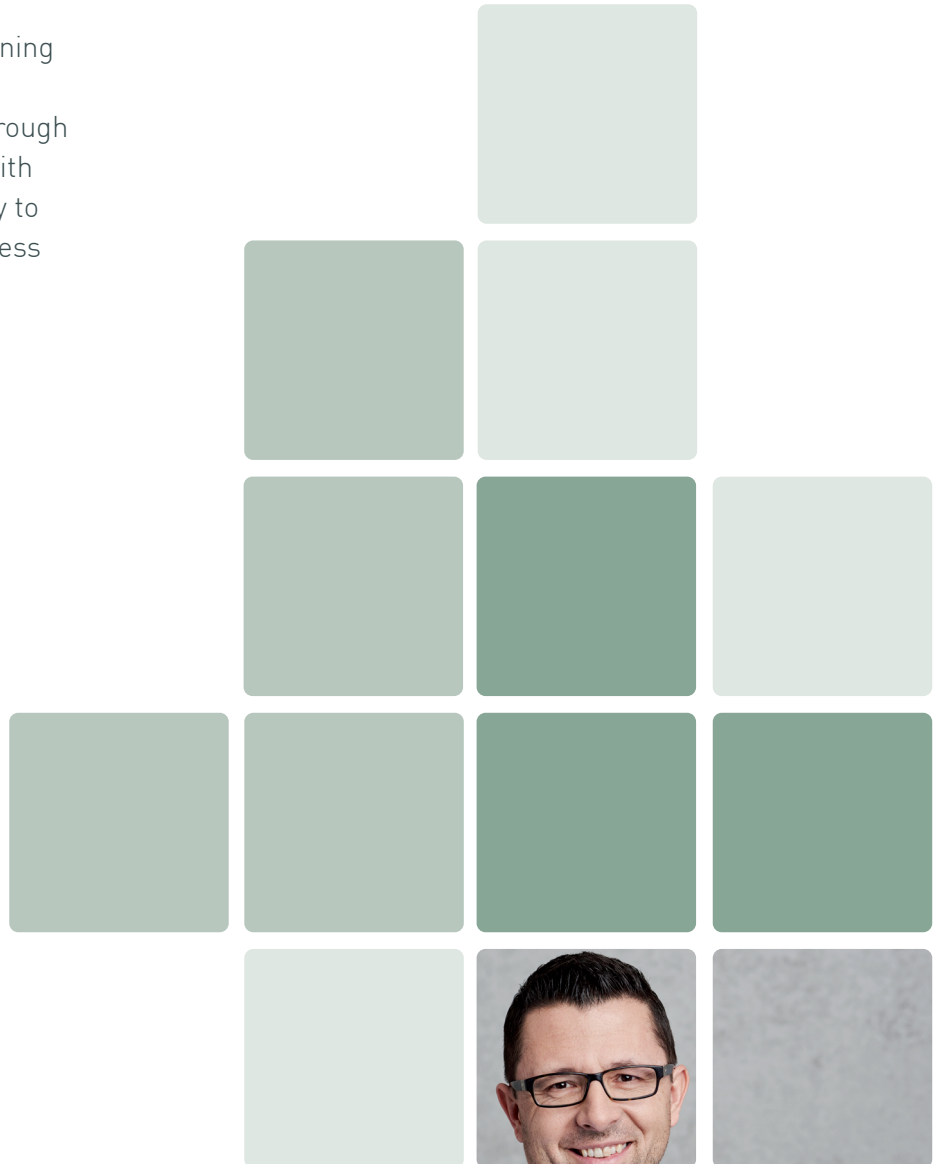
Significant savings in costs through optimised processes paired with a uniform database and ability to easily follow production progress



Higher transparency for all process participants



Future-ready: can be scaled for expanded floor areas and additional functionality



"With the new transparency in our processes, it is easy to see the progress on projects, and to manage it. The problems from using the 2D cut-outs method, mainly confusion and a lot of costs, were solved one hundred percent."

Günter Redhammer, Team Leader for Parts Manufacturing and Team Manager for Component Manufacturing at Fill



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