

## Case Study

### PFI Germany



## Thanks to Therefore™ PFI works more efficiently

Founded in 1956 in the German shoe metropolis Pirmasens, PFI (Prüf- und Forschungsinstitut) is a highly specialized research institute for shoe production and other consumer goods. With over 50 years of experience in research and service development, the institute provides consumer product testing and services for a wide range of clients and markets. Services include performing chemical and physical tests, research, and training and inspection for various consumer goods from toys, to shoes, and much more. Employing

around 100 persons, the company is proud to offer a unique combination of accredited laboratories, and certifications to ensure the

#### About Kemmler Kopier Systeme

Kemmler Kopier Systeme is a Canon Partner with offices in Kaiserlautern and Pirmanens, Germany. Being specialized on output, Kemmler Kopier System is especially committed to excellent customer service and fast reactivity.

**kks**  
Kemmler Kopier Systeme



quality and safety of tested consumer goods. In 2011 together with Canon Partner Kemmler Koperier Systeme, PFI found a way to work more efficiently, find their business information faster and offer better customer service.

## Improving Access to important Information

The goals of the project were to find documents more quickly in order to improve staff's productivity. Both invoices and test documentation were stored in archives which made accessing them very time consuming and laborious. New reports were copied several times, then had to be physically walked to the archive before being finally stored in the correct location. When

someone else in the office wanted to view a report or a specific invoice, they first had to first look up a specific project number in the ERP system, walk over to the archive (which was located in another part of the office), and hope the desired information would be there! Moreover, if someone from a different building wanted to access the information, it meant having to leave their building and cross the street in order to find it. Moreover, PFI was keenly aware that the rapidly expanding archive space could easily be used for more productive purposes. The further project goal was to implement a workflow that would inform the correct department about a new order in real time, so that testing could be prepared and customers could be more quickly invoiced and notified about their results.

## Smooth Installation

After a successful demonstration, the software was installed by Canon with support from PFI's in-house IT department. Moritz Kölsch, an employee involved with implementing Therefore™ reports the installation went smoothly and training was minimal: "We had some user training which was

relatively easy and we didn't need a lot of support. I had absolutely no problem learning to create a profile or using the system."

## **Therefore™ helps the finance department work up to 60% faster**

Kölsch adds the benefits of Therefore™ were immediately apparent, "In the past, when I wanted to check on something, for example, how an invoice was allocated to an account, I had look up the number in our system, and then find the correct invoice in our archive. I estimate our process is now 40-60% faster; now we just scan and save, and all necessary information can be pulled up on the screen."

Besides invoices, PFI also saves the product test reports into Therefore™ with a unique number (barcode). The number connects the order with the report and the testing results and the invoice. Hence, the entire process is visible with a single click.

PFI plans to include many more reports in the system. Kölsch adds, "We also have a department that creates and develops testing

machines. Those construction plans will be saved into Therefore™ as well so that everyone who needs them can access them."

The near future will see the introduction of incoming invoices workflow which will integrate their in-house software to Therefore™. Using this integration, the entire process, from the order to the test results and billing will be handled by Therefore™.

Overall, PFI is very happy with the system. Kölsch concludes, "We definitely save a lot of time. It is much easier to get a hold of the information we need."

[www.pfi-germany.de](http://www.pfi-germany.de)



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