

**Partners show solutions for seamless monitoring and traceability for casting processes at “GIFA 2019” as well as AI, IoT and Industry 4.0 concepts**

## **Process optimization for the casting industry 4.0: iTAC and Provitec form strategic partnership**

**Montabaur, May 21st, 2019** – MES specialist iTAC Software AG ([www.itacsoftware.com](http://www.itacsoftware.com)) and Provitec GmbH, expert for HMI, automation and cell control, cooperate. Among other things, the partners jointly develop smart solutions for seamless monitoring and documentation of casting processes down to the unique item level. These solutions are already being used by renowned companies in the casting industry. At GIFA 2019 (June 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, Düsseldorf, Germany), iTAC and Provitec will be showcasing various use cases and future models for Foundry 4.0 together at booth D64 in Hall 13.

The Manufacturing Execution System (MES) iTAC.MES.Suite and the associated IIoT solutions have proven themselves in companies in various industries. iTAC's MES can be custom-tailored specifically to the respective requirements. The company has also developed a special solution for the foundry industry. Increasingly complex parts in the foundry industry – e.g. for electronic vehicles – require a high degree of control and quality assurance of the die casting processes.

### **Control processes – reduce error rates and scrap**

Together with Provitec GmbH, iTAC develops solutions for the optimization and monitoring of casting processes. For example, one joint development is being used in the production of a leading company in the foundry sector. This market participant is also increasingly producing castings for vehicles with electronic drives, such as battery housings and electric motor housings. The solution by iTAC and Provitec monitors and optimizes the entire casting process, thereby reducing error rates and scrap. It integrates the entire production process, from casting, mechanical processing and laboratory checks to shipping.

In addition to the standard MES functionalities, the solution offers industry-specific features. These include the “birth lock” (i.e. if a defect is detected, the affected parts are locked immediately when serialization occurs, and a quality inspection is carried out). The locked products can not be dispatched without approval from the MES. This process is controlled based on parameters. In addition to the unique parts history including measurement and process data, an analysis of the process data, e.g. for heat treatment, can also be carried out.

### **The industry must open up to Foundry 4.0**

These and other functionalities lead to a comprehensive MES solution – from the melting process to outgoing goods. iTAC and Provitec are also continuously working on further solutions in the areas of Industry 4.0, IoT and AI. Peter Bollinger, CEO of iTAC Software AG, explains: “Companies must open up to Foundry 4.0 if they want to survive in the market of the future. The parts are becoming more and more complex and increasingly technically dependent – at the same time, maximum precision is required. In order to guarantee high product quality and at the same time produce efficiently with low error rates and minimal scrap, MES and corresponding automation and AI solutions are essential.”

*Number of characters: 3.255 (incl. spaces)*



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### **About iTAC**

iTAC Software AG, an independent company of the Dürr mechanical and plant engineering group, provides internet-enabled information and communication technologies for the manufacturing industry. Founded in 1998, the company is one of the leading MES providers in Germany. The iTAC.MES.Suite is a cloud-based Manufacturing Execution System that is used worldwide by companies in different industry sectors such as automotive manufacturers and suppliers, electronics/EMS/TC, medical technology, metal processing and energy. Additional services and solutions enable the implementation of Industry 4.0 and IoT requirements. iTAC's philosophy is connecting people, data and systems.

iTAC Software AG has its headquarters in Montabaur (Germany) as well as branches in the USA and China, as well as a global partner network for sales and services.

The Dürr Group is one of the world's leading mechanical and plant engineering firms. Products, systems and services offered by Dürr enable highly efficient manufacturing processes in different industries. Business with automobile manufacturers and their suppliers accounts for approximately 60% of Dürr's sales. Other market segments include, for example, the mechanical engineering, chemical and pharmaceutical industries and the woodworking industry.

### **About Provitec GmbH**

Provitec has been offering sustainable and future-proof solutions for automation tasks in the manufacturing industry since 1994 - from the initial idea to series production. As a specialist for highly complex production plants and software solutions, database systems with master computer functions have been developed.

Industries such as mechanical engineering, special mechanical engineering, automotive, process engineering and environmental protection rely on the Prodaisi® basic software developed by Provitec. Provicast® was developed for foundry companies with measurement data and casting shot recordings.

The traditional structure of the automation levels usually clearly separates the individual control functions. The database based Prodaisi® control software developed by Provitec combines visualization and MES tasks in a single system. A consistent user interface, both for the operation of the plants and for MES tasks, enables the simple application, clear visualization and control of the complete system by all employees from the operator to the management. Direct interfaces to all common PLC systems (e.g. Siemens S7, B&R, Beckhoff, etc.) as well as to the most common ERP systems (e.g. SAP) are used. From conception to complete special machines and systems, Provitec now serves its customers worldwide.

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