

# FORWARD-LOOKING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & ANALYTICS

FOR THE CHEMICAL & PROCESS INDUSTRY

## WITH EXPERT STATEMENTS ON:

- Reducing costs with systematic energy management
- Risks due to publicly available environmental data
- Handling deregulation properly
- No need to fear citizen initiatives



**THE FUTURE** CALLS  
**EXPERTS NEEDED**



### **MR. MAYER, WHAT ARE YOUR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY?**

I am in charge of Permit Management at InfraServ Gendorf, and I am also responsible for the topics emission control and plant safety at the chemical park GENDORF.

### **HOW DO YOU SEE THE CURRENT SITUATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION?**

I believe there are three major trends related to environmental protection:

1. Upgrades to existing systems: analysis methods and cleaning technologies are becoming more refined, production is getting more efficient. At the same time, advances in the state of the art are becoming increasingly dynamic.
2. Deregulation and strengthening operator responsibilities: a trend that has been a hot-button issue for policy-makers for years, but that is also counteracted by escalating regulatory efforts.
3. Strengthened citizen rights: this specifically relates to citizens' right to information and participation.

### **WHAT ARE THE ISSUES CONFRONTING YOUR CUSTOMERS?**

The state of the art is progressing, in particular so for environmental protection. Improved analysis methods have pushed certification limits lower. A substance that was viewed as non-critical a few years ago and was present below detection limits is now classified as a health hazard and can be detected in the environment. This topic along with others present entirely new challenges for operators.

## **“ ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: PLAN, IMPLEMENT, MONITOR – EXPERT SOLUTIONS FROM A SINGLE SOURCE ”**

Godehard Mayer, Head of Permit Management

Deregulations and strengthened operator responsibility have caused growing uncertainty about whether all statutory mandates are being met and about how to prove and document this with legal certainty. The role of regulators is also changing accordingly. Enforcement responsibilities are in certain cases shifting from environmental to health regulators.

Strengthening citizen involvement and generally growing interest by stakeholders represents an uncertainty factor for operators and planners. At the same time, operators have no reason to fear citizen involvement if the justified interests of citizen are handled proactively. This requires a maximum of experience and a light touch, but generally has a favorable outcome for all stakeholders if the issue is addressed factually.

Overall, the trends for environmental protection have resulted in greater planning uncertainty and have increased dynamics – a challenge for plant operators.

### **DO YOU HAVE A PARTICULAR APPROACH FOR YOUR PROJECTS?**

As is also the case for safety, a proactive approach is crucial for environmental protection. A plant operator benefits greatly by taking environmental protection concerns into account at an early stage during the planning phase and by communicating with all stakeholders in a purposeful manner.

### **WHAT SETS INFRASERV GENDORF APART FROM COMPETITORS?**

InfraServ Gendorf offers cross-functional expert knowledge from a single source – be it from the vantage point of planners, plant operators, or service providers, e.g. for plant maintenance. This 360° view of a process plant allows us to offer optimized solutions.

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# INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS FOR THE CHEMICAL & PROCESS INDUSTRY



# LEVERAGE UNTAPPED ENERGY-EFFICIENCY OPPORTUNITIES

## WITH SYSTEMATIC ENERGY MANAGEMENT



**The results of a survey conducted by the German Energy Agency DENA in 2012 indicate that 83% of businesses in Germany rate the topic of energy efficiency as “important” to “very important” for their operations, but that only 14% take advantage of professional energy management. While the reasons for this are manifold, the numbers primarily mean one thing: opportunities for increasing energy efficiency and for cost-cutting are frequently lost – although the need is recognized.**

Provided a company has a functioning energy management system, it can continuously evaluate its energy consumption to systematically identify energy savings opportunities. Energy costs can be reduced as a result.

As the operator of a chemical park, InfraServ Gendorf has installed a corresponding system at its site and not only supplies its own plants and customers with

energy but also offers consulting on cost-effective and resource-efficient operating practices.

Opportunities for reducing energy costs are identified in four steps: following a baseline review, a summary data analysis of all energy flows is compiled. Opportunities are then identified and prioritized. Energy supply concepts are then developed based on this prioritization.

This effort makes long-term business sense since costs are minimized and because it is a key success factor for a company.

## „ OPPORTUNITIES ARE LOST – ALTHOUGH THE NEED IS RECOGNIZED “

Jürgen Tröster, Head of Energy Management, Trade and Sales

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# ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING DATA AS OPEN DATA

## IN THE WEB AND MEASURES REQUIRED OF PLANT OPERATORS

In addition to the classic tasks of a metrology authority and an environmental lab, InfraServ Gendorf is frequently confronted with tasks that represent a metrology and analytics challenge.

Analytics for trace substances represents a particular related focus. Frequently, standardized methods for this specific task do not yet exist because the substance and its environmental relevance have only recently become the target of discussion. The first step for these cases is to develop methods and standards that generate reliable – e.g. reproducible and comparable – results. The sampling procedures also require judgement and experience because the investigated medium may



„ **COMPANY'S CONTINUE TO UNDERESTIMATE THE EFFECTS OPEN DATA HAVE ON THEM** “

Alexander Kogler, Team Lead Metrology Authority

present sampling difficulties or may have a non-uniform distribution in the so-called matrix.

Environmental measurements and environmental analytics typically generate enormous volumes of data. These need to be evaluated, classified by subject-matter, and must be made available to the public – directly or indirectly – in the form of reports.

Citizens and businesses already today have the right stipulated in state and federal environmental right to information acts to request information from authorities about various environmentally relevant data.

This means that sensitive environmental data are already now freely available in the Internet due to reporting obligations.

How such sensitive information will be used and evaluated going forward and what impact these uses will have for industry will be shown in the coming years across its entire bandwidth.

But one thing is already clear today: it will become increasingly important for plant operators to maintain awareness over the data publicly available about them.

This already begins with the necessary vigilance for operating the plant about which data are recorded and published. Only then can effective usage and evaluation measures be implemented to exert a shared level of control over the impact these data have on the public.

# OPTIMIZED HANDLING OF DEREGULATION

## FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND PERMIT LAWS



**In environmental law, deregulation means reducing and/or simplifying administrative legal regulations. Environmental groups may then fear declining environmental and social standards, but deregulation can also be a double-edged sword for plant operators.**

While reduced requirements in laws and directives create greater flexibility, this also results in heightened uncertainty for implementing the statutory requirements and/or in strengthening the frequently much more extensive secondary regulations (standards).

Moreover, the documentation workload for operators keeps escalating. Deregulation also has an impact on authorities, the role of government is changing. Meanwhile,

leeway in connection with legal liability concerns on the part of the appointed expert appraiser. Moreover, the operator ultimately pays for the expert appraiser.

While quality control by regulators is necessary, the choice of expert appraisers and independent reviewers is crucial for the quality of the application process. For operators, promptly involving suitable and recognized experts and independent reviewers can have a material impact on completing projects on-time and on-budget.

**„THE CHOICE OF EXPERTS AND INDEPENDENT REVIEWERS IS CRUCIAL FOR THE QUALITY OF THE APPLICATION PROCESS“**

Pirmin Brams, Permit Management

expert appraisals from external parties are frequently required, either as expert appraisals ordered by the regulatory authority or as so-called operator expert appraisals made available by the operator. This can result in declining awareness about local knowledge on the part of the regulatory authority and in untapped

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# NO NEED TO FEAR CITIZEN INITIATIVES AND PARTICIPATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

**Residents are interested, skeptical, and demand to be heard. Properly executed public relations can help you to nevertheless bring a permit application for a major project to a fast and trouble-free conclusion, while also fostering a positive and constructive coexistence with residents and neighbors.**

The importance lies in giving the right information at the right time to gain the trust of residents, citizen initiatives, and associations. A demanding challenge, specifically during the early stages of a project since projects can still undergo significant changes and any already disseminated details could then be misinterpreted as an attempt to mislead. At an existing facility, regular information flow and communication are required with affected parties to create a solid knowledge basis that may have to be drawn upon for a fact-based discussion.

A trust-based relationship is the foundation for successful collaboration!

In a best case, the involvement of residents and associations will generate ideas and information that can be used constructively and sustainably during the planning stage.

Important related principles include:

- Suitable information for respectively involved groups
- Suitable staff
- Appropriate and fast responses to objections and inquiries



**„SUITABLE PUBLIC RELATIONS CAN HELP TO  
BRING A PERMIT APPLICATION FOR A MAJOR  
PROJECT TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION“**

Godehard Mayer, Head of Permit Management

# THE FUTURE CALLS EXPERTS NEEDED



## WHO WE ARE

As specialists for integrated solutions surrounding plant lifecycle and as the operator of the Chemical Park Gendorf, InfraServ Gendorf is among the most experienced expert enterprises in the chemical and process industry. More than 1,100 employees and specialists from six areas of expertise work here across the trades on technologies and solutions for today's and tomorrow's customer challenges.

## WHAT DRIVES US

The people at InfraServ Gendorf are driven by a common bond that is deeply embedded in our DNA: the best result for our customers. We achieve this by allowing room for the professional passions of our employees, by fostering their special expertise while at the same time networking with other disciplines on a routine basis. This ultimately results in integrated solutions that stand up to the test of time because they keep the big picture in mind.

## WHAT WE BELIEVE IN

We know that we have a special responsibility as a company in the chemical industry – both for our own business and employees, but also for our neighbors and the environment and the region we live in. We confront this responsibility on a daily basis with exceptional personal dedication – not only because it is ingrained in our own belief system, but also as an expression of our commitment to corporate social responsibility (CSR).

### CONTACT

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