Swiss-AS Press Coverage
The Digital Natives Conquer the Hangar

Flying high for 30 years: Swiss AviationSoftware develops and sells a highly specialized software solution for airlines and maintenance companies around the world. The company is currently working intensively on the rapidly advancing digitalization.

The father worked for Balair, the brothers for Swissair - so it was only logical that Ronald Schäuffele Scherer would also enter the aircraft industry. "The industry still has a great appeal for me today," says the 54-year-old. Even today, Schäuffele Scherer enjoys the view from his workplace of the approach path of the EuroAirport Basel Mulhouse Freiburg. He started his career in the IT department of the former Crossair. In 1989, the young computer scientist was commissioned to develop a software solution to manage and control the numerous and complex data of aircraft maintenance. The undertaking was particularly challenging because all aircraft data must be stored according to the "back-to-birth" principle. In every aircraft, all installations and removals as well as every repair, no matter how small, must be documented and traceable. "Today, our highly specialized software solution is used for the maintenance of over 7000 aircraft around the world," says the CEO of Swiss AviationSoftware (SAS),

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AMOS flies all over the world with

Ronald Schäuffele Scherer accepted the challenge - and thus laid the foundation for the AMOS software. In the course of time, the Crossair project has grown into an independent company with over 180 customers and around 240 employees. "Today, our highly specialized software solution is used for the maintenance of over 7'000 aircraft around the world," says the CEO of Swiss AviationSoftware (SAS), a wholly owned subsidiary of SWISS that was spun off in 2004. Swiss AviationSoftware's customers include well-known airlines and maintenance companies of all sizes - including SWISS, Etihad Airways, easyJet, Ryanair, AirAsia and many more.

Customer needs are picked up in a targeted manner

AMOS has become the most frequently sold software solution in the field of aircraft maintenance in recent years. The MRO (Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul) software enables SAS customers to manage their engineering, maintenance and logistics processes and to ensure compliance with official requirements and regulations. "We are in a highly competitive niche market," says Ronald Schäuffele Scherer. In order to remain competitive in the long term, the company works very closely with its customers. In regular workshops and feedback sessions, SAS identifies the needs of its users, "These valuable inputs then flow into our development process". The CEO is proud of the fact that in the company's 30-year history, not a single customer has considered switching to another aircraft maintenance software. "Over the years we have been able to build a strong foundation of trust." Thanks to a low employee turnover, the know-how pool of Swiss-AS has also been continuously expanded.

Cross-customer cloud platform

Of course, digitization also plays an important role in the further development of AMOS. The "AMOScentral" development project, a customer-spanning cloud platform, aims to promote networking between the different customer worlds. "According to the motto <shifting boundaries>, completely new possibilities of cooperation are created and existing boundaries in the MRO software world are dissolved", explains Ronald Schäuffele Scherer. "AMOScentral enables us to map value-added chains across several customer AMOS instances, making the processes even more digital, faster and better measurable.

Covid-19 accelerates digitization

Digitalization is also noticeable in other areas. "Artificial intelligence, machine learning, block chain or connectivity are no longer just buzzwords, but innovation trends that are increasingly finding their way into customers' maintenance ecosystems. Especially now, in the wake of Covid-19, these topics have rapidly gained in importance. "Our task is to shape and accelerate the digital transformation process and at the same time drive forward many initiatives to bridge the digital gaps in MRO processes," says Ronald Schäuffele Scherer.

"While there used to be a lot of paper involved, the need for completely mobile solutions is growing in the aviation industry. The topic of automation is also playing an increasingly important role. The CEO knows: "The digital natives are slowly but surely taking over the hangar. The young don't want to have anything more to do with stacks of paper". This makes it all the more important for SAS to keep their finger on the pulse and constantly invest in new innovations. If the company succeeds in doing so, Swiss AviationSoftware could continue to fly high for the next 30 years.

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