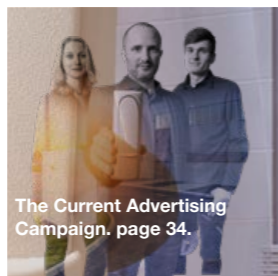
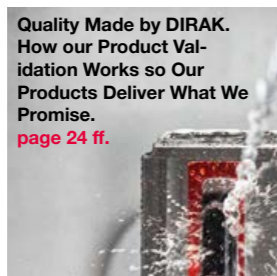
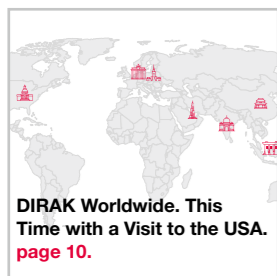
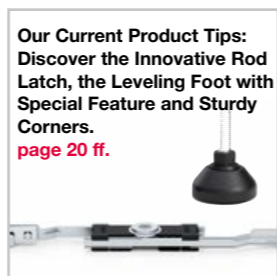
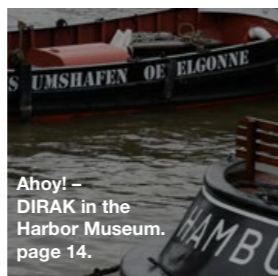
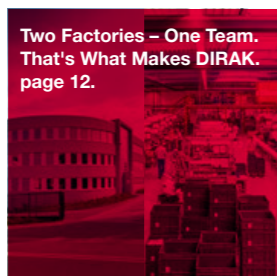
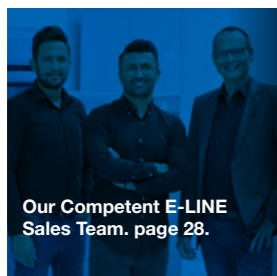
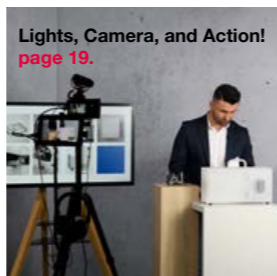
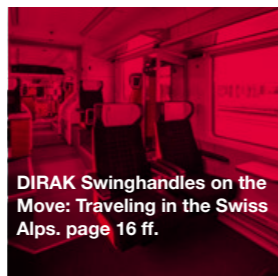
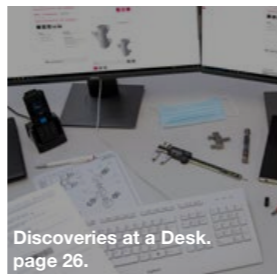
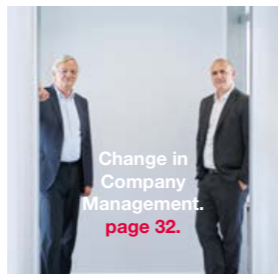
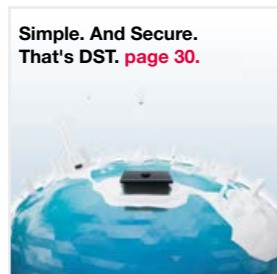
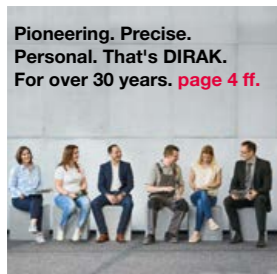


**DIRAK**

# DIRAK

FALL 21





# Dear readers,

You have in front of you the first edition of DIRAK magazine, which will be published twice a year in the future, appearing in the spring and fall, and is addressed to persons closely associated with the company such as employees and customers. This magazine will provide information and report on relevant and significant developments and processes in the DIRAK Group.

We have gone through some very emotional months. Not only has the pandemic shaped our lives for more than one and a half years now, in April our company founder and proprietor, much esteemed by all, Mr. Dieter Ramsauer, died suddenly and unexpectedly shortly before the age of 82.

The pandemic is opening up new ways of communication for all of us. Now is the time to strengthen what brings us together. Video calls and conferences cannot replace personal conversations and meetings.

But so far, thanks to your strong support and help, we have been able to guide our company safely through this time of pandemic. For that the company partners and management would like to express their gratitude.

And now we wish you much enjoyment as you peruse this first edition of "DIRAK Magazine."

Stay healthy – you and your families.

Your company management

# 30 Years: Pioneering. Precise. Personal.

On April 1, 2021 we celebrated our 30-year anniversary at DIRAK. Although the celebration may not have been big, it will bring with it many memories and much joyful anticipation of the next successful 30 years.

The story of the company begins not on April 1, 1991, but many decades earlier with the great passion of our proprietor and founder Dieter Ramsauer, which was based on his desire to continuously improve the world of his customers. His passion for continuing to work meticulously at finding new solutions was powered by creativity and a wide variety of interests, his autodidactic capabilities and his practical

disposition, and by what he called the "wandering gaze".

So it was that long before the company DIRAK was founded, he invented pioneering products that still shape industry to this day, for example the modular quarter-turn and rod latch system, the swinghandle latch, which has been used worldwide for a long time now, and DST, the tool-less fastening technology (DIRAK-SNAP-Technology).

This inventive spirit and development competence are firmly embedded in the genetic code of our company. For 30 years now we have won and kept our customers worldwide with trend-setting solutions in mechanical and mechatronic lock, hinge and fastening technology.

Our 30-year success story is grounded not only in the inventive spirit of our founder Dieter Ramsauer, but also in the constant change of the company.

With creativity and curiosity, our employees have managed to progress unceasingly as a pioneering company while bringing trailblazing and above all value-adding solutions to the market with DIRAK products.



**30**  
YEARS

■ ■ ■ Thanks to the new technologies developed by us, we are always one step ahead and set trends in latch, hinge and fastening technology. This is rooted in the creative ideas of our employees. All of these ideas center around the question: **How can we respond to the challenges of our customers?**

Not only in product development, but also in process and customer orientation, we have set the standard again and again. Processes and procedures that precisely address the wishes and challenges of our customers, that are well planned and intermesh efficiently,

not only make it easier for us to work together, they also ensure customer-oriented and competitive coverage of customer needs.

The company aligned itself to global requirements early on and consequently founded operations in Asia, the USA, the Middle East and Europe. With the aid of this worldwide network we are close to the customer and close to our employees.

Because we are clearly oriented towards innovation, we have always managed to stay ahead of the challenges facing us at any given time in all areas of the company. For example,

our automatic small parts storage, which is equipped with conveyor technology from incoming goods through to shipping, processes over 200 picked items per hour and more than 300 packages a day.

The digital process landscape creates precise, high-performance sequences from the idea stage through to delivery to the customer.

This development would not have been possible without more than 600 employees worldwide who have shaped and impacted the company

with extraordinary drive and motivation. We do not consider the balancing act between family-run business and global player to be a balancing act at all. On the contrary, a family-based and professional corporate culture goes hand-in-hand with the idea of growth that is firmly anchored in our way of doing business.

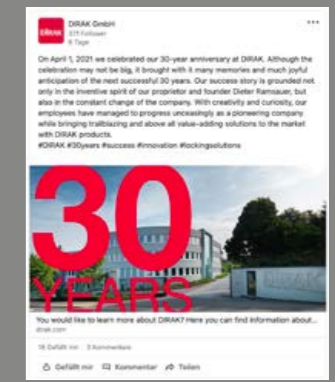
We will therefore continue into the future on this path as a family business fully committed to serving the needs of our customers. We do this because we are convinced we will be successful together. ■

” AUGUST BEBEL

Only by knowing the past and understanding the present can we shape the future.

## We Are on LinkedIn

Are you familiar with our LinkedIn channel yet? Information about current matters at DIRAK appears here regularly. In addition to news about product innovations, you will also gain insights into the DIRAK world and always be up to date. We are looking forward to your visit!



# We Mourn the Loss of Dieter Ramsauer

## Obituary

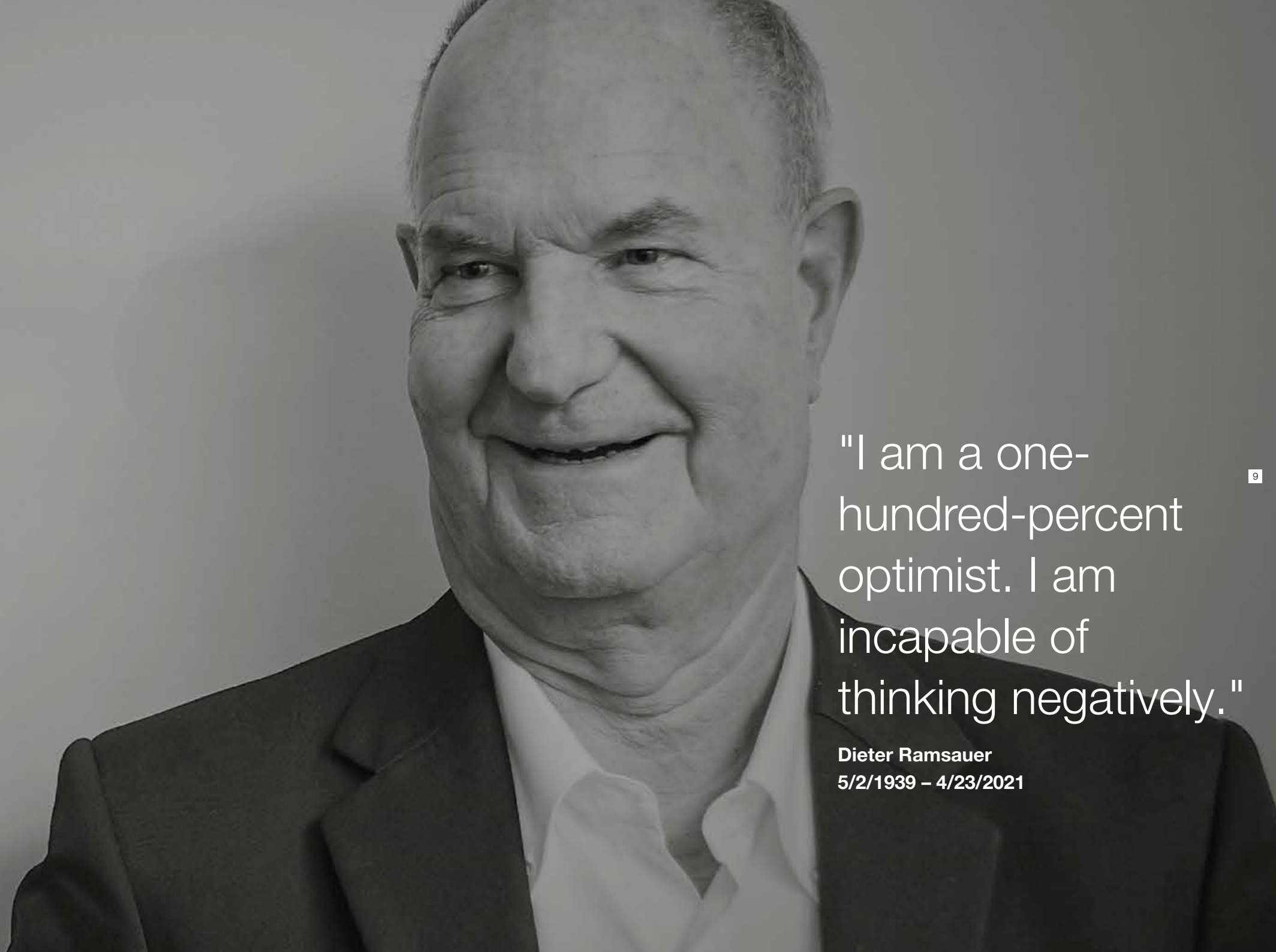
On April 23, 2021, the founder and proprietor of DIRAK GmbH, Dieter Ramsauer, died following a brain hemorrhage, shortly before the age of 82.

Dieter Ramsauer's life work, beyond his family, was his company DIRAK, which he worked tirelessly to advance and develop and which he led, in the truest sense of the word, up until his last day.

His ingenious inventions, his thirst for knowledge, his "wandering gaze" and his passion for everything he did distinguished him as the person we knew. He always remained human and always had a sympathetic ear for the cares and concerns of his fellow human beings.

Dieter Ramsauer will live on for a long time: in his family, in his employees, his friends, in his brilliant inventions and in his company. Dieter Ramsauer brought insightful perspectives and a meaningful future to many people. While his death marks the end of a chapter, the whole book is still far from written to the end.

Karl-Heinz Overhamm  
Managing Director DIRAK GmbH

A large, grayscale portrait of Dieter Ramsauer, an elderly man with a friendly expression, wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt. The portrait is the background for the right side of the page.

"I am a one-hundred-percent optimist. I am incapable of thinking negatively."

**Dieter Ramsauer**  
5/2/1939 – 4/23/2021

# DIRAK Global: Within Reach Thanks to a Worldwide Network



Working with people in Germany or any other country allows for attitudes or ways of thinking that are different from those we are exposed to within our own borders.

UWE SCHUETTLER, SALES AREA MANAGER (USA)



Our American operation in Sterlington near Washington DC was founded in 1998. 20 people here are part of the DIRAK family. They supply the United States with our solutions day by day.

Uwe Schuettler, Sales Area Manager of our operation in the USA, has been working for DIRAK for four years and likes to think outside the box. He also appreciates the detail-oriented and focused collaboration of our network. ■

Every country has its idiosyncrasies. And that is exactly why we are so happy to work together in our global network consisting of seven locations in Europe, North America and Asia with a total of over 600 employees. Numerous distributors also support our sales worldwide. The global network goes back to 1997 with the founding of the first operations in Asia. It has been continually expanded in the years that followed. This network makes us global and within reach, so there is always an option for a local contact. ■



# Between Industrial Culture and Green Forests

” About 15 years ago I moved to Ennepetal because of my great love for the place. In my free time I like to go walking with my family and our dog in the Ennepetal forests or on one of the three dams.

THORSTEN KÜSTER, DESIGNER

Photo: iStock / sankai

The two DIRAK locations **Sprockhövel** and **Ennepetal** are located in a region where industrial culture plays a great role. As the third child of toolmaker Hermann Ramsauer and his wife Franziska, Dieter Ramsauer grew up with his siblings in Velbert – a city widely known for the production of locks and fittings. Rooted in this region, Dieter Ramsauer founded DIRAK GmbH in Schwelm and remained true to the local area when larger premises became necessary.

With connections to the Ruhr region and the Bergisch Land, our company blends into an area where for example metalworking for the tool industry and machine-building have played a major role for decades. At the same time our area with its numerous fields and forests offers an invitation to spend free time enjoying nature. The local connectedness of DIRAK GmbH can also be seen in its social commitment. We donate regularly to the Ruhr area children's hospice (Kinderhospiz Ruhrgebiet e.V.) and to regional kindergartens. We do this because we feel comfortable here and we would like others to feel that way too.



# #CORONAMADEUSDOTHIS

There are numerous posts on the internet currently under this hashtag. A pandemic that also struck us with full force – personally and as a company. Finding something good about corona would be an unsolvable problem. But we can still take a moment to ask ourselves: Where was DIRAK before Corona and where are we now?

- Mobile work had already long been an integral part of our employee-oriented and innovation-focused organization – now it is embedded in our everyday routine. DIRAK IT makes all relevant systems available quickly and in stable condition.
- We have been thinking digitally for a long time and now we work increasingly in digital and automatic processes.
- We take self tests and quick tests for granted and are used to masks provided by the company.
- But the most important thing is that **our employees have remained in good health to an extent well above average.**

We grew as a company, organized the future of DIRAK and we have gone this far through the difficult time of the pandemic together. We still do not know at the present time (October 2021) how the situation will develop, but we have learned one thing: We can reliably look forward to a stable future at DIRAK.

**#Coronamadeusdothis**



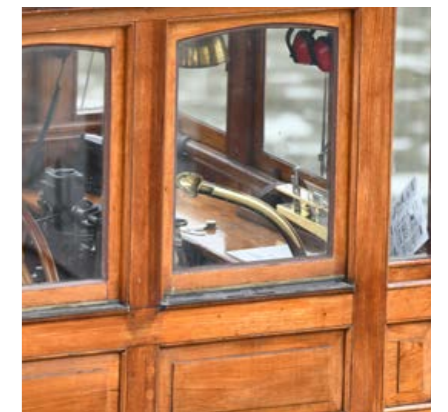
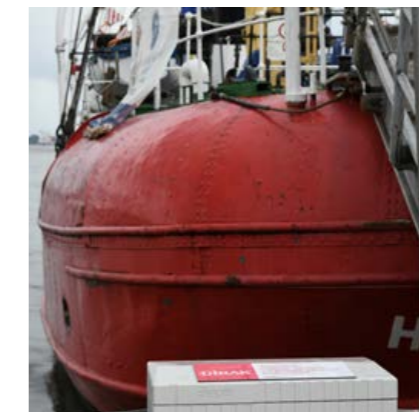
# So That Old Love Will Not Rust:

**DIRAK Supports the Oevelgönne Harbor Museum e.V. (Hamburg)**

With a donation for replacing the switch cabinets, we made it possible for the Oevelgönne Harbor Museum e.V. in Hamburg to modernize the electrical infrastructure on the publicly accessible piers, thereby making a contribution to the cultural heritage of the shipping industry.

Preservation of monuments is lived at this harbor museum, which is located in the center of Hamburg: Historical working ships that once plied the waters of the Elbe and Hamburg harbor are restored and still operate. Over 200 working members make it possible to preserve 26 steamships, sailing ships and motor ships, and to offer excursions on the Elbe and in the North Sea and Baltic Sea. The association is financed by member contributions, donations and income from the excursions.

So we say **"Ahoy!"** and wish them much continued success. ■





# Flat Swinghandle in the New Traverso

Space is usually at a premium on trains. Special solutions are often needed to ensure that cabinets and housings can be locked securely and conveniently. This was the case in the new Traverso of the Schweizerische Südostbahn AG (Swiss Southeast Rail). The flat swinghandle not only saves space in the railway car and protects passengers against possible injuries, it also emphasizes the design of the new train and features ergonomic handling.

Photos: SOB, Daniel Ammann



The new Alpine Express of the Schweizerische Südostbahn AG has been operating on the route between Lucerne and St. Gallen since mid-2019. As a supplier of Stadler Rail AG, Letrona produces important structural elements for trains, offering passengers a high level of comfort thanks to the latest technologies. There are also two bistro areas for serving beverages and snacks to commuters and passengers. Each of the six new trains is also fitted with a family compartment designed to be child-friendly and with enough space for a pleasant stay.

The fully air-conditioned Traverso has a roomy design overall. To create enough space for comfortable seating areas and wide aisles, however, the interior fittings of the trains had to be as space-saving as possible. Letrona also placed great emphasis on meeting the visual expectations of both their client and its passengers. Combined with other requirements such as vibration resistance and ergonomic handling, this posed special challenges, for example in the locking systems of various housings.

The Traverso offers ample space for a pleasant journey. This is ensured in part by the locking systems of DIRAK GmbH.

The swinghandles lock all front wall housings, and thanks to the cylinder offset into the housing, they close nearly flat with the outer plate.



## High standards for locking systems

Raphael Schwarz, Development Manager at Letrona, explains: "It was very important for us in regards to function for the latches to withstand the vibrations of rail traffic and for flaps never to open uncontrollably." The handles also had to have pleasant haptics to make it easy for maintenance personnel to open the doors. In addition to an appealing appearance, the design also focused on safety aspects such as incorporating a flat shape and rounded edges to protect passengers and their baggage

against injuries or damage. Because of this, the latch on the outside of the housing that had to be locked could only take up a small amount of space, and due to the general lack of space in railway vehicles, could also not extend too far into the inside of the relevant housing.

This challenge also affected the front wall housing, where maintenance machines and the electrical system of the Traverso are kept. Often in applications of this kind, systems that differ visually and in terms of technology are combined together.



However, this has a negative effect on both operability and appearance. The customer's goal was to avoid these disadvantages and to install just one system covering all requirements in terms of technology, design and comfort. DIRAK GmbH together with Letrona has developed and implemented a system to do just that.

**Flat Swinghandle enhances safety and comfort**

Marc Sobotzki, Senior Key Business Manager for DIRAK, reports: "Our motto for designing this system was: "As flat as possible on the outside and as deep as needed on the inside." In line with this, we placed the cylinder, which otherwise would be outside of the housing, inside the door panel."

The recently developed DIRAK swinghandle system is highly versatile yet impermeable to water and dust in accordance with IP65. The design is extremely flat and compact, making it suitable for single-point or multi-point systems with the same appearance and uniform design. Discretely reserved lines remain consciously in the background while underscoring the overall design of the vehicle's interior. Thanks to exchangeable latch inserts with covers secured against rattling and vibration by magnets, this swinghandle can be closed either by activation or with various cylinders.



Photo: SOB, Markus Schälli

Through the foothills of the Swiss with the Traverso. Always on board: the DIRAK swinghandle.

Once opened, the handle remains in the opening position, thus making it easier to operate and preventing the dish handles or housing surfaces from being scratched. To close the swinghandle, it can simply be pressed into the dish handle until it latches audibly.

Raphael Schwarz reports: "Since the swinghandle lies flat and the profile half-cylinder is positioned inside the front wall housing, the latch is not a disruptive element. Thanks to the close collaboration with DIRAK, we have achieved our goal of combining functionality and ergonomics in an elegant design. We are completely satisfied with the solution." ■

# Spotlight on DIRAK



We don't read instruction manuals any more, we don't suffer through do-it-yourself books and we don't make inconvenient trips to presentations. Instead we watch a video. And video means much more than fun and games. It is the medium that informs us, entertains us and makes an emotional statement. **Infotainment** is not a new word and has long since become part of industry. At DIRAK we have also been using videos for a long time to deliver our messages and create added value for our customers by allowing them to obtain information quickly. And now with our own DIRAK film studio. To see the results, visit our website or LinkedIn channel. ■

# Multi-Point Latches within the Door Bending

**The DIRAK rod latch with quarter-turn offers an optimum solution for a wide range of different application areas outside of the sealing area.**

Functionality and a high level of closing convenience play an important role in application areas where rod latches are used. Our challenge was to design a locking system with quarter-turn prominently featuring a space-saving design and uniform sealing pressure. Our solution: the DIRAK product system 1-351 rod latch with quarter-turn as an extension to a multi-point system that can be used with low space requirement inside the door bending and outside the sealing area.

Since the system features especially smooth operation, it offers a high level of closing convenience and strength in just one closing process compared to conventional solutions. The rod latch can also be mounted quickly and without a tool by snapping it onto the housing. The flat rods are simply attached. A 90° activation process allows for a 20-mm stroke of the rods that are used. In combination with a grounding nut, the product system is also grounded. ■



6-008

# More Storage Capacity Thanks to Leveling Foot

**Save storage space and costs with a leveling foot? The new DIRAK leveling foot can do that by not only compensating for unevenness in the floor, but at the same time little by little emptying out the dusty old screws storage area.**

The reason for this is that the leveling foot consists of a ball joint and any large M8 hexagon head screw in accordance with DIN 933/ISO 4017. The modular structure makes it possible for the user to determine the height dimension, since only the ball joint and PA plate have to be purchased and are then combined with an already available M8 screw of any length. Mario Sauerbier, Junior Product Manager, explains: "With our leveling foot, a screw from the available screw storage area that is generally overfilled can be used. In addition, there is usually only one adjustable foot bearing with different thread lengths."

The new Leveling Foot 6-008 saves storage space for leveling feet in multiple sizes. This advancement promotes not only improved storage capacity, but also the wide range of variants – with just one product.

The hexagon head screw, the nut and the sleeve can be put together easily and without a tool, clicking into place to form the ball joint.

An ample angle of inclination of +/- 25° ensures horizontal compensation.

The height dimension can be precisely adjusted depending on the length of the screw with minimal effort using a standard open-end wrench (size 13 mm).

The significantly larger diameter of the ball increases the area of the contact surface and thus the force that can be absorbed by the leveling foot. To prevent the plate from breaking, the ball rests in an indentation. Because of this, the force can be exerted downward only, not to the sides. The plate of the DIRAK leveling foot can therefore be designed smaller relative to the load. This space-saving method makes it possible to mount the foot on the edge of the housing, which is especially advantageous for housings that stand next to each other.

The PA plate provides a firm, stable stand. In line with requirements, two sizes are available. To prevent the leveling foot from slipping, we recommend the optional matching anti-slip insert. It also absorbs vibrations and protects the floor against abrasion. ■

# How to Keep Doors from Springing Open Due to Overpressure

"If a hazardous situation arises due to overpressure, it must be ensured that a housing does not open uncontrollably and cause injuries to persons and damage in the surrounding area. Resilient and reliable components are indispensable for ensuring safety, protection and functionality.

In high, medium and low-voltage systems, high pressure can occur within the housing due to internal arcs. To prevent this and to protect persons in the vicinity of the switchgear, the pressure must not escape due to opening doors. The doors are secured with pressure-tight fittings from DIRAK GmbH.

According to international standard directive IEC 62271-202, doors must be secured in the event of an internal arc. Georg Hübner, Senior Product Trainer, explains: "If an internal arc occurs, doors and covers must not open. According to the directive, ejection of parts is permitted only up to an individual weight of 60g. No burn holes may be produced on the accessible sides up to a height of 2m and the cotton indicators suspended in front of the housing for test purposes must not be ignited." To ensure that the doors of the housings are secured on all four sides, the company has developed pressure-tight fittings.

The pressure-tight fitting of product system 1-451 can be combined with a conventional flat rod latch and a double bit 3 insert. The pressure-tight fittings are screwed onto another continuing flat rod 14x3 mm by means of a conventional flat rod latch. The locking pieces are secured onto the flat rod. The latching unit is fastened onto the flat rod with a set screw and can be adjusted into the correct position. Then a friction-locking connection with the flat rod is made with an additional set screw by screwing it into the latching unit at a 45° angle. A 10-mm bolt is inserted through the welded-on frame eye, thereby securing the door. It is also possible to fasten a frame eye with an M10 thread.

Georg Hübner explains: **"The pressure-tight fitting can be placed every hundred millimeters. This ensures that the door is securely locked and cannot be opened if pressures are exerted on the door from the inside towards the outside."** To ensure that the door is secured not only vertically but also horizontally, however, latching points must also be applied horizontally. With a 90° redirection, this can also be done around corners with a uniform sealing pressure on all three door edges. ■

# "Thinking around the Corner"

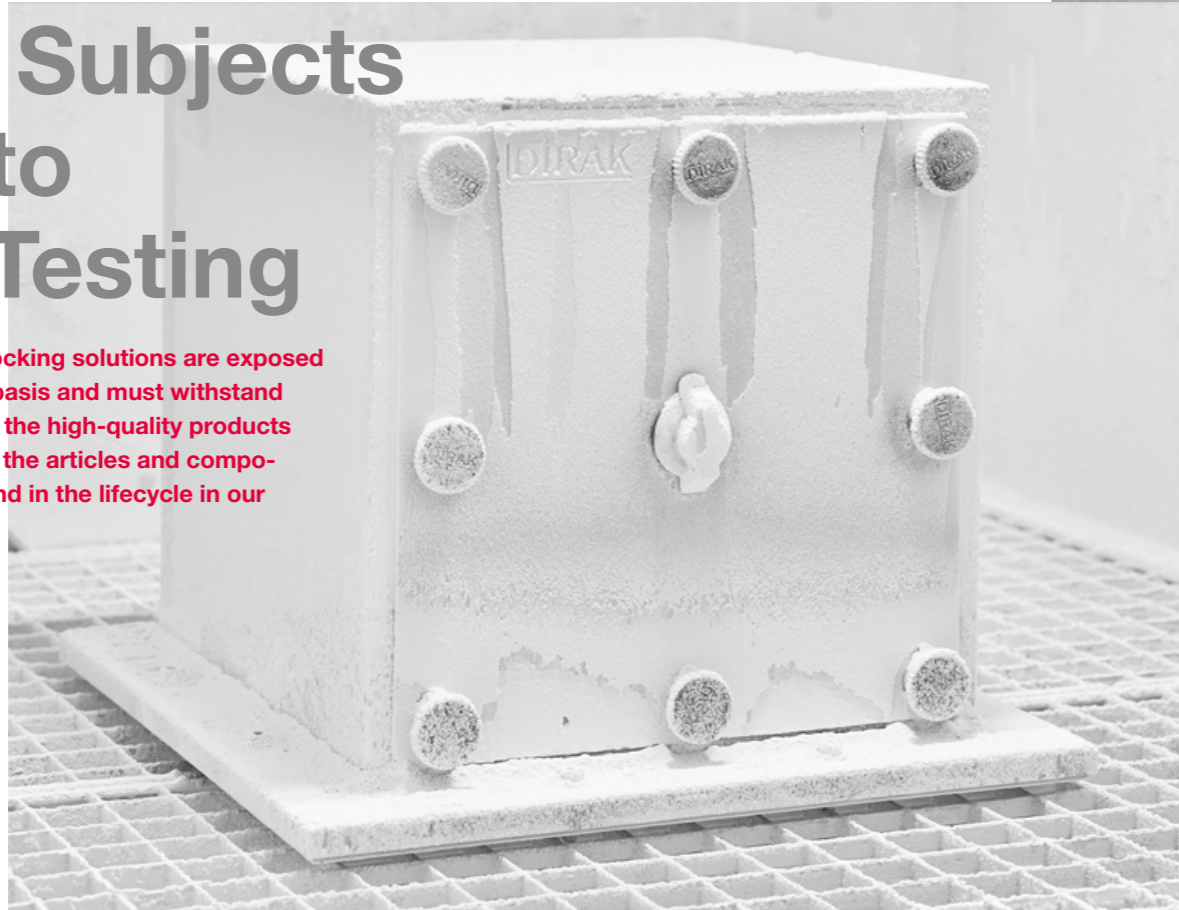
**Passing ICEs, high-pressure cleaners, disinfectants and vandalism: Switch cabinets and industrial housings are often exposed to extreme conditions. This poses a challenge to latching technology. With a multi-point systems including 90° redirection, doors close tightly and can be opened and closed with no problem.**

A solution is available in the 90° redirection 3-166 in combination with a flat rod latch. For locking, the flat rods in this system are combined with pressure-tight fittings. The flat rods are fastened at both horizontal sides and on one vertical side and are connected with each other by means of a 90° redirection. Depending on the size of the door, any number of latching points can be used spaced 100 mm apart, so that even large and heavy housing doors can be locked securely and uniformly in this way.

Due to the flat design, this variant requires little space and is suitable for cabinet doors which offer space in the door bending outside of the sealing area. The fastening option is on an M6 stud with sleeve nut, which is included with delivery. Thanks to the square rod holder, the 90° redirection can be mounted simply by attaching the flat rod at a 45° angle. ■

# Validation Subjects Products to Rigorous Testing

Pressure, vibrations, vandalism – our locking solutions are exposed to these and other stresses on a daily basis and must withstand them. To ensure that we always deliver the high-quality products our customers expect from us, we test the articles and components during the development phase and in the lifecycle in our in-house product validation.



In our climatic test chamber we test the behavior of products under extreme climate conditions, for example. To do this, test objects are exposed to high relative humidity, heat or extreme cold for extended times. On the other hand, we test whether a given product is dust-proof or how dust-proof it is in the dust test chamber. The chamber helps us meet the requirements of test standards to DIN EN 60529 for testing to IP5X and IP6X. Other systems and test benches in our product validation include

the salt spray and water spray test chambers, the load change testing equipment and our 3D printer. If there is a requirement that cannot be tested with our own options, we have a wide network of service providers and test laboratories to meet the specifications of our customers. In this way we ensure long-lasting products and especially the necessary safety and security in the various applications. ■

# What Does Quality Assurance Actually Do?



**Fabian Joest lets us take a look at his desk. He is the Team Leader of the QA Manufacturing Line department and has been with DIRAK since August 2016. He provides quality assurance for our products every day.**



**Work plan**

The work plan is one of the most important instruments in the daily work of a quality assurance specialist. It shows the quality assurance specialist the assembly instructions and parts list with the individual parts that make up the product being tested and how it is assembled.

**Phone**

The phone is an indispensable companion, used to clear up questions at any time with interfaces including design, sales, purchasing and project management.

**Technical drawing**

A technical drawing shows the product with its dimensions, making it an important addition to the work plan.

**Mask**

Safety first! Protective masks have long since become an established part of our everyday routine. And even if we can only show our faces rarely – Fabian Joest has not lost his laugh.

**Caliper gauge**

Are the dimensions correct? The caliper gauge is used to check whether the test piece is dimensionally accurate. There is probably no day when it is not used.

**Corner hinge/test piece**

What would a quality assurance specialist be without a test piece? Fabian Joest always tests and disassembles the original. He can almost feel without looking whether the dimensions are correct.

**Threaded screw plug**

The threaded screw plug is a piece of testing equipment that is used in the incoming goods inspection or a first sample test. It is used to measure whether the relevant threaded holes have the right dimensions.

**DIRAK screwdriver**

The most important tool aside from the threaded plug gauge and the caliper gauge is the screwdriver. It helps while disassembling the products and makes it possible to examine the components individually and precisely.

**Notebook**

Quality assurance does not always take place at the desk. At the beginning of the process, for internal challenges, Fabian Joest first records all relevant data at the respective assembly station such as the article and order number.

**TV-total coffee cup**

The old favorite show still brings back a few laughs even today during coffee break. And it's fun to speculate whether there will really be a reboot of TV-total.

# Our Brand for Mechatronic Latching Solutions

In addition to mechanical solutions, our product line also includes mechatronic locking solutions with the E-LINE by DIRAK brand. E-LINE by DIRAK offers modularly designed product systems for data and server racks plus housings for outdoor use and industrial applications. With our product solutions, you can control access and organize security for housings – either as a stand-alone solution or integrated into a management system.

Contact us – for contact information visit [elinebydirak.com/en/contact/](http://elinebydirak.com/en/contact/)

## The E-LINE Sales Team

The direct contacts for our customers: The E-LINE by DIRAK brand is represented worldwide by over 600 employees. Our direct contact persons help to find the right solution for different applications and consult on product questions.

**Akansel Sereflioglu**  
Sales Engineer

**Murat Othan**  
Sales Manager

**Winfried Ellers**  
Sales Manager

# NEW PRODUCTS



## The MLU1003 – for More Security and a Longer Service Life

For indoor or outdoor applications, the MLU1003 electronic rotary latch lock provides a high level of security by indicating not only the locking status but also the door status. In addition, premium high-end materials ensure high load capacity, durability and more. And the best of all: The MLU1003 is not visible on the door from the outside, since it is fastened in the housing on the frame side.

Complete details on the new electronic rotary latch lock are explained by our Sales Manager Murat Othan in a short video on our website.

Take a look!



## Reliable Locking and Unlocking with the MLA Door Contact

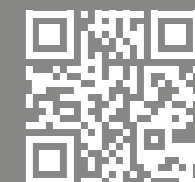
To ensure that machine operators in industry can work safely, it is important to secure the doors of machine systems so they cannot open while the machine is running. But how does the machine detect that its doors are closed? The new MLA door contact helps.

Often mechatronic latches only provide information about whether the latch is locked or not. They do not indicate whether the door is also closed or open. The new potential-free door contact solves this challenge by providing both pieces of information.

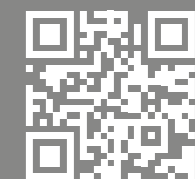


## Always informed

With our LinkedIn channel and a regularly published newsletter, you will always be up-to-date. Please follow us or subscribe to our newsletter through our website.



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Newsletter

# High-Strength Connections – Without Screws or Tools

**We've all been there: Sometimes it takes forever until what feels like thousands of screws have been screwed in and the rack is completely assembled. But how would it be if the rack could be assembled without screws? It would be much faster and easier to set up.**

And now this is actually possible with patented DIRAK-SNAP-Technology (DST). It creates high-strength connections that are absolutely equal to screw-based solutions. And this is achieved with no tools at all, with installation in just seconds – even in poorly accessible places. And the best of all is that there are practically no limits to the applications for DST fasteners.

DST withstands high strains and guarantees high strength and pull forces equal to screw connections in every regard. In addition, DST products are rattle, vibration and shock-proof. They are able to withstand the heaviest strains without compromising their fit accuracy and reliable high-strength connections. Numerous DST solutions have been successfully tested for vibration and

shock to DIN EN 61373 and also for earthquakes to GR-63-CORE, Issue 4. Our product line also includes components with DIRAK-SNAP-Technology that are electrically grounded due to the use of a grounding clip.

DST also has clear advantages over conventional screw connections when it comes to easy disassembly: Depending on the specific product, disassembly is possible with either standard commercial or DIRAK-specific special tools. Use of special tools is especially recommended as a way to prevent vandalism and unauthorized disassembly.

The idea behind DIRAK-SNAP-Technology is incredibly simple: It uses the

operating principle of a slam-latch, which is commonly found in doors for houses or rooms. It is based on a guide with tapered clamping jaws and a spring positioned in a window inside the guide. These SNAP elements are inserted into the guide channel of a device and held in place by fixing stops. If this fastener is then pressed through a cutout, the angled insert of the clamping jaws pushes the SNAP element back like a latch bolt in the guide channel and the spring is tensioned. As soon as the height of the clamping jaws is surpassed during the insertion process, the tensioned spring presses the SNAP elements back out of the guide channel. A distinctive "SNAP"

sound can be heard as this happens. The result: The fastener is now wedged in the cutout and holds the cutout elements together with great strength.

**Try it and see.** Take the challenge and compare our DST fasteners with traditional screws.



## Brief Information on Trade Fairs

Provided trade fairs can be held again in the second half of the year, we look forward to personal contact with you. You can find us October 26 to 29 at **Blechexpo** in Stuttgart. We look forward to seeing you!





# We are Pleased to Present:

We have made an addition to our company management. Our Managing Director Karl-Heinz Overhamm, who has held the position for many years, will be managing the company together with Florian Birkenmayer effective immediately, thus preparing for a structured handover to the new Managing Director.

As a qualified industrial engineer with an MBA in International Business Management, Florian Birkenmayer has been deeply involved in the development and marketing of new products ever since the beginning of his career. In some of his previous professional positions, he managed development at Siemens and was the Managing Director at GEZE GmbH. He was also spokesperson for company management at the fischer corporate group.

Development is also a top priority for us. Karl-Heinz Overhamm welcomes the inventive spirit embodied by the new addition to the board:

**"Florian Birkenmayer complements the DIRAK family, bringing even more professional expertise in one of our strongest areas of competence. I am looking forward to working together and also to placing the company in competent hands soon."**



Karl-Heinz Overhamm

Florian Birkenmayer



# Florian Birkenmayer

Florian Birkenmayer also comes with relevant international experience: He managed the Development and Product Management Center for Siemens in China for three years and studied at various times in Singapore, Japan and the USA (Silicon Valley). Mr Birkenmayer also directed the Product Marketing, Product Management and Key Account Management departments for Siemens Building Technologies in Switzerland for four and a half years. So our global network established by Karl-Heinz Overhamm will continue to be reinforced.

Our new Managing Director is delighted to be working internationally while at the same time remaining true to a mid-size enterprise with the new position:

**"Decision-making procedures are significantly shorter than in large corporations. Here you have an idea and if it's good, it will actually be implemented."** ■

# We have exactly what you need **or** we'll invent it.



## In a nutshell

We asked our customers: **What is important for you in our collaboration and what is it that makes DIRAK who we are?** The answers are easy to summarize: We understand our customers' applications and we care about the right solution from start to finish, whether it be from our standard product range or a customer project. The new DIRAK advertising campaign puts it in a nutshell: We will invent exactly what you need. Feel free to measure us by that standard. ■

## ... what next?

We hope we have given you insight into the exciting world of DIRAK with the first edition of our magazine and look forward to your feedback.

And if you can't wait until the next edition, please feel free to subscribe to our digital channels including LinkedIn and the newsletter, and to visit our website. You can also find your direct contact person here. Our website also has useful features including the hinge recommendation and an option for downloading CAD data. **We look forward to seeing you!** ■

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Hinge Recommendation



CAD Data



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