

## **Press Release**

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### **New version of FRITZ & MACZIOL now completely web-based**

#### **VAS V5: Optimisation of logistics processes for cement, lime, gypsum and bulk solids industries**

Ulm, 31. May 2011. Controlling logistics processes in plants worldwide, including forwarders and customers in procedures transparently and taking local peculiarities into account: with the new VAS Version 5, FRITZ & MACZIOL is now ensuring more efficiency and cost-effectiveness in the logistics processes of the cement, lime, gypsum and bulk solids industries. This solution has an integrated web-based user interface that can be operated via every current web browser. This means it isn't just possible to adjust the look and feel to the relevant corporate design of the company. Using central templates it is also possible to define standard processes that only have to be adjusted to local peculiarities and statutory provisions in the individual plants. The central control system makes it easier to integrate VAS in ERP or invoicing systems such as SAP, Oracle or Navision to support controlling at company headquarters. "Global players like Dyckerhoff, HeidelbergCement, HOLCIM and Lafarge have already relied on standardising cross-border processes for some time. This will now be depicted easily and economically with the new version. Smaller and medium sized companies will gain flexibility, because the web-based solution can be easily implemented and it can also be used directly as a 'cloud service' offered by our computer centre," summarised Claus Jordan, VAS Director Business Development & Marketing.

Forwarders and customers can also be easily and transparently integrated in the logistics process now. Lots of information that used to be requested by telephone is now available online with VAS 5. Customer-specific reports and truck management in the plant (standing and throughput times) can thus be called up in real time. By using modern web technologies this information is loaded on a central server and not via a PC on site. Just in time deliveries are guaranteed and optimised by online access. By integrating the silo filling level monitoring from the VAS partner Orbit Solutions order processes can be initiated automatically.

#### **Secure access through differentiated authorisation control**

Improved user-specific access to data is guaranteed with the new version VAS 5. This means the screens or fields the individual customer, forwarder or employee can access can be individually set. To efficiently design the user's work procedures only the data relevant to the user is shown.

#### **About VAS**

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VAS – the process oriented software solution for the cement, lime, gypsum and bulk solids industries - depicts the whole process chain from delivery to vehicle scheduling and loading up to exit. As a link between ERP systems and technical facilities, VAS is the key and locking screw for efficient processes. VAS also supports reporting and provides real time information in additional systems, such as for production, sales and controlling. All external technical systems, such as weighing, silo or dosage technology, are completely integrated in the VAS Logistics system procedures. VAS is currently used in more than 120 plants in the cement, gypsum, lime and bulk solids industries worldwide.

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The FRITZ & MACZIOL Group has positioned itself in Germany and Switzerland and with FRITZ & MACZIOL Asia Inc. and service offices in various other countries it has also done so worldwide. Both a specialist and a generalist in equal measure, as a system and consultancy business the Group offers a holistic portfolio of hardware, software, services and consultancy in selected areas. The companies in the FRITZ & MACZIOL Group develop and distribute software and system solutions for public clients, SMEs and large companies. The Group of companies is a top partner of IBM, Microsoft and SAP with the highest certifications. It makes the complete spectrum of relevant IT issues available to customers on the basis of the latest technologies from these world market leaders as well as other producers. As part of the Dutch technology group Imtech N.V. the system and consultancy business uses synergies within the Imtech ICT Division and cooperation partners from other divisions. These include the German Imtech data centre, thus using European synergies too.