

Schwank Case Study:

A fascinating facility with state-of-the-art heating technology



„Rapid, evenly distributed and quiet heat without air movement, dust swirls or a drafty feeling.“

Matthias Marquardt,
Head of After Sales Service,
Porsche Centre Würzburg



The facility

The Porsche Centre in Würzburg is one of the oldest owner-operated Porsche Centres in Germany with a rich tradition. In order to expand its capacity, the centre moved from the city centre to the Estenfeld suburb and is now covering a space of 11,000 square metres which is three times as large as before. With the architecture based on the globally standardised Porsche design language, one of the most advanced Porsche centres in Germany was built. Aesthetics as well as equipment represent the high standards of the Porsche group.

The centre now comprises an exhibition hall of approx. 1,000m² as well as a spacious workshop [with the move, the Porsche centre doubled the workshop capacity from 7 to 14 stations with lifting platforms].

The building project also had to comply with the Porsche standards in regards to energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.

The issue

Not only are the professionalism and competency of their people accepted as standard but having cutting edge technology and state-of-the-art equipment within their buildings are also Porsche's trademarks. So, it stood to reason that the heating had to comply with the latest technology standards.

The old building was heated by a hot water based warm air heater system which was not a very positive experience. On the one hand, the devices were very noisy and on the other, they caused unpleasant drafts and created a lot of dust movement. This did not only have a negative effect on the showroom atmosphere and experience but also on the costs.

It was decided that a high-efficient heating system was required for the new centre. The best possible solution turned out to be Schwank gas infrared heaters. For some years now, these heaters have been used in new Porsche Centres and are working with great success.



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Implementation

The workshop hall to be heated comprised a service area with a big entrance door. The heating system had to meet the following requirements: an even temperature distribution in various areas and an efficient operation without any dust swirls or drafts.

The decision was made in favour of the high-performance infraSchwank radiant heaters. The devices were equipped with a modulating control to increase comfort and reduce the energy consumption. Thanks to their exceptional energy efficiency, only 4 devices were needed. The high radiation efficiency does not only reduce the energy consumption, but also the CO₂ emissions compared to conventional warm air heaters.

For the comfortable heating of the workshop based on actual needs, Schwank also installed the heating control system ThermoControl Plus M. The heating was divided into two control zones, the area at the entrance door and the service area at the back.

Results

The new heating system completely meets the expected requirements. The main advantages of the system are efficiency, reliability and low maintenance effort.

The employees are very satisfied with the heating system. Schwank radiant tube heaters do not only offer comfortable heat, but also a practically noiseless operation. Furthermore, annoying drafty air and dust swirls, which are usual for warm air heaters, are completely prevented. The floor of the new workshop is so clean that you could almost eat on it! Furthermore, it is possible to advise customers directly at their vehicles and let them see over the shoulder of the mechanics. Another advantage: Much lower operating costs when compared to the old heating system.

The workshop operator, Service Manager Marquart: "The new workshop with the new heating system makes the work more comfortable and is simply fun!"



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