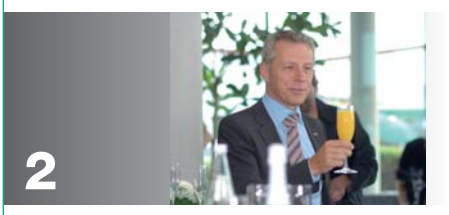
# SPEED

## The VIPA journal

Company Newspaper of VIPA GmbH No. 11 November 2010



**25 years of VIPA**
A success story in the interview




**Production of batteries**
VARTA mixes with SPEED7

## CONTENT

## FOREWORD

With this VIPA Journal you are holding the first issue of our new customer newspaper. There are few reasons for the name of our newspaper, because SPEED has many meanings for us. First there is the high speed PLC system 300S with SPEED7 technology. How this technology is applied successfully in practice can be read in the article SPEED7.

There is also a philosophy connected with SPEED for VIPA, namely in reacting very fast and flexible to customer's requirements and market demands. There is more about this in the interview with Wolfgang Seel.

SPEED also stands for many sporting activities of VIPA and profichip, a subsidiary of VIPA. The SPEED7 Racing Team consisting of several teams, also mixed, regularly takes part in the international street marathon Maratona dles Dolomites and also in the Challenge Roth, one of the most important triathlon competitions worldwide.

The VIPA Journal will also introduce our company with its previous successes and targets for the future. Our employees contribute substantially to this. In this issue we will introduce the department of VIPA with which you as our customer has the main contact.

Finally our column "last page" motivates you to some activities. Here you can find recipes of our chef and leisure activities.

Enjoy reading the first issue of our VIPA Journal.

Your Wolfgang Seel

# A success story – in the interview

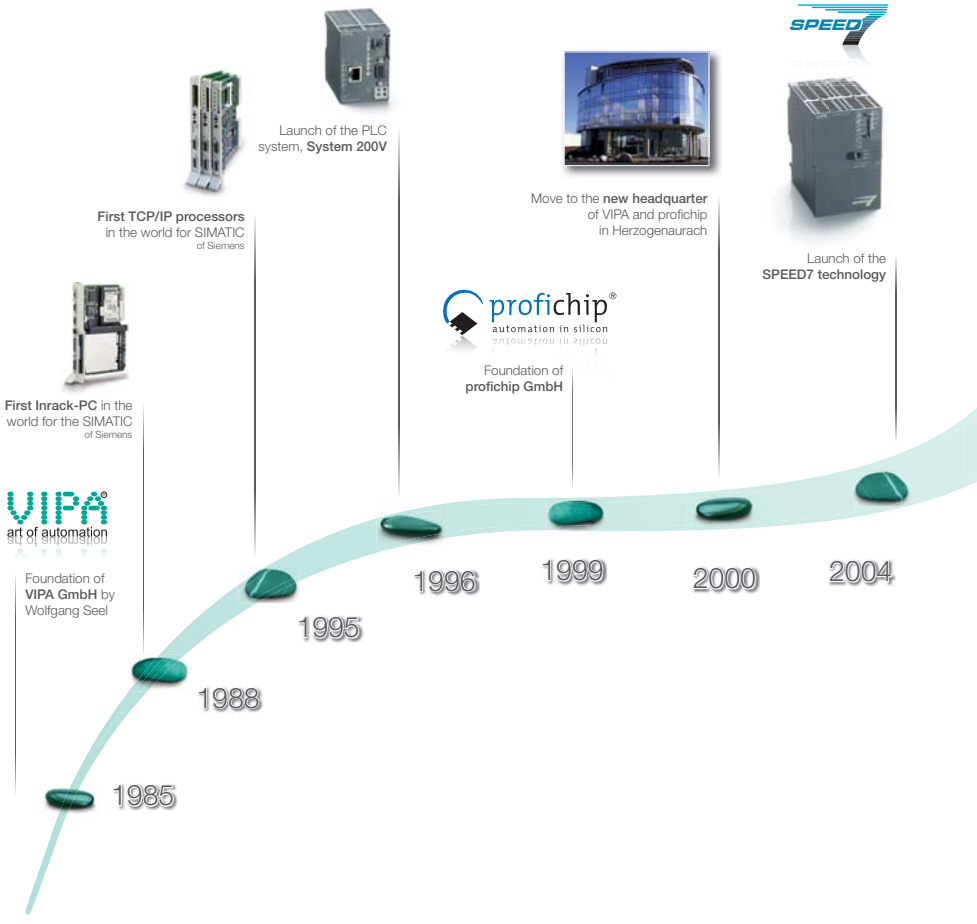
**VIPA - a company which is especially well-know as an imitator of Siemens controls in its 25 years of corporate history. In the following interview CEO Wolfgang Seel says, how he - not only – has changed the image but also the technological orientation of the company and how he is going to change it further on.**

**C&A: VIPA is considered to be an imitator of Siemens products – from the visual aspects up to the product names!**

W. Seel: The imitator image came up in a phase, where we focused strongly on the compatible modules – this was from 1997 until 2002. I think that we changed this image long time ago, because a pure imitation strategy will not be successful for the long term. This means we have been trying since the times of S5 to offer solutions with our technologies which Siemens do not have. Nevertheless, I have to mention that we still have partially the same module type and software compatibility.

**C&A: How did you get the idea to build your own modules and than complete control systems?**

W. Seel: The original business idea of VIPA is based on the idea of a classical system integrator. During the past years we have developed from engineering in the Siemens field to a producer of our own components. This step was necessary, due to the lack of important product features, like e. g. a real-time clock or flexible communication possibilities. At that time we developed the first Inrack PC, serial communication processors and TCP/IP connection for a Simatic-S5. As a result of this complete control systems based on the Siemens programming surface were developed.



# „We want to position ourselves under the Top 5 worldwide in the automation market.“

**C&A: How would you define the relationship to Siemens?**

W. Seel: Many things had changed: Exactly 10 years ago we were deluged by a flood of lawsuits on behalf of Siemens. I think they were 21 claims, 7 of them were relevant and we focused on these. All claims were decided to our satisfaction. One last lawsuit of this time is pending and we are expecting a decision on this in 2012. But for our further development and for our business this has no relevance.
Especially in the last few years the relationship to Siemens has normalized and we are recognized as a serious competitor.

**C&A: What does the future look like for VIPA?**

W. Seel: In the last few years we have specifically developed from a components supplier to a system supplier. We will consequently follow this strategy. Sure, today in the first place we are selling over 30,000 controllers worldwide annually, half of them abroad. But we are also thinking about new, modern and user friendly software platforms and alternative solutions, which are suitable for Step7 users and in which already existing programs could be imported and used easily. With this VIPA will position itself in the future more independently as a full-service provider, without leaving the business model of Siemens compatibility completely.

**C&A: On the way to a system supplier – does this mean expanding in areas like Drives or Safety?**

W. Seel: Around our core competence „Control“ we are completing our product portfolio. This also contains the topic “Safety”. Concretely we will present our first Safety I/O modules at the SPS/IPC/Drives fair and next year a Step7 based Safety controller. Concerning “Drives” we are cooperating very closely with well-known producers of drives. We are developing complex and individual solutions together for customers and projects.

(Computer & Automation, 09/2010, the interview was led by Meinrad Happacher, Editor in Chief)

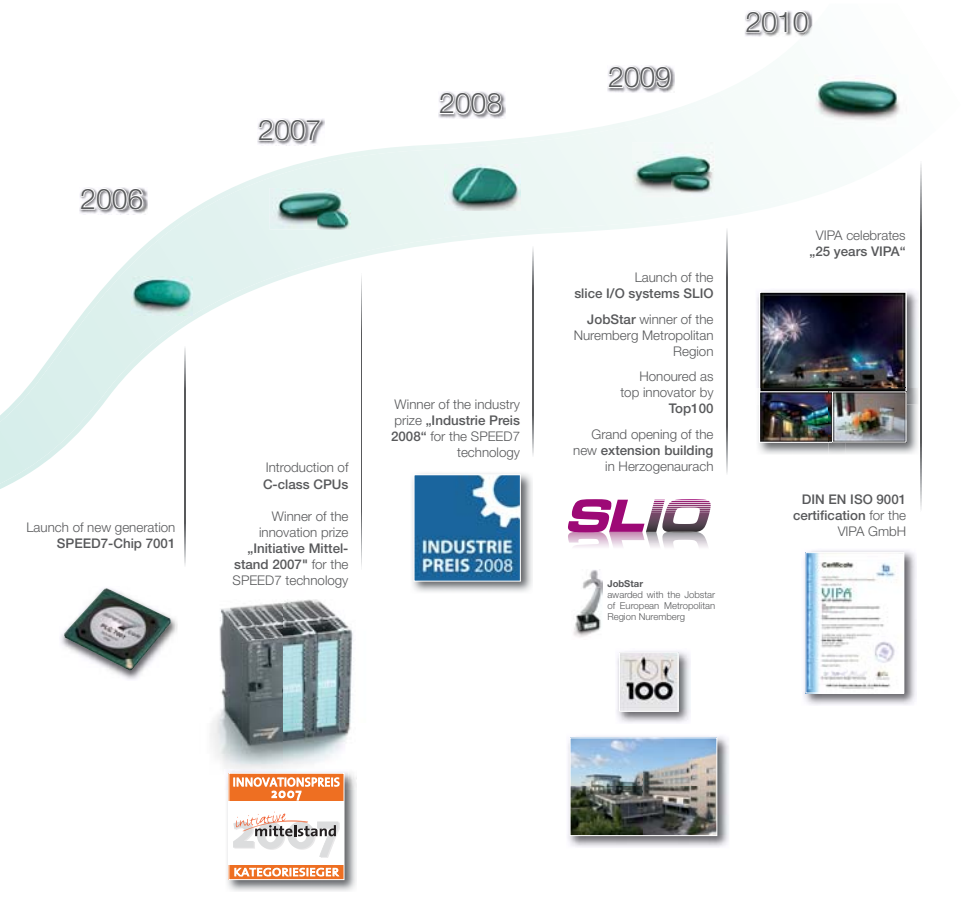
**C&A: What does your corporate vision look like?**

W. Seel: We want to position ourselves under the Top 5 worldwide in the automation market. This means, we want to join in with the league of suppliers like Siemens, Rockwell Automation, Mitsubishi and Schneider Electric and want to establish ourselves as a technology leader in this area. This is not only a vision! For this reason we are working on the implementation of the corporate strategy “VIPA 2020”.

The first milestone of „VIPA 2020“ was achieved last year in July through the certification according to ISO 9001/2008. The next important strategic targets are internationalisation, opening up new market segments and the continuous addition of our product portfolio based on SPEED7 technology. Hence we will also launch SPEED7 controllers in the segments of small and micro controllers in 2011
.

**C&A: What turnover targets accompany your vision?**

W. Seel: In the medium term we are planning to sell 150,000 controllers per year. Provided that the previous growth of approx. 20% of the past years will continue, we will make a turnover of 150 up to 200 Mio. Euro only in the controller area in 2020. ■



# The VIPA success story in facts and figures

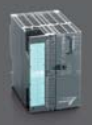
## AWARDS

### 2007

Our product “SPEED7 – fastest Hard-PLC worldwide” was awarded with the innovation prize 2007 of the “Initiative Mittelstand”.


### 2008

The SPEED7 CPU 314SC of VIPA GmbH was awarded by the “Initiative Mittelstand” with the industrial prize 2008 in the category industrial automation amongst more than 600 applicants.




Our product “EasyConn PB” was awarded 2nd place by the readers of the journal “A&D” within the “A&D BEST PRODUCT GUIDE” in the category electro mechanics & power engineering.


### 2009

On 29th April 2009 VIPA was awarded with the 133rd Jobstar by the metropolitan region Nürnberg.


VIPA is one of the 100 most innovative German mid-sized companies.


## 25 years

**From the engineering of Siemens compatible modules to a supplier of complete PLC systems - a brief summary of the company’s history**

Asimus Building in Erlangen
1995 | ~30 employee

New building in Herzogenaurach
2000 | ~70 employee

Building extension in Herzogenaurach
2008 | ~130 employee

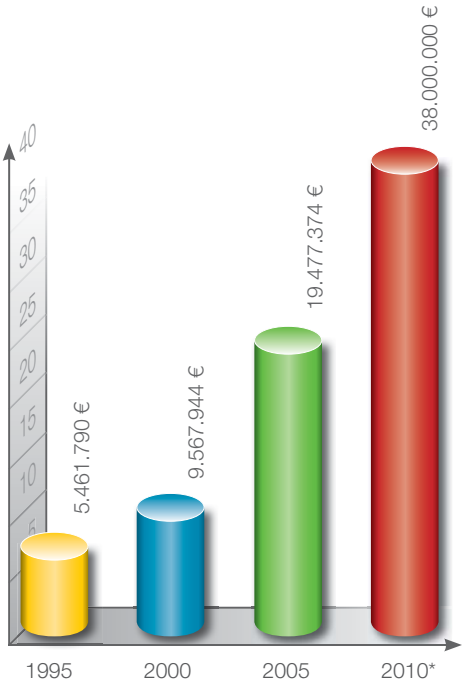
With the development and production of Siemens compatible modules the 25 year long history of VIPA began in Erlangen, before the company moved to Herzogenaurach. The first complete PLC control system was launched with the System 200V on the market, which was completed in the following few years with the systems 100V, 300V and finally 300S based on SPEED7 technology. With the new system SLIO VIPA launched a decentral I/O system this year on the market that combines a highly compact design with high functionality and a complete new concept of mechanics.

The product portfolio encloses extremely compact systems for small applications up to classical control systems in S7/300 design. All systems can be applied central as well as decentral and are programmable with STEP7 from Siemens and/or with the programming tool WinPLC7 from VIPA. There is a large portfolio available for the visualisation in the setups of Touch Panels for industrial and building automation. Products for the PLC environment like Teleservice modules, Profibus DP plugs, visualisation and PLC programming softwares and S5/S7 conversion modules round up the product ranges. So VIPA is one of the few suppliers of complete systems on the automation engineering market.

An important basis for the corporate success of VIPA is the alignment of the company to precise guidelines regarding quality policy, strategy and corporate objectives. Details are described in the article “ISO certification”.

The corporate objectives of VIPA orientate themselves to the situation on the worldwide market of automation engineering. VIPA would like to become amongst the Top 5 of technology leaders and wants to be recognized as an innovative company. Valuable and qualitative convincing products plus the realization of specific customer demands in fast and flexible way, give the customers a competitive edge. This means: customer satisfaction has highest priority, starting from the products development up to the service for installed control systems.

Several awards as well as the innovation performance of VIPA and the commitment for creating regional workplaces were recognized and this confirms that VIPA is on the right way to an assured future. ■




*estimated sales volume

# ISO 9001 - certification

## Since 23rd July 2010

**VIPA GmbH has been certified with the DIN EN ISO 9001 (issue: 2008) by the TAW Cert certification company.**

The certificate for an improved and certified quality management system was not a priority for VIPA at the beginning, but it was the possibility to adapt the existing company and organizational structures to the full-sized enterprise. With this the requirements of the ISO-9001 certification offer the appropriate framework. The implementation resulted in many of the requirements being essentially exceeded.

First there was the introduction of the process management, which illustrates the complete product engineering process from the first idea up to the final product development. This enables every employee to navigate through the complete corporate processes to understand the correlation from the development inquiry to the supplier evaluation.
For this reason there was a new definition of our quality policy and the adaption of existing QM systems to the general process orientation. All relevant documents like QM manuals, process instructions, forms etc. were provided for the employees on the intranet to make fast and constant access possible. So a consistent and paperless realisation of all relevant information was possible.
A very important aspect was the involvement of the employees in the information as well as in the decision process from the beginning onwards. It was clear, that a successful implementation of the requirements depends on the motivation of the employees. Constant meetings with differently composed committees monitor the scheduled progress of the measures and take the necessary corrections. With the certification this process is not completed but will steadily continue.

Before the auditing took place by TAW in June 2010, several internal audits of all concerned departments were made by the quality manager. The target was to check the implementation of the requirements but also to make the employees familiar with the changed quality policy and to motivate them accordingly. These audits will also be repeated periodically.

Due to the intensively prepared measures the external audits were able to be finished successfully on 18th June 2010 by TAW Cert with the issue of the DIN EN ISO 9001 certificate.

**What does this mean for you as our customer?**

The achievement of a constantly high product quality will be focused stronger in the process operation. For this purpose a wide range of preventive quality assurance which already starts in product planning, enables us to keep the costs for error deletion as low as possible. Quality saves costs due to less rework, less waste of resources. These cost savings reflect in competitive product prices.

Regularly enquiring about customer satisfaction by means of surveys concerning product, service and quality satisfaction supplies us with information about customer expectations and market demands. For this purpose we defined and implemented new processes.

Also the subjects data privacy and safety are for us up to date and are implemented within the process management, because for you as our customer it is important to know what happens with your data. As part of the implementation of the newly defined quality policy we focus on the employee orientation. Main instruments for this are improvements and a precise planning of the employee training and qualification.

Our domestic and foreign suppliers are also integrated into the quality management system. Here the minimum standard is a certificated QM system.

So you as our customer can assume that you are the centre of all our considerations and all measures mentioned are to realize your wishes and ideas. The DIN EN ISO 9001 certificate will give you additional security in your decision for applying VIPA products. ■


Certificato Certyfikat Certificate Certificado Certificat

Zertifikat

TAW Cert

Die Zertifizierungsstelle TAW Cert
Zertifizierungsgesellschaft mbH für QM-Systeme und Personal

bescheinigt hiermit, dass das Unternehmen

VIPA®
art of automation

VIPA
Gesellschaft für Visualisierung und Prozessautomatisierung mbH
Ohmstr. 4
91074 Herzogenaurach

Für den Geltungsbereich
Steuerungssysteme und Bediensysteme für die Automatisierungstechnik

ein Qualitätsmanagementsystem eingeführt hat und anwendet.

Durch ein Audit vom 16.06.2010 bis 18.06.2010 wurde der Nachweis erbracht, dass die Anforderungen der
DIN EN ISO 9001
(Ausgabe 2008 ohne 7.5)
erfüllt sind.

Dieses Zertifikat ist gültig bis 22.07.2013

Zertifikat-Registrier-Nr.: 19010110

Altdorf, den 23.07.2010

Dr.-Ing. Dietmar Winner, Geschäftsführer TAW Cert GmbH

TGA-ZM-24-94-00

TAW Cert GmbH • Fritz-Bauer-Str. 13 • 90518 Altdorf

Dieses Zertifikat ist Eigentum der TAW Cert GmbH

Picture 1: DIN EN ISO 9001 certificate

# SPEED7 in practice

## VARTA mixes with VIPA

# For Varta and Xapi

**there were several arguments to apply VIPA SPEED7 CPUs in the controls for important production areas. First the existing controls which still have S5 components have to be combined with S7 control systems avoiding large expenditure of material and time while maintaining the functionality. By means of S7 controls the best solution can be realized for the increasing demands. This article shows how this was able to be realized successfully with SPEED7 in the newly conceived plant control.**


VARTA CONSUMER BATTERIES

**The company Varta Consumer Batteries GmbH & Co. KGaA**

The company Varta Consumer Batteries GmbH & Co. KGaA is part of the Spectrum Brands Group, an American conglomerate including well-known names like Remington. Varta is a provider of innovative quality products in the areas battery, accumulators, charger and pocket lamps. Global locations guarantee an expansion of the market position especially in central Europe.

**The situation and scope**

Alkaline batteries are produced in Dischingen (Germany), the only manufacturing location in Europe. As a part of modernizations in the production area the plant for the production of cathode (granulate) which is necessary for the production of cathode rings of alkaline batteries has to be equipped with new control and operation components. The basic relevance was to leave the procedural installation and functionality unchanged. Due to that this installation has a key position in the whole assembly. A failure of this installation could not been compensated by other measures, so great accuracy during planning and realization of the project was necessary.

Before the modernisation of Siemens SIMATIC S5 as well as SIMATIC S7 control components were already applied in the installation. There were only five days of production for the complete remodelling of the assembly. The basis for the future approach was the circuit diagrams, the available S5 programming code of the existing controls as well as the operating instructions for single parts of the installation.

**Realisation**

XAPI®

The implementation of all measures was made by XAPI Software GmbH located in Speyer. XAPI develops software for weighing and dosage processes in the area of automation engineering and is one of the speciality suppliers on the market. Since 2006 XAPI has also had an official VIPA system partner; some projects were realised successfully together in the past.

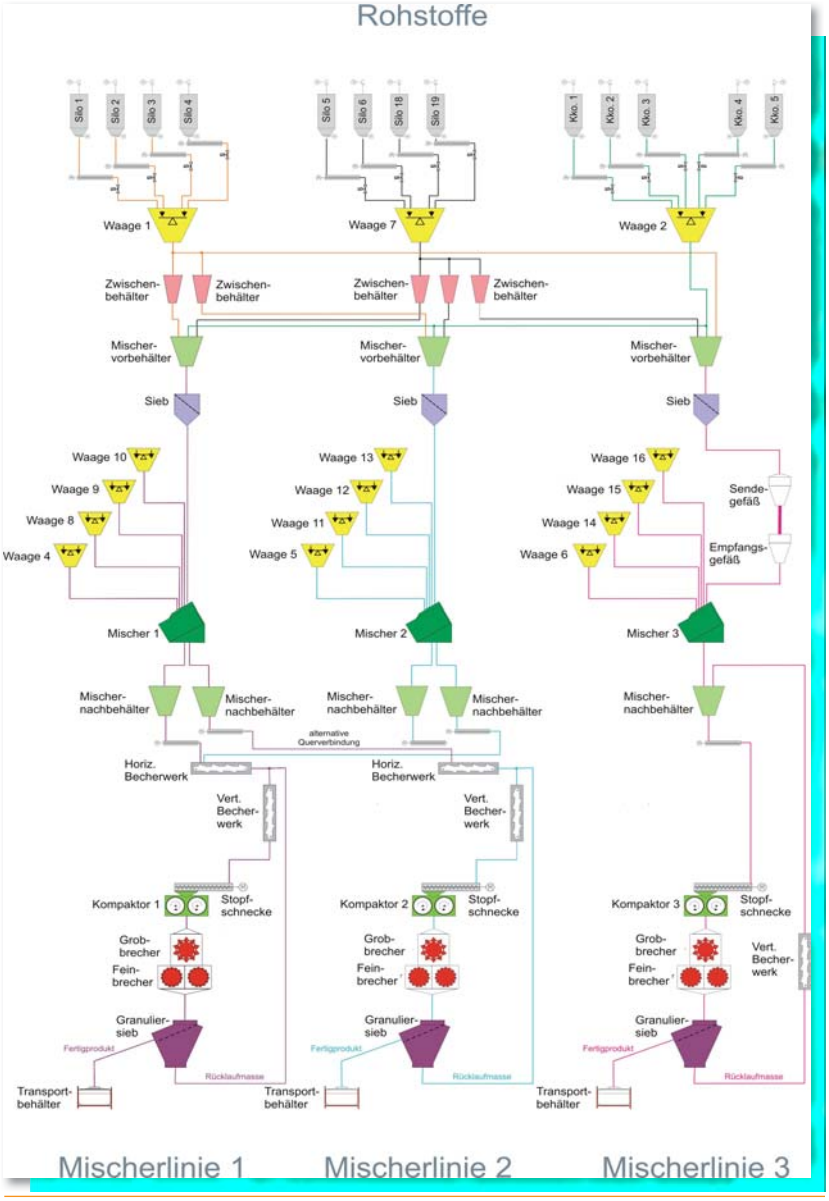
For the realization of these project the VIPA system 300S with SPEED7 technology was applied. For this, six CPUs 315NET in total as well as a CPU 317NET were applied (see fig 5). With this constellation cycle times of less than 20ms, in normal cases even under 9ms (fig 2) were achieved.

Due to this fast cycle time is was only possible to use the available SIWAREX M modules as signal modules, as the SIWAREX M dosing function used so far were replace by dosing modules within the new S7 programs. This measure opens the possibility to freely choose the connection of the scales now and in the future. There is no need for the additional application of discrete Ethernet modules due

AUTORE

**Mark Kohl**
Sales Engineer
Bachelor of Business Administration

In cooperation with Fa. Varta and Fa. XAPI




Picture 1: Schematically representation of the plant


Picture 2: Constellation with cycle times under 20ms

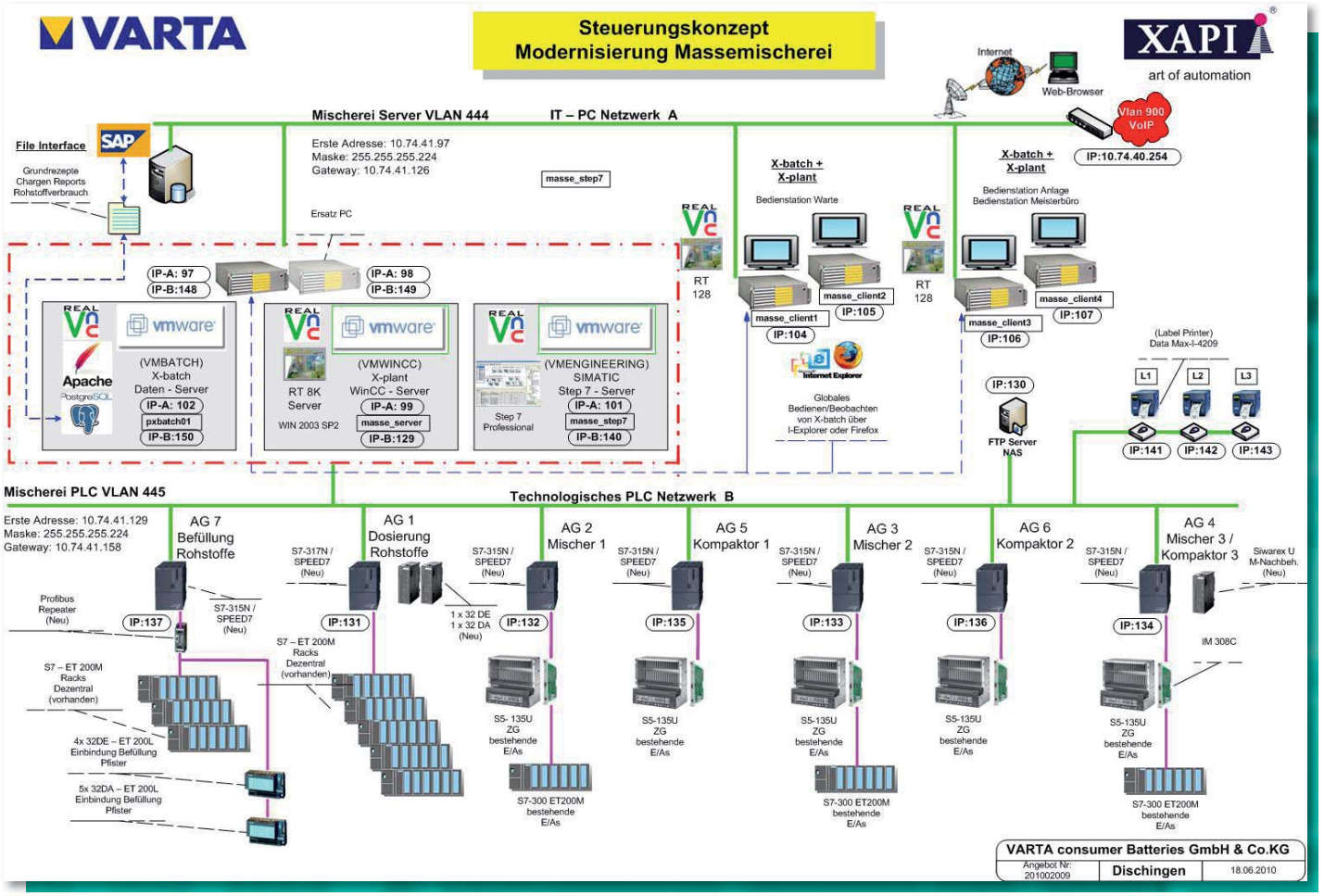
Picture 3: Test setup simulation with original components

to the integrated Ethernet interface of VIPA CPUs and their CP343 functionalities. Furthermore the Ethernet interface can be used for the connection to the applied webserver from XAPI via the TCP/IP protocol. Overall the CPU change leads to a considerable performance increase.

By the application of VIPA SPEED7 CPUs a cycle time of less than 20ms (9ms) was achieved as already described above. In comparison to the applied S5 CPU which achieved a cycle time of 800ms/1s, the VIPA CPU is faster by a factor of 40 to 100 times. The high performance was also necessary, as the program process of the newly applied Batch system depends on the cycle time of the PLC system. So it succeeded in removing the complete weighing engineering into the PLC and to realize the technical process faster.

The result is an additional positive effect that the reaction time of the whole application was able to be reduced. The various application possibilities of customary MMC cards in the CPUs like cyclic data storage or the storage of the latest release numbers were the reasons for the application of VIPA CPUs. XAPI has already had good experiences with this function in the past and so they expanded the software with CPUs from VIPA.

The large work memory of standard 1MB at the CPU 315SN/NET and 2MB at the CPU 317SN/NET offers enough memory reserves, as the storage efficiency of the CPUs in the VARTA control is around 50%. Subsequent project expansions are possible without CPU change. Especially with the VIPA specific MMC memory extension card a flexible storage adaptation with additional efforts is possible.




Picture 4: Control concept XAPI for the modernization

XAPI applied the VIPA CPU 315SN/NET or 317 SN/NET respectively in connection with their own software due to the high memory capacity and the fast cycle times of the VIPA SPEED7 CPUs. At least the Siemens CPU 317 had to be applied as a competitive product in order to achieve a comparable performance. Due to the perfect price-performance ratio the end customer VARTA also decided for the VIPA solution. For the new server system a new platform with several virtual engines were selected. The new batch system, the new visualisation, the engineering station as well as the teleservice of XAPI among others are installed in the individual engines (see fig 4).

The available batch administrative system (Delphi application of several modules) was replaced by the standard software X-Batch from XAPI. The software is Web-based; so all PCs within the work group can access on to the server.

The application of the software X-PLANT form XAPI enables a comfortable operating and parameterization of the modules used. So delay times, turn-on and –off delays or measured-value parameterizations for example are completely readable or changeable via the visualisation. X-PLANT offers detailed diagnosis possibilities: so the circuit diagram of each group of the plant is stored as a PDF file in the visualisation. The S7 program including chip description and online values are visible via the extend diagnosis for each part of the plant. There is a system overview within the visualisation available, which allows an extensive diagnosis of single VIPA PLCs, the internal bus system (Profibus) and the superior network (Ethernet) as well as the connected server and clients.

*„The high memory capacity and the fast cycle times spoke for VIPA CPUs.“*

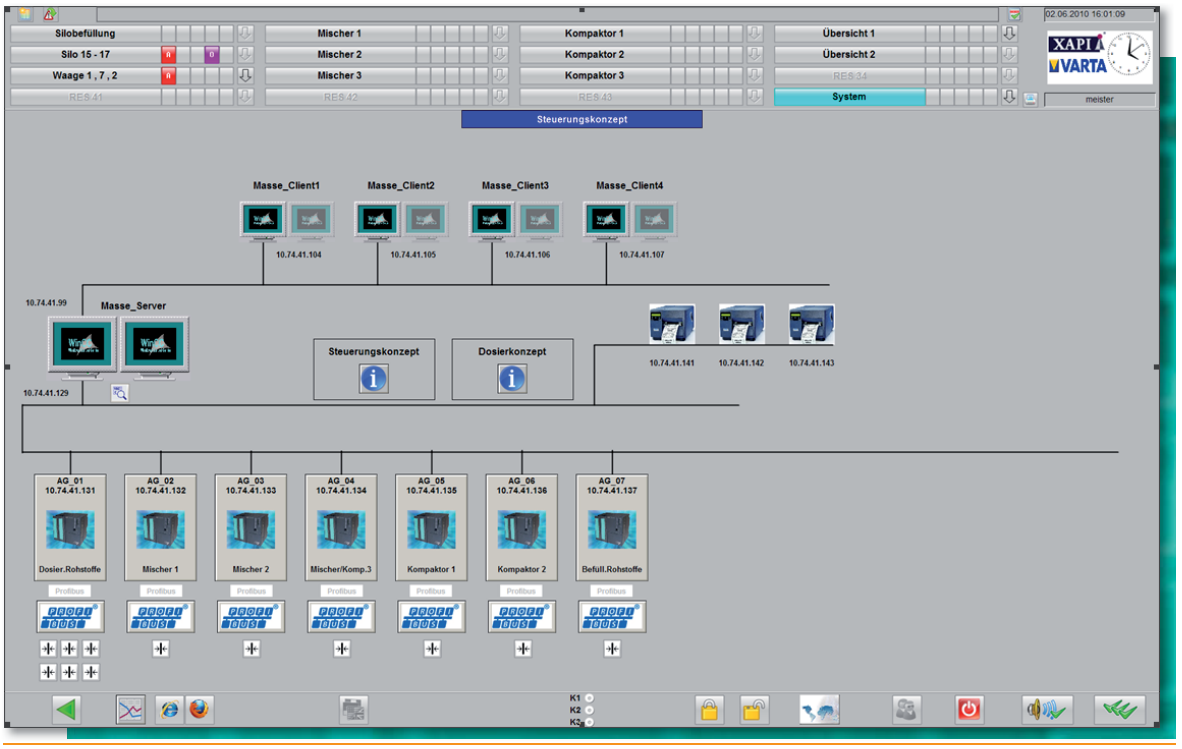
## Installation

To avoid extensive wiring work during the project realisation/installation the existing S5 modules remain completely unchanged. For this the allocation modules (SIMATIC S5 IM308-C) were used as slaves in the Profibus configuration of the new VIPA PLCs. Already existing S7 modules (e. g. SIWAREX M, digital and analog in-/outputs) were also connected to the DP slave. The new VIPA PLCs only need a power supply and a Profibus connection, which is already integrated in the CPUs.

A risk free inspection of the plant functionality was possible by the complete simulation in the test installation. These guarantee a fast and smooth installation. The whole plant could be immediately passed to the warm start up after signal test or manual start up followed by the start of production.

## Plant description

The whole plant exists from three mixer lines, the interconnection between the lines will usually only be activated in case of error of single parts of the plant. To the single lines 13 silos are upstreamed, in which the source material is stockpiled. Depending on the processed formula the source material are weighed, buffered in a temporary container and than forwarded to the mixer pre-container




Picture 5: Integration of the VIPA CPUs in the control concept

of the single mixer lines. When all source materials of a formula collected in a mixer pre-container, the content passes through a screening machine in order to eliminate foreign substances.

The screened material goes into the mixer. Each mixer line has three additional scales for small components (e. g. scale 8, 9, 10) and a scale for electrolyte (e. g. scale 4). When all fixed components of the formula are filled up into the mixer a dry blending is carried out. The procedure of the blending is contained in the formula. After dry mixing the electrolyte is added and the wet mixing starts. This procedure is also contained in the formula. After mixing the content is filled into the next mixing container, from which the material will be forwarded into the compactor. Here the fine-grained material will be mechanically compressed according to the procedure of pelletizing and the slugs gained are crushed in a coarse crusher and two fine crushers.

### Control description

In the plant described the VIPA CPUs 315SN/NET and the 317SN/NET are part of the Ethernet network. Here the CPU 317SN/NET takes over the central control function at the dosage of the raw material (AG 1), the six CPUs 315SN/NET are each the central control unit for the filling of the raw material (AG 7) as well as for the mixer and compactors (AG 2 up to AG 6). All CPUs are connected via Profibus with S5 or S7 expansion racks (fig 4 and fig 5). The produced granulate is forwarded through a screen plant, where it is separated into fine and coarse parts. The screened fine parts are supplied to the mixer container for further compaction. The coarse parts are filled into mobile supply bins and are stored for processing in the cellular production.
The procedural setup of the three lines is identical. But there are differences between spatial and mechanical setup, at which augers or bucket chain conveyors are applied for implementing the material flow between the facilities. The filling of 13 raw material silos for pyrolusite, graphite and for smaller components is also integrated into the plant. The raw materials are packed in cargos or in big bags.

Depending on the way of supply a further automatization of different processes including the return of packaging material is also achieved here. The entire operation including the complete visualisation of the plant takes place in the control room. An additional manual operation of individual facilities is possible. At an additional work station the simulation with original components can be executed by means of a test application (fig 3). ■

## CONCLUSION

On basis of control demands there were several reasons for VARTA or XAPI to apply VIPA controls.
Above all the high performance as well as the generous and flexible memory concept of the SPEED7 CPUs argues for the solution with VIPA CPUs.
The additional feature of the integrated Ethernet interfaces in the VIPA CPUs applied can be used for the connection of the applied web server of XAPI. This saves the application of additional discrete CP modules. The possibility of using customary MMC cards for the external data saving and the balanced price performance ratio completes the entire VIPA package.
The above described control of the mixing facility demands a reliable partner or supplier due to the great importance within the entire production process. So the past positive experiences of XAPI and VARTA with the application of VIPA products tipped the balance for the product selection. ■

# SPS/IPC/Drives 2010

## VIPA trade fair highlights

VIPA art of automation

SPS/IPC/DRIVES/
Elektrische Automatisierung
Systeme und Komponenten
Fachmesse & Kongress
23.–25. Nov. 2010
Nürnberg


# OUR VIPA TRADE FAIR HIGHLIGHTS 2010

## SLIO expansions

- Independent via new SLIO controller: now also available with PROFINET and EtherCat
- Just in case: safety within the SLIO type
- Increase your accuracy with SLIO ETS: improved temporal accuracy in µs area for many field buses

EtherCAT Technology Group

PROFINET

## SPEED7 CPUs with PROFINET

- Easy and clever realisation of high, time critical demands via PROFINET real time communication (RT)
- Flexibility via additional integrated Ethernet, MPI and PROFIBUS DP master/slave interfaces
- Consistent projecting with SIMATIC STEP7 from Siemens: Use the systems you know

## Internet teleservice made easy

- Time and cost saving through easy connection with VPN via Talk2M
- Preventive maintenance as a result of integrated alarm management (SMS & E-Mail)
- Assured of a good future, as configuration via web browser

Talk2M

# Who is behind it

## VIPA departments introduce themselves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**Here we would like** to introduce the individual departments of VIPA, as also planned for following editions. Behind numbers and names there is not only the person, with whom you as our customer have contact, but also employees who have a large share in the entire success of VIPA together with colleagues of other departments.

In this issue the Inside Sales department introduce themselves. All colleagues in the sales dept. have a sympathetic ear for your concerns and will support you in all questions and problem solutions concerning PLC controls.

*„With VIPA you are in good hands – we guarantee it!“*

**Frank Wehringer**
Chief Inside Sales

**Benjamina Velispahic**
Sales assistant

**Ulrike Hoffmann**
Area Northwest

**Wolfgang Weigl**
Area Southeast

**Helmut Sundelin**
Key Account | Sales Northern

**Florian Heilmann**
Key Account | Sales Northern

**Daniel Hannemann**
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**Christian Peterreins**
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# VIPA – Sponsoring

## VIPA campaigns in sports...

**...and supports the handball team of Herzogenaurach.**

Uncomfortable conditions, declining number of members, reduced subsidies and increasing expenses limit the financial scope of amateur clubs more and more. The handball team of TS Herzogenaurach is looking for new tricots. VIPA equips three teenagers with new complete sets of equipment consisting of tricots, trousers and socks. ■

# VIPA – Sporting

## Many kilometres cycled, swum and run

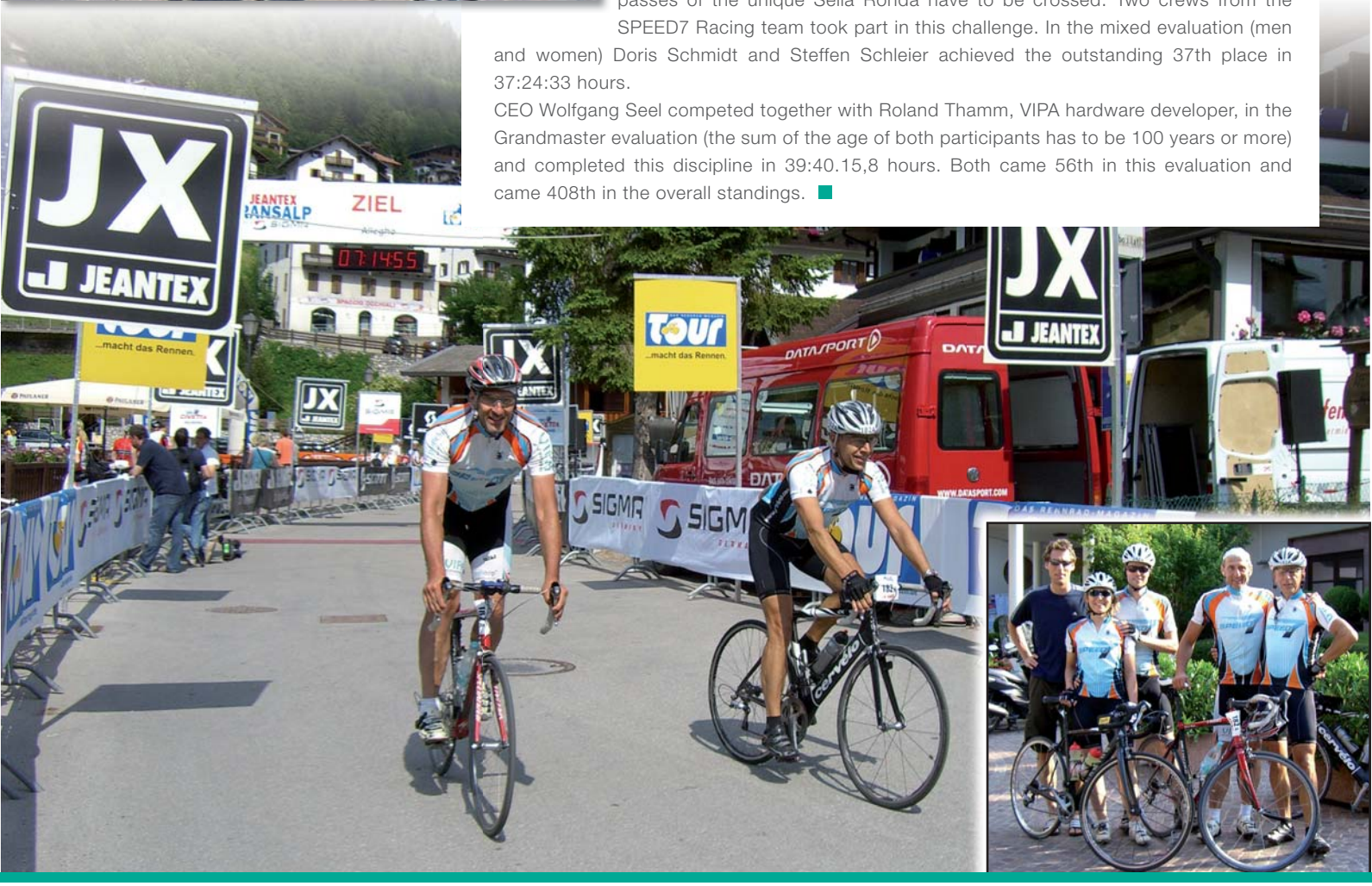
**At the Start: whether national or international – SPEED7 moves. Cycling keeps you in shape and healthy and especially affects the general well-being. Wolfgang Seel, OEC of VIPA, has been cycling for many years – so meanwhile not only cyclists' take part in common teams of VIPA and profichip, but also runners as well as triathletes. The SPEED7 editorial team had compiled the highlights of 2010.**


The highlights of this year's cycling season were definitely two short consecutive events. Firstly the 8th Jeantex-TOUR-Transalpine, the most popular cycling stage race from 27th June until 3rd July 2010; secondly the long-standing Maratona dles Dologmites. This was the reason for establishing the "SPEED7-Racing-Team" in 2004.

With 795.13 kilometres and 20,169 altitude differences the 8th Jeantex-TOUR-Transalpine belongs to the most challenging routes in its history. 1200 cycling freaks from 28 nations, took part in the most popular cycling stage race: in seven stages per day the route goes from the German Mittenwald area via 18 Austrian and Italian alpine passes to Arco, near lake Garda in teams of two participants.

The route passes through the most fascinating Dolomites with gorgeous panoramas and climbs of up to 19%. The absolute challenge this time was not only the spectacular route, but also the continuous temperatures of up to 34 degrees centigrade. On this years royal stage from St. Vigil to Alleghe five passes of the unique Sella Ronda have to be crossed. Two crews from the SPEED7 Racing team took part in this challenge. In the mixed evaluation (men and women) Doris Schmidt and Steffen Schleier achieved the outstanding 37th place in 37:24:33 hours.

CEO Wolfgang Seel competed together with Roland Thamm, VIPA hardware developer, in the Grandmaster evaluation (the sum of the age of both participants has to be 100 years or more) and completed this discipline in 39:40.15,8 hours. Both came 56th in this evaluation and came 408th in the overall standings. ■



## VIPA – Sporting

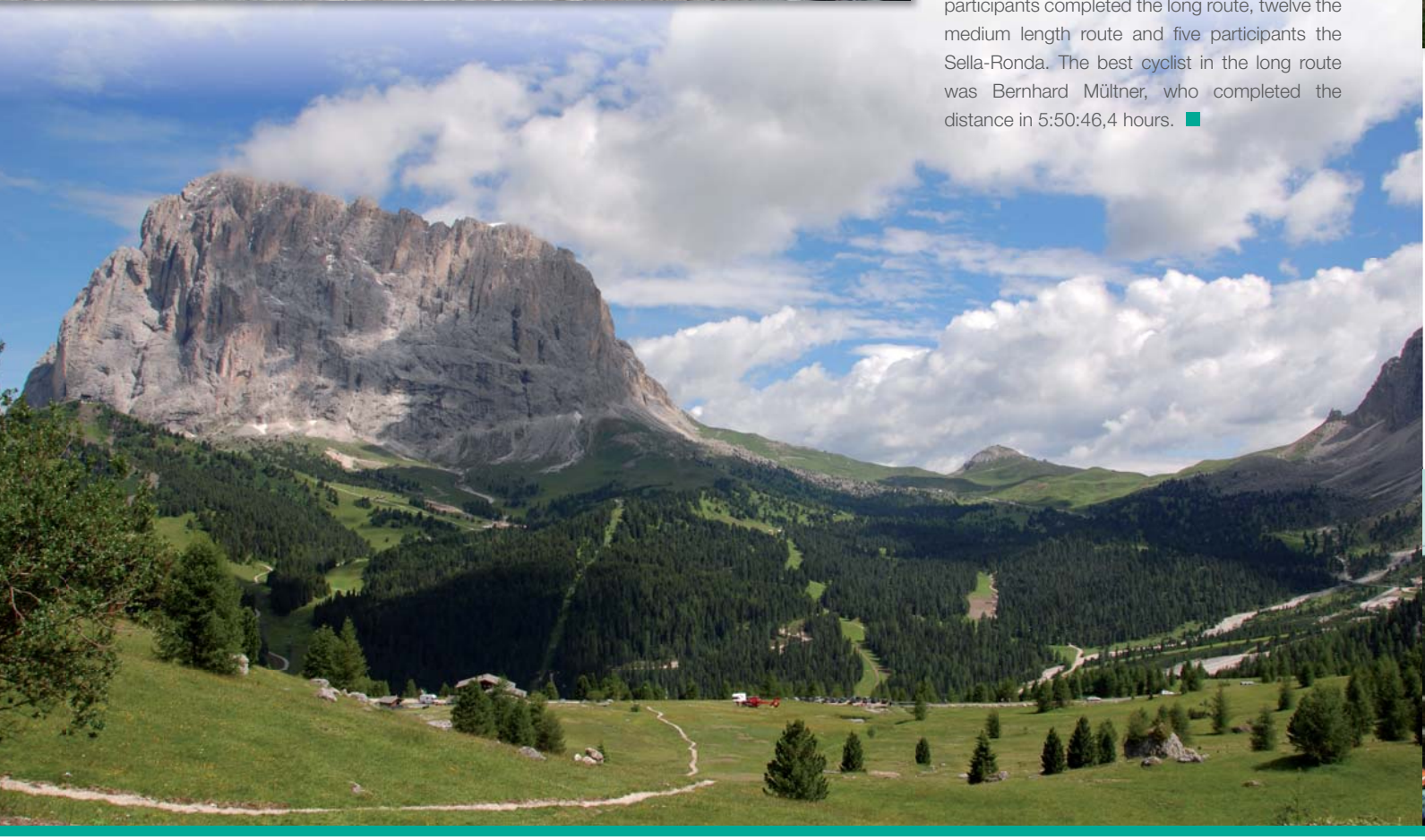
### 25 participants at Maratona dles Dolomites

# The Maratona

**dles Dolomites is a street-cycling marathon in the Dolomites region of South Tyrol near Alta Badia/ Corvara, which has taken place every year on the first Sunday of July since 1987. With more than 9000 participants this year Marathona set a new record.**


At this one of the most beautiful road race, three routes are available for the participants. All cyclists can select the route which they prefer during the race. The Sella-Ronda, which is the short route, 55 kilometres long and 4 passes (Campolongo, Pordoi bay, Sella bay and Grödner bay) have an altitude of 1780 m. The middle route has a length of 106 kilometres. The cyclists have to complete seven passes – in addition to the passes of the short route there are the passes Passo Campolongo, Falzarego and Valparola – with a total altitude of 3090 meters. The original Maratona has a distance of 138 kilometres including 8 passes and 4190 m altitude. Instead of Passo Falzarego the cyclists have to accomplish the Passo di Giau and afterwards they have to drive over the Passo Falzarego from the east.

The SPEED7 Racing Team came 29th out of 130 in the team evaluation. All 26 cyclists of the team covered a distance of 2,402 km. Eight participants completed the long route, twelve the medium length route and five participants the Sella-Ronda. The best cyclist in the long route was Bernhard Mültner, who completed the distance in 5:50:46,4 hours. ■



## VIPA – Sporting

### Four relay teams at the Challenge Roth

# Four relay teams

**and one individual participant took part in the most popular triathlon in Germany – the Challenge in Roth/Bavaria – this year. Roland Tobiasch, ASIC designer at profichip GmbH, took part for the first time and passed the tough test with flying colours.**

The triathlon newcomer accomplished the complete distance of 3.86 km swimming, 180 km cycling and 42.195 km running in 12:43:06 hours (swimming: 1:45:43, cycling: 5:43:11, running: 4:55:52) and came 459th in his age class M35 and 2026 overall.

In the presence of CEO Wolfgang Seel 4 relays competed. Each of the three competitors shared the three sub-disciplines which completed the relay discipline. SPEED7 Racing Team 2 achieved the best result, coming 65th. Holger Teichert-Ott (swimming: 1:12:32), Roland Thamm (cycling: 4:56:49) and Daniel Stumpf (running: 3:17:52) completed the whole distance in 9:30:27 hours.

SPEED7 Racing Team 3 achieved the 234th position in 10:25:03 hours. Stefan Scholze, who took part in the single discipline the previous year, completed the distance in swimming in 1:13:51 hours. Afterwards Bob Linkenbach, VIPA marketing director, reached the transition area by cycling after 5:27:44 hours and Thomas Fink completed the discipline by running in 3:40:00.

SPEED7 Racing Team 4 took part with a mixed team. Bianca Finger (swimming 1:30:29), Jürgen Glaser (cycling: 5:08:25) and Peter Fredehorst (running: 4:08:35) reached the finish in 10:50:49 hours and came 332nd.

The SPEED7 Racing Team 1 also took part with a mixed team. Doris Scholze (swimming: 1:16:39), Günter Ferstel, VIPA CFO (cycling: 5:53:06) and Adrea Hillebrand (running: 3:59:01) needed 11:12:29 hours for the whole distance and thereby came 401st in the overall ranking. ■

## VIPA – Sporting

### 13 participants at 6th companies challenge in Nurmberg

# Nearly 10000

**participants from more than 400 companies took part on the 6th challenge. From the SPEED7 racing team 13 participants took part.**

Fun and team spirit take first place in this challenge, so the Olympic concept is more important than mere timekeeping – it's the taking part that counts. The route, nearly 6 kilometres long, goes around the Zeppelin field and Dutzenteich in Nuremberg. ■

# VIPA – Gastronomic

## Sage ricotta ravioli with brown sage butter

**Tommy Schäfer,** owner of a gourmet restaurant in Fürth/ Germany and head of our canteen reveals a culinary secret in our Journal.

***Ingredients filling***
*250g Ricotta*
*3 tbsp. grated parmesan*
*1 egg yolk*
*Pepper, salt*
*80g butter*
*20 fresh leaves of sage*

***Ingredients pasta dough***
*150g Semola*
*100g grout*
*50g durum wheat*
*3 eggs*
*3 tbsp. olive oil*

*1 egg to spread*

***Ingredients brown sage butter***
*2-3 tbsp. butter*
*10-12 large leaves of sage*

## Sage ricotta ravioli with brown sage butter

**Filling:**
Mix ricotta, parmesan and egg yolk and add salt and pepper to taste. Melt the butter in a small pot, add the sage leaves and brown them. Strain the slightly browned butter through a hair sieve, add to the ricotta and stir.

**Pasta dough:**
Bring all ingredients to a smooth, not to dry dough. Leave the dough for about 10 to 15 minutes and afterwards roll it until very thin (the hand should shine through it). With pasta cutter cut out some rings, spread the edge with an egg and fill up with a teaspoon of filling and fold to ravioli pockets. Put the finished ravioli in cooking salt water; bring to the boil once for a short time and leave to simmer for 3 to 4 minutes.

**Brown sage butter:**
Melt the butter, add some sage and heat until the butter is slightly browned.

**Finishing and food arranging:**
Pour off the ravioli carefully, arrange it on a plate and baste with sage butter. Sage leaves deep-fried in olive oil not only look appetizing but also taste delicious.

**Wine recommendation:**
The soft ricotta filling, the melting of the butter and fine-aromatic sage entice us to a Sauvignon Blanc DOC from the Northern Italian vineyard Musaragno. It is the ideal wine with its medium body. Aromatic black current, some paprika and – absolutely typical – freshly cut grass create a fine acidity and again much fruit on the tongue. ■

## You are not in the mood for cooking?

If you do not want to cook this excellent meal yourself, you can visit Tommy Schäfers gourmet restaurant and feast other delicacies. Visit his restaurant with extraordinary ambience in Fürth-Ronhof/Germany , In der Lohe 26
Open Thursday and Fridayg 18:00 Uhr
Ph.: 0911/790 867 2
www.restaurantschaefer.de