

KAESER report

A magazine for the production industry

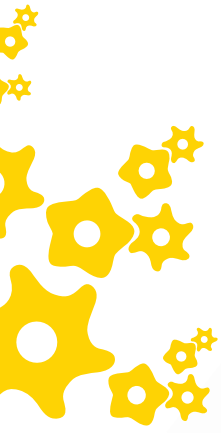
From a machine workshop to a global leader

KAESER KOMPRESSOREN

Turns

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Carl Kaeser Sr. established his machine workshop in 1919. Today KAESER is a highly successful global supplier of compressors and compressed air systems that remains true to its roots.



1919: the beginning

Carl Kaeser Sr. establishes the company as a machine workshop on the 27th of June, 1919 in Coburg. It was a difficult time, fraught with instability, just a year after the end of the First World War. After starting out as a maker of spare parts for motor vehicles and engines, especially gears, he later branches out to produce specialized equipment for the glass making industry.

Through the division of Germany after the Second World War, KAESER is cut off from a large portion of its original market in the states of Thuringia and Saxony and is forced to pursue business in new markets in southern and western Germany. A decision that was to shape the company's future. KAESER's expertise in engine manufacturing, coupled with strong demand for compression equipment in the post-war economy, results in compressors being added to the product range. The first reciprocating compressor developed by KAESER is shipped in 1948. Within a few years the company's reciprocating compressor program covers the full range up to 80 hp.

Expanding the product range

Carl Kaeser Jr., the founder's son, takes the initiative for the company's next

strategic departure: the development of rotary screw compressors. At the heart of every KAESER rotary screw compressor lies the proprietary rotary screw air end with a new energy-saving rotor profile – the SIGMA profile. Manufacturing these new rotary screw compressors begins in 1973. Over the coming years, KAESER KOMPRESSOREN takes its place alongside the world's leading manufacturers of rotary screw compressors.

Following the acquisition of the French manufacturer Compresseurs Bernard in 1982, KAESER develops the KAESER MOBILAIR series of portable rotary screw compressors for the construction industry, initially manufactured in Lyon, France.

In 1991, shortly after German reunification, KAESER acquires Geraer Kompressorenwerke, one of Germany's oldest compressor makers, and develops the OMEGA rotary lobe blower. Manufacturing starts in Gera in 1993.

With SECOTEC, KAESER develops a completely new line of energy-saving refrigerated dryers in 1994. In the same year, Germany's most advanced manufacturing facility for refrigerated dryers goes into operation in Gera.

KAESER launches the revolutionary SIGMA CONTROL compressor controller in 1998. This proprietary development, based on industrial PC technology, reduces life cycle costs and further improves equipment availability. It has since become an integral part of KAESER rotary screw compressors. Building on the successful launch of the SIGMA CONTROL, KAESER "computerizes" the entire compressed air station in 2001. With the innovative SIGMA AIR MANAGER, the combined benefits of a state-of-the-art industrial computer and high-speed network technology are introduced into the world of compressed air technology for the first time.

This paves the way for further gains in dependability, efficiency and cost transparency in the compressed air supply.

The road to expansion

Various construction projects in Germany and abroad create additional space over the years to





meet the company's increasing capacity needs. In the spring of 2002, the new manufacturing center for portable compressors (the MOBILAIR plant) opens in Coburg. In 2004, the year begins with the official opening of the new product development center in Coburg, providing an ideal working environment for development engineers. At the opening ceremony, Thomas Kaeser, Chairman of the Managing Board, says, "Our goal is to develop and deliver innovative products that are tailored to customer needs in greater numbers and more quickly than ever before." In the same year, KAESER KOMPRESSOREN completes construction of a state-of-the-art distribution center. Key elements of this innovative facility, which revolutionizes logistic processes throughout the company, include a new, fully automated high-rack warehouse and a high-performance picking system for

small parts and spares. Apart from laying the groundwork for continued growth in production, KAESER expects the new facilities to improve on-time delivery rates and boost customer satisfaction.

In 2008, KAESER opens a new plant for cladding components in Sonnefeld. It begins manufacturing panel components, doors and enclosures for rotary screw compressors.

In October 2013, the company starts construction of a new research and development center at the Gera manufacturing site. Excellence in innovation is a top priority. A steady stream of innovations keeps KAESER KOMPRESSOREN at the forefront of compressed air drying technology – amongst others.

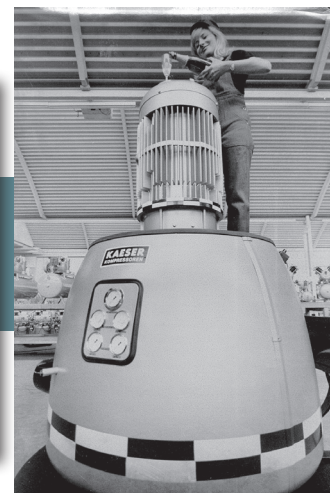
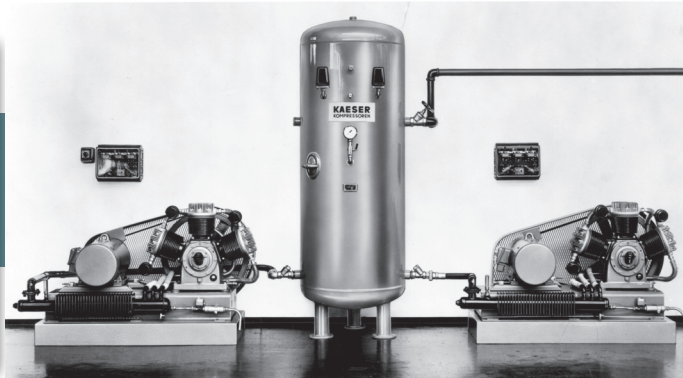
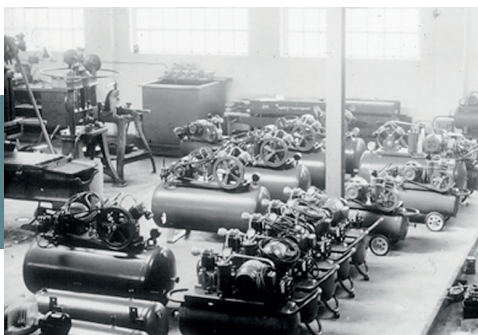
In May 2014, KAESER initiates the

transition to a smart factory approach. With the ground breaking ceremony for two new production halls for rotary screw compressors, the future begins to take shape at the Coburg site.

Another construction project is launched in Coburg in September 2015. This time it is for the research and innovation center – soon to be the incubator of new ideas and inventions. The facility is completed in late 2017 and the first employees start moving in.

Awards in Germany and at the international level

Thomas Kaeser is awarded the State Medal for outstanding contributions to the Bavarian economy in 2012. The ongoing development of innovative products, a defining feature of the company since its





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TRADITION & INNOVATION

earliest beginnings, earns recognition and respect among the general public and industry experts alike. In 2013, the new SECOTEC TF 340 energy saving dryer is selected as a finalist for the prestigious Hermes Innovation Award, conferred by the Hanover Trade Fair to honor outstanding and trailblazing technological developments. With its innovative thermal storage system, the new dryer achieves energy savings of up to 70% compared to conventional dryers. In 2014, it is selected for Plant Engineering magazine's Gold Award for best product in the USA.

KAESER as an employer

As one of the largest providers of apprenticeship opportunities in its region, KAESER KOMPRESSOREN excels in training skilled personnel. KAESER apprentices and trainees regularly score top results in the Chamber of Industry and Trade exam-

inations, both regionally and nationwide. To promote real integration within the company while simultaneously taking action to address the skills shortage, KAESER creates 20 additional training positions for young people with refugee backgrounds in 2016. The former youth hostel in the Ketschendorf district of Coburg is converted into a residence for KAESER apprentices from all over the world.

In recognition of its endeavors as a provider of in-house training opportunities, KAESER is awarded first prize in the Industry, Trade and Services category by the jury adjudicating the "Training Ace" competition in December 2016. The competition is held under the auspices of the German Federal Ministry of Economics.

Ready for the future

With over 100 subsidiaries and sales

partners worldwide, the international KAESER group is present in all major industrialized countries, especially in the economic areas of Europe, North America and Asia Pacific. November 2013: With its re-incorporation as a "Societas Europaea" (SE) – a European stock company – KAESER KOMPRESSOREN takes a further step in its international strategy. The family company is now at home all over the world, offering uncompromising "Made in Germany" quality. The managing board is comprised of the chairman, Thomas Kaeser Dipl. Wirtsch.-Ing. and Tina-Maria Vlantousi-Kaeser Dipl.-Wirtsch.-Ing.

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