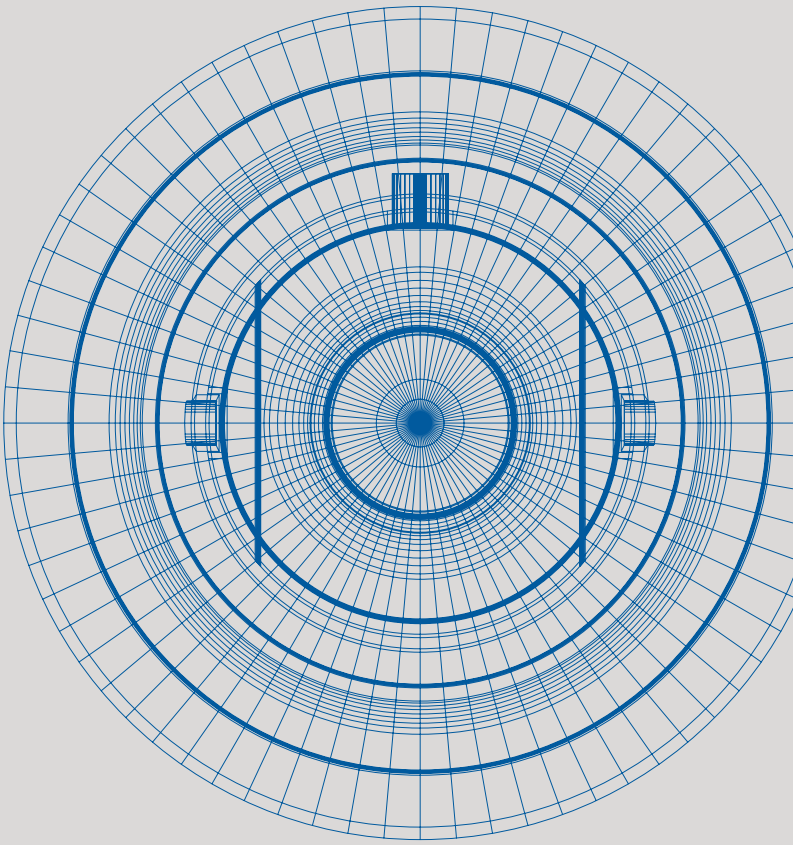
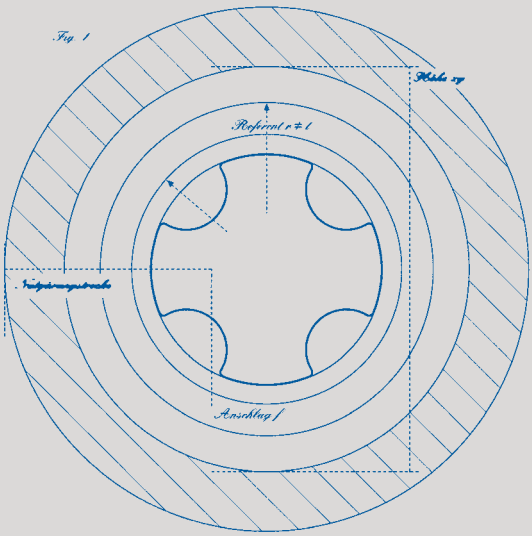


2000

175 Years

1825



Gontermann-Peipers

Bem-Vindo

Benvenuto

ДОБРО ПОЖАЛОВАТЬ

热烈欢迎

Velkommen

Gontermann-Peipers

Witamy

ΚΑΛΩΣΟΡ

환영

Bienvenido

مرحبا

Welkom

Bienvenu

Tervetuloa

Willkommen

Dobro Došli

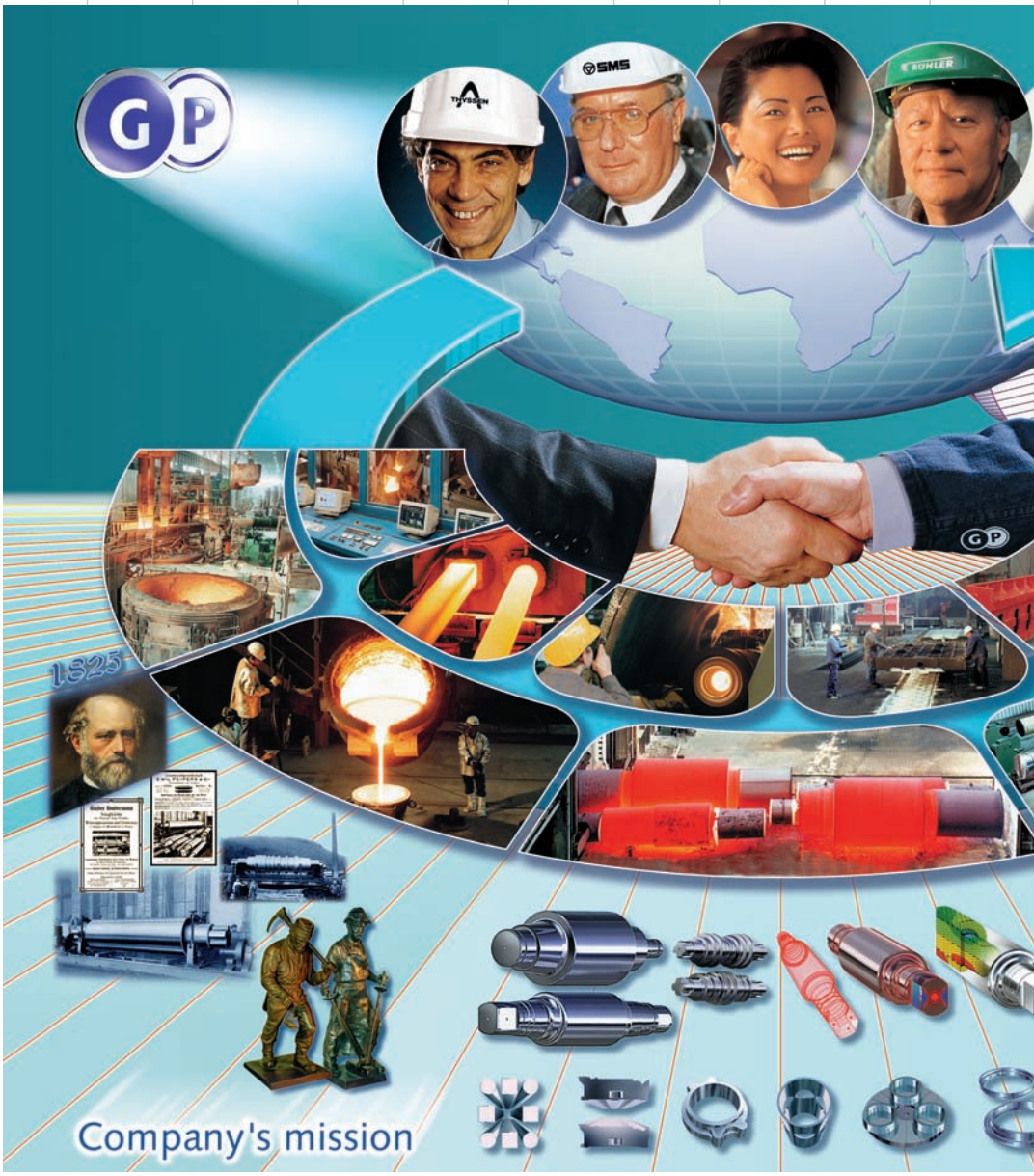
Welcome

ようこそ

ДОБРО ДОШЛИ

Добре дошли!

Tradition and Duty



Tradition and Duty

In retracing Gontermann-Peiper's 175-year corporate history, dear reader, we trust that you will feel the sense of duty that springs from this tradition.This chronicle of GP's history presents selected events in their regional and global historical context. You will recognize the foundations on which the company's forward-thinking objectives are based. Moreover, you will find that the development of the company has been related to the turbulent period between the founding of the firm in 1825 and the start of the new millennium.

This bold new business start in the most modest of circumstances, spurred on by success and, often enough, slowed in its progress by troublesome events, ultimately made Gontermann-Peipers the important company that it is today. In this connection, the company's turbulent history clearly shows that human cooperation has always been the focus of all events. It is people who bring about innovation, shape the future by drawing on their experiences in the past, and must face the cycle of promising and discouraging perspectives again and again.

Thus we have an even deeper sense of gratitude and satisfaction when we consider all that has been achieved to date. We are especially grateful to our numerous customers around the globe: for they are, in the truest sense of the word, our employers; in partnership with us, they make a decisive contribution to Gontermann-Peipers business activities today.

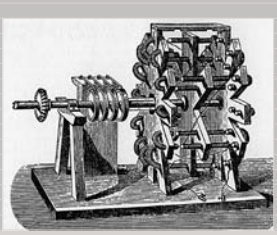
We also owe a debt of gratitude to all our employees present and past, who contributed to our shared success in good times and in bad. Last, but not least, we are grateful to our share-holders, who have staunchly preserved and reinforced Gontermann-Peipers' medium-sized business structure at its Siegen location for more than five generations.

In this sense, we hold a sense of tradition to also be crucial for our actions in the future.

GOOD LUCK in the new millennium!

Your Gontermann-Peipers GmbH
Management

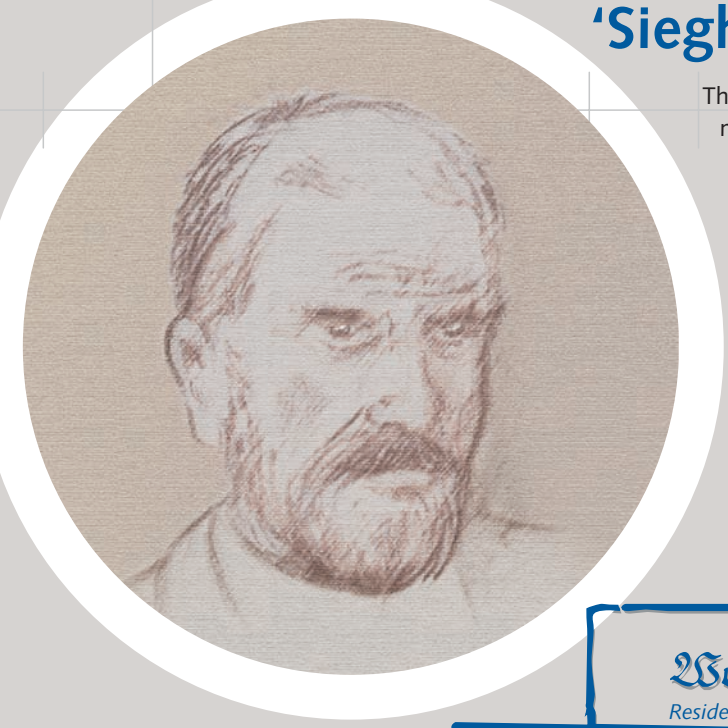
It is the era of definitive scientific discoveries and technological inventions, for example, Ohms' Law 1827, the high speed printing machine 1812 (Koenig/Bauer) or the electric motor 1834 (Jacobi).



First 'working' electric motor.

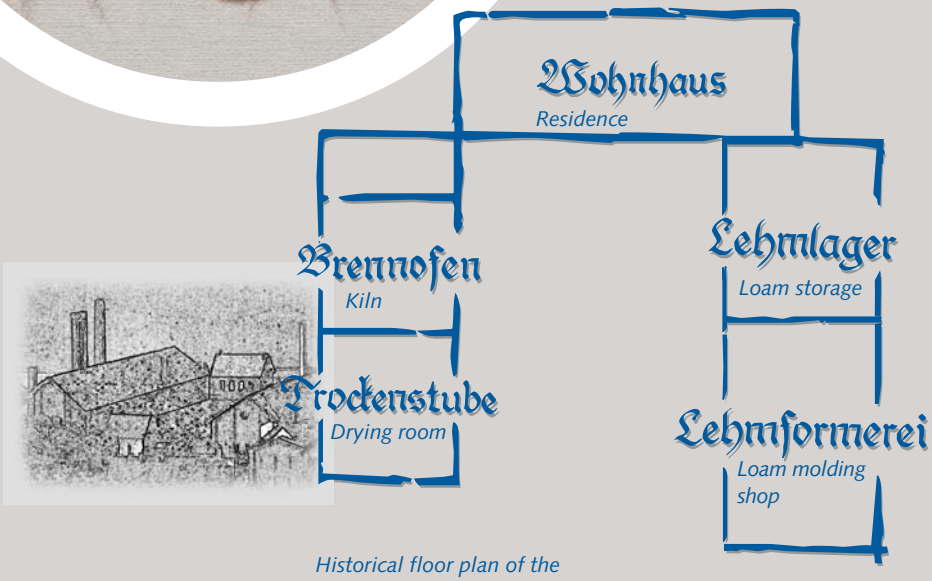
1825

1825 Foundation at the 'Sieghütte' Location



The business was founded as a modest cottage industry by Johann Heinrich Breidenbach.

He had previously worked as a loam molder in Marienborn. In his cottage industry, he began manufacturing mainly ovens and annealing pots for annealing wire.

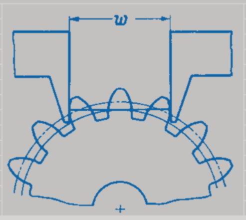


Historical floor plan of the Breidenbach house - in this view, already with extensions - the foundation of the later 'Sieghütte' works.

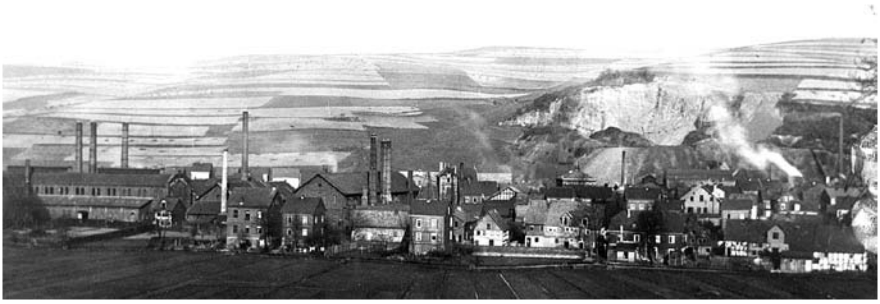
Nr.	Bürgermeisterei-Bezirk.	Versicherte Capital-Summe. Brthlr.	Beitrags-Summe Rth.
1	Siegen	442,180	491
2	Wilnsdorf	114,680	127
3	Weidenau	312,700	347
4	Netphen	215,810	239
5	Irmgarteichen	194,990	216
6	Hilchenbach	235,890	262
7	Ferndorf	239,130	265
8	Freudenberg	154,320	171
9	Neunkirchen	139,270	154
10	Burbach	154,500	171
11	Dreisiendorf	129,830	144

11 mayoral precincts (from the Siegen newspaper of 19 February 1825).

1845 First dead-mold cast gearwheels manufactured by J. C. Fischer, Schaffhausen.
1849 Experimental melting of metal using an electrical arc.



A plan drawing of the era.



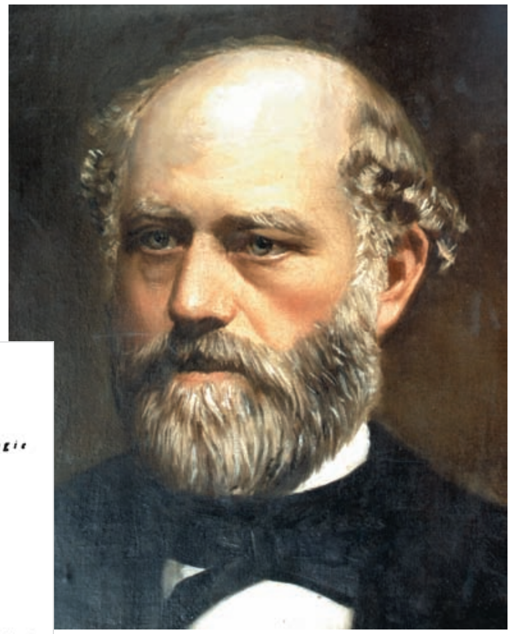
The 'Sieghütte' ca. 1860

1847-55

Gustav Gontermann Joins the Firm

In 1847, J.H. Breidenbach's youngest daughter married businessman Gustav Gontermann, who immediately joined his father-in-law in business and gave the company his name.

Starting in 1855, castings and also the first rolls are manufactured.



Die
von Sr. Königl. Hoheit
dem Durchlauchtigsten Großherzoge und Herrn
Herrn
CARL AUGUST
sanctionirte Societät für die gesammte Mineralogie
zu Jena
DIPLOM
Herrn Schichtmeister Gontermann
correspondirenden Mitglied ernannt hat.

Freyherr von Göthe, Präsident.
Freyherr von Trebra, Vice-Präsident.
D. Johann Georg Lenz, Director.
D. Jo. Friedr. Fuchs, Pro-Director.

Jena, den 5.
März 1816.

der Societät 20. Jahre

18 Mai 1848 Convening of the Constitutional Convention in St. Paul's Church, Frankfurt, with 586 delegates.

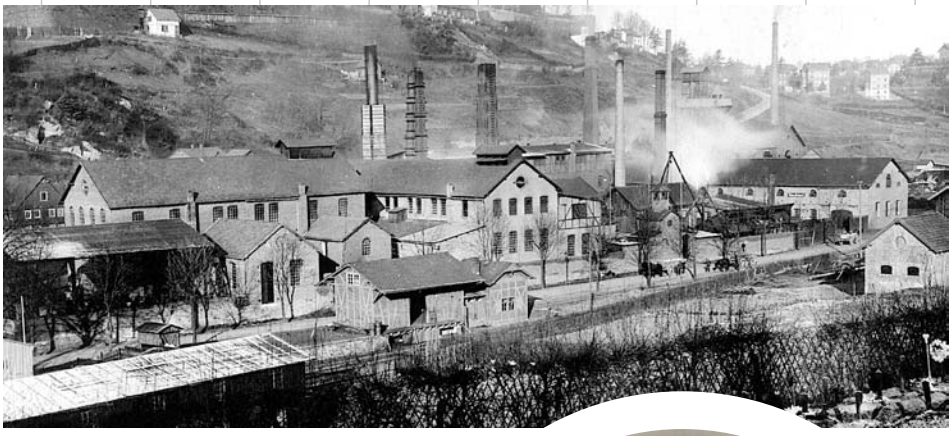
1885 Seamless pipes by Mannesmann.
1898 First crankcase for an Otto motor made of cast aluminium.

Seamless pipes.

1883

1883

Emil Peipers AG founded



On the site of the present-day 'Hain' works, Emil Peipers took over a foundry in the immediate vicinity of the Hain Metallurgical Plant. This foundry became a joint-stock company in 1883.

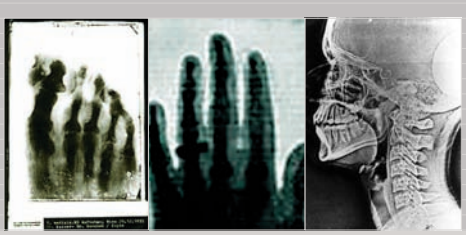
Emil Peipers was one of the ding roll experts of his days and worked on innovative manufacturing processes and products.

Total annual production in 1883-84 was 701 tons, of which 325 tons were already cast rolls.

Emil Peipers and family

Around 1900, there were eight roll casting shops in the Siegerland region, thus making the Siegerland region a center of roll casting.

1895 *X-rays discovered.*



1894 Patent on Chilled Casting

KAISERLICHES PATENTAMT.

PATENTSCHRIFT

— № 79523 —

KLASSE 31: Giesserei und Formerei.

KOMMANDITGESELLSCHAFT EMIL PEIPERS & CIE in SIEGEN i. W.

Verfahren zur Herstellung von Hartguss.

Patentirt im Deutschen Reiche vom 15. Juni 1894 ab.

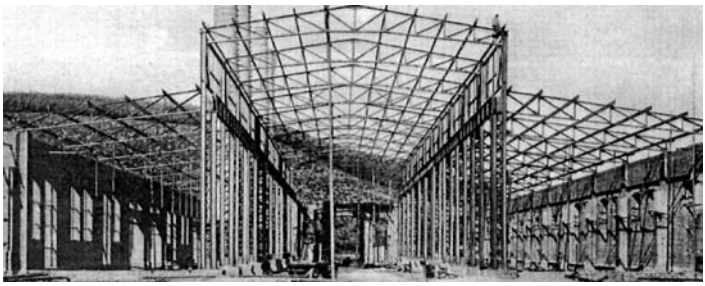
This innovation, also known as the 'Peipers Patent', pertained to the inside surfaces of the mould, which were positively influenced by chilling. These special moulds proved to be especially successful until well into the next century.

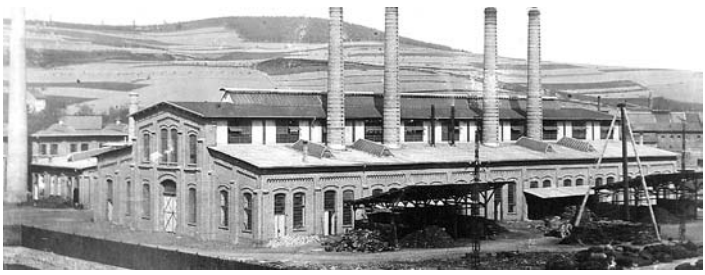
1899 New Construction in Marienborn

Construction of the new Marienborn works began in 1898.

The first rolls were cast at the new works on 15 July 1899.

The Gontermann firm produced heavy rolls in Marienborn, while lighter rolls continued to be produced mainly at the Sieghütte location, until 1914. After this, rolls were manufactured only at the Marienborn works.





1899 *Soccer club 'Sportfreunde Siegen' founded.*

1911 Rutherford's atomic model.
1911 Panama Canal opened.
1913 International Federation of Labor founded in Amsterdam.

Construction of the Panama Canal.

The 'Strike House', the Hain Brauhaus

1911

1911 Strike at Peipers

The first major strike in the Siegerland metal industry came to an end at Peipers & Co. on 21 July 1911 after nearly six weeks. Ferdinand Sarx (1871-1944) was the sole director. The strike was for wages and working hours. It would remain the only strike on this scale in the company's history

1918

In 1918, a three-meter high, decommissioned submarine motor was procured as an emergency generator. It still stands in one of the factory buildings.

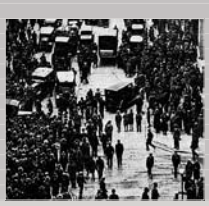
1920-

1920-30 Casting Processes

In the late twenties and early thirties, the company formed by the merger of the two previous firms experimented with double poured centrifugal casting, which has remained a core competency down to the present day. The first successful experiments with vertical centrifugal casting equipment were also conducted during the thirties.

left: GP's corporate logo at the time – the first GP 'trademark'

Impressions of work in the 'Siegerländer Haubergen' (a type of forestry typical in the region).

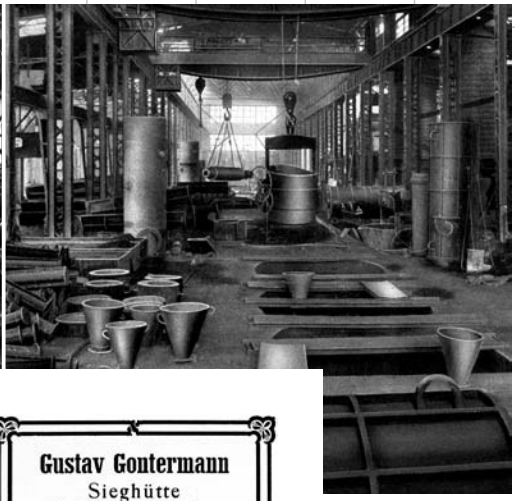


The 1925 Locarno Conference contributed to the relaxation of political tensions following the end of the First World War.
'Black Friday', 25 October 1929, marked the start of a prolonged economic crisis that lasted until 1932.

Crowds in New York's Wall Street financial district on 'Black Friday'.

1927

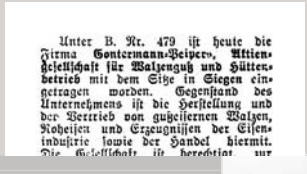
1927 Merger as 'Gontermann-Peipers GmbH'



Historical Documents

By 1926, Gustav Gontermann Marienborn factory was already considered to be Europe's largest roll casting shop. Peipers & Co. AG and the family-owned Gustav Gontermann GmbH merged to form 'Gontermann-Peipers GmbH' in 1927.
The ensuing years were marked by reorganization. The administration, for example, moved into the offices at Hain, while roll manufacturing was concentrated in Marienborn.

The company name has been known in the industry worldwide ever since.


Unter B. Nr. 479 ist heute die Firma **Gontermann-Peipers, Aktiengesellschaft für Walzenguß und Hüttenbetrieb** mit dem Sitze in **Siegen** eingetragen worden. Gegenstand des Unternehmens ist die Herstellung und der Vertrieb von gußeisernen Walzen, Roheisen und Erzeugnissen der Eisenindustrie sowie der Handel hiermit. Die Gesellschaft ist berechtigt, zur

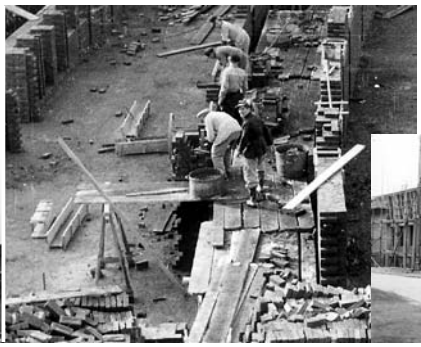
1927 From the Siemag Company History: Takeover of the company Maschinenbau AG, formerly Gebrüder Klein (rolling mills and large gas machines) through merger with Siegener Maschinenbau AG.

Early social measures: This house stood on the grounds of the Hainer Hütte; workers used it as a dormitory.

26 June 1945: *Founding of the UN.*

1939-45 War, Destruction, and Reconstruction

During the Second World War (1939-45), besides the company's traditional products, heavy shells were also cast in continuous forms at GP. Near the end of the war, aerial bombing raids damaged both the Hain and Marienborn works.



Bomb damage at the Marienborn works.
Erection of the administration building during the fifties.

At war's end, the sometimes very difficult job of reconstruction began.
In the fifties, management moved into the newly erected administration building at Hauptstrasse 20.

Reconstruction: The grounds of the Marienborn works after 1950

The City of Siegen sustained heavy damage in the final phase of the war.

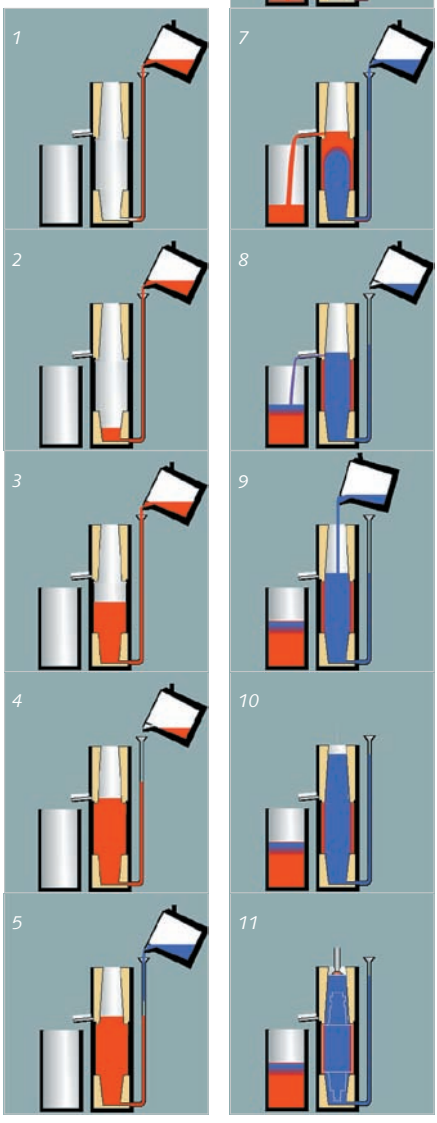
In 1954, Germany wins the World Cup in soccer for the first time.

1950

1950 Development of the GP Double Pour Steel Casting Process (DPS)

This method, developed by GP in 1950, permits use of two different grades of steel for roll shell and roll core respectively. Casting temperature, casting rate, composition, and the quantities of core and shell materials essentially determine roll properties.

Fifties-era GP logo



The Siegerland iron-making industry sprang to life for a last time during the fifties.

World Events

The Treaties of Rome, which among other things laid the cornerstone for the European Economic Community (EEC), the forerunner of the European Union (EU), was signed in 1957.

Signing of the Treaties of Rome.

1950-60

1950-60
Refinements

GP began marketing composite steel back-up rolls in 1960.

During the same decade, the first arc oven entered service at Marienborn in 1958.

Arc oven

The Hain works stopped producing brake blocks for German Rail and began manufacturing continuous cast goods instead. Even today, in improved grades of material, this remains one of the company's main products.

Continuous casting at the Hain works

Hand-molded casting at the Hain works

Starting in 1960, the machine construction and terotechnology industry in the Siegerland region experiences a boom. Quality products 'Made in Germany' – 'Made in Siegen' are once again respected and sought after internationally.

Regional Events

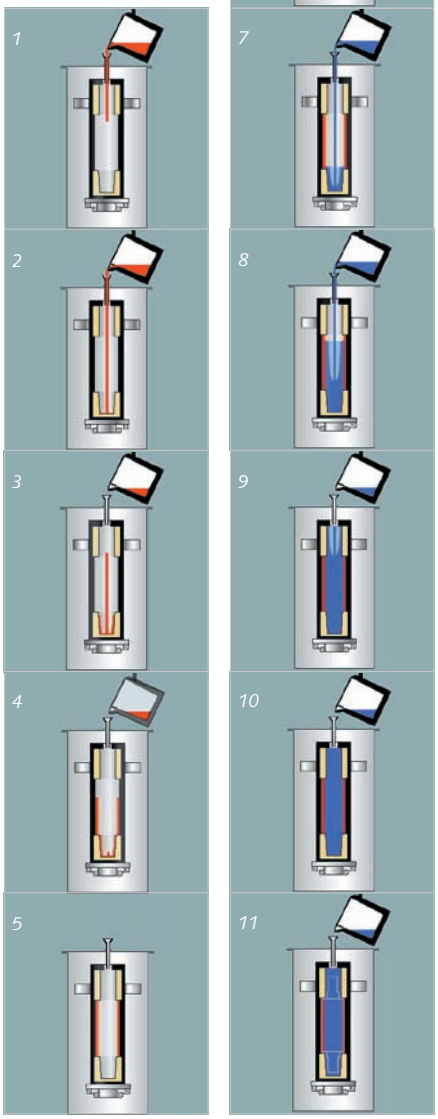
'The Eagle has landed' - On 21 July 1969 at 3:56 AM Central European Time, US astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first human being to set foot on the moon. Around the world, 500 million people followed the event live on television.

Armstrong on the moon, photographed by Aldrin.

1965

1965 Development of the GP Vertical Spincasting Process

The GP vertical spincasting process (VPS for short) permits mold rotation rates of up to 800 RPM. The high centrifugal forces and flexible possibilities for adaptation offer exceptionally good material properties, flawless connection between the shell and core layers, solidification without shrink holes, and a high level of homogeneity.



The blast furnace at the Hain works was decommissioned on 19 September 1962. The works building was torn down in 1968.

The Hain works, ca. 1960.

World Events

1970 Non-aggression pacts signed. German Federal Chancellor Willy Brandt signs the German-Soviet treaty on 7 August in Moscow and the German-Polish treaty on 7 December in Warsaw.

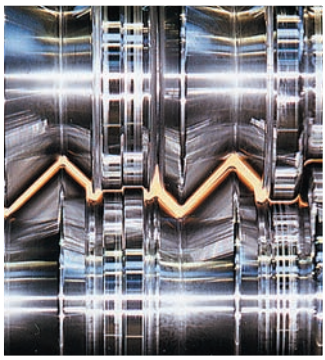
Brandt kneels before the monument to the victims of the Warsaw Uprising.

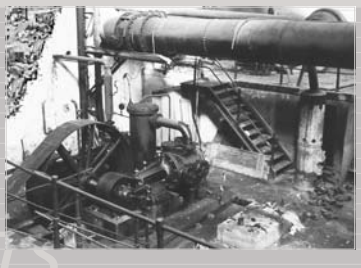
1970

1970 Refinement of Heavy Plate Mill Rolls

Customer demand for increasingly wide plates required correspondingly wide rolling mills. GP met these demands in its own roll production with expanded dimensions and increased weights of up to 265 tons per piece.

Close-contoured, pre-calibrated shape rolls become an increasingly important part of GP's product line.





1968 'Hainer Hütte' demolished.

Regional Events

During the seventies, the sixties-era mood of political renewal in the western industrialized nations was followed by a phase of political reorientation.

The Berlin Wall at the Brandenburg Gate, the symbol of a divided Germany.

1978

1978 Development of the ECM Process

Electro-chemical measuring point preparation or 'ECM' has been used to determine tension, hardness, and residual austenites at GP since 1978. This inspection and testing method has made a decisive contribution to improved quality.

1980

1980 Adaptation of 'VSP'

After the vertical spincasting process (VSP) became the standard at GP for indefinite chill and high-chromium qualities, it was also increasingly used for composite casting of working and back-up rolls.

Gontermann-Peipers

The last blast furnaces in the Siegerland region go out, and the entire region undergoes structural transformation.

For example, the Comprehensive University and the Technology Center (TZSI) are founded.

The fall of the Iron Curtain between East and West and the 1989 reunification of Germany open up previously undreamt-of opportunities.

The opening of the Berlin Wall.

1985

1985 Production of Large Cast Blocks Begins

Especially for the lapping tools and hydraulics industries, large cast blocks exceeding a cubic meter in size are cast in all desired grades of material.

1989

1989 Refinement of Back-Up Rolls

Thanks to the development of composite steel back-up rolls manufactured from CrMoV-alloy, it was possible to reduce back-up roll wear considerably in hot and cold strip mills.

Siegen is a big city – this was reflected in particular in the big public and commercial construction projects of the nineties, for example, the extension of the expressway (HTS) and the opening of the 'City Gallery'.

Foundation and launching of the European Monetary Union.

1992

1992 Development of HSS work rolls manufactured using double-poured centri-fugal casting

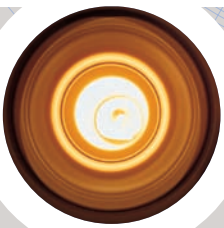
This new generation of extremely long wearing work rolls set new standards for roll consumption in hot wide strip mills.

1993

1993 New Construction

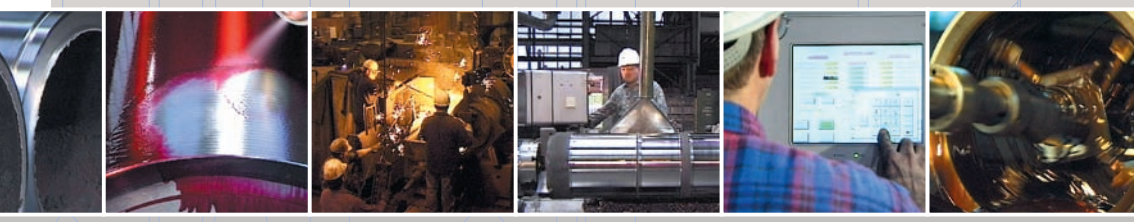
This year marked construction of a new metal and casting plant at the Hain works. Production of pulverizing rolls began here in the same year.

The Nineties



The Nineties – New Aspects

Since the mid-nineties, the whole company has undergone rapid modernization in terms of customer service, technical organization, and human resource management. These efforts serve to meet the growing demands of our customers.

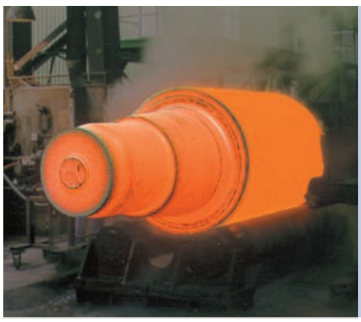


Today

At GP today, we are working intensely on the following focus areas:

Customer Orientation

- More intense customer/supplier relationships, both internally and externally
- Faithfulness to deadlines
- Quality
- Customer service
- Certified and accredited testing laboratory



Production

- Productivity boost
- Quality production
- Reduction of nonconformance costs
- Elimination of waste

Organization

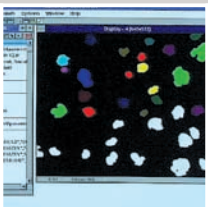
- Smart corporate organization
  - Streamlining hierarchies,
  - Team structures,
  - Creating interfaces at organizational seams
- Improved information infrastructure

Personnel

- Management by objectives
- Human resources development
  - Remuneration system
  - Qualification
  - Skilled careers
  - Flexible working hours
- Information policy








GP's Vision

How We Envision the Future

High Customer satisfaction

2000 2010 2020 2030 2040

» Thinking in terms of customer benefit

» Cost reduction

» Better organization of business processes

» Development of employee potential and leaderships

- Solid, first-rate company
- Secure business location
- Acceptable return on investment
- Job security
- Motivated employees






tomorrow

Without long-time business partners, the corporate history we have to present today would be a much less successful one indeed.

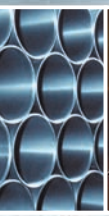
We owe a debt of gratitude to all who have fairly promoted and challenged GP, as well as all of our employees, who have contributed to the creation of added value and the growth of our company.
Ultimately, GP runs on the power of efficient cooperation.

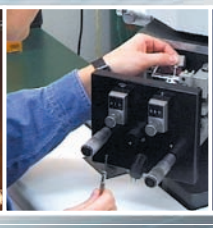
With innovations in products, processes and organization, we intend to prevail in the future.

Our central themes for this are:

- **First-class performance for customers: Cast products and service**
- **Cooperative business and labor relationships**
- **Continuing product innovations in the traditional fields of our core business**

Gontermann-Peipers







ABB

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Internet: www.gontermann-peipers.de

Hain Works

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57074 Siegen

Telephone: +49 271/60-0
Fax: +49 271/60-300
e-mail: gpcast@gontermann-peipers.de
Internet: www.gontermann-peipers.de

Product information is obtainable from these departments

Marienborn Sales — Telephone 60-318, Fax 60-200
Products: rolls

Hain Sales — Telephone 60-321, Fax 60-300
Products: continuous cast goods, spincast goods, hand-molded cast goods, chill casting, lapping tools, finishing.

Personnel: Please direct employment applications to the Personnel & Organization Department — Telephone 60-247, Fax 60-248

Suppliers: Please contact the Procurement Department — Telephone 60-258, Fax 60-390

Information on environmental management is available from the Works Safety Department — Telephone 60-348, Fax 60-390

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tunnel
Bahnhof
City Galerie
Cine
Star
Oberstadt
Hain
Kaan-
Marienborn
Marienborner Str.
Hauptstr.
Spandauer Str.
Frank-
furter Str.
Limburg
Netphen,
Kreuztal
Kreishaus
Siegerland-
Halle
Leimbachstr.
Marienborn
Siegen-
Eiserfeld


Dortmund
A 45
Köln
A 4
Autobahnkreuz
Olpe
B 62
B 54
Kaan-Marienborn
Hain
Kaan-
Marienborn
Freudenberger Str.
Bhf.
Siegen
Siegen
B 54
Marienborn
Leimbachstr.
Ausfahrt
Kreuztal
Siegen -
Si.-Eiserfeld
Netphen
21
Ausfahrt
Siegen
-Eisern
-Süd
22
A 45
Frankfurt


Hamburg
Berlin
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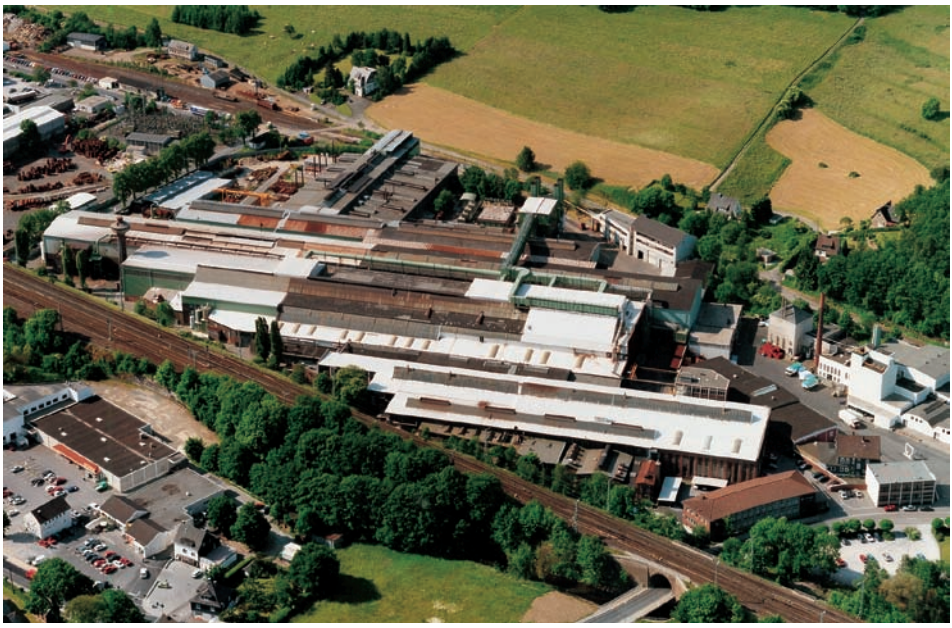
Siegen
Frankfurt
München



GP-Marienborn

GP-Hain

175 Years

Gontermann-Peipers