

**SEIB Informationstechnologie
Consult GmbH**

The success of the SEIB electronic plan management system, with which the company won the DB AG Ideas Competition in 1996, provided the impetus for founding SEIB Informationstechnologie Consult GmbH, a daughter company of SEIB IngenieurConsult GmbH. In cooperation with partners, the company develops and markets products in the areas of planning, project, office, and quality management. Their goal is to design efficient, transparent project workflows.

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The Lehrter Bahnhof in Berlin



A-1 solution for DIN A0 printouts

When building the Lehrter Bahnhof in Berlin and other large projects, international planning teams use EPLASS, the internet-based plan and document management system from SEIB ITC GmbH. Location-independent printout of plans in any format is enabled by the ThinPrint .print print management.

When plans for Lehrter Bahnhof are modified, little is done with traditional blueprints. Countless large projects, such as Europe's largest train junction, are planned with EPLASS, the internet-based document and plan management system from SEIB ITC GmbH. As an application service provider, the Würzburg company provides its customers with applications via internet across a 128-bit encrypted terminal server connection. Customers can access project information and perform their tasks completely independent of location and end device. All that's required are a suitable web client and an internet connection. Especially with larger – particularly international – projects, EPLASS enables efficient teamwork in which neither location nor local time matters. All plans are entered into the system by the author and then automatically distributed to the designated checkpoints in a preset workflow. All people participating in the planning process are connected to a communication center via the internet. Inspectors as well as other project participants, therefore, have real-time access to plans and documents. They can clearly mark modifications for others with so-called "red lining" in digital form, forward them, and authorize or reject them. Around 200 different formats are available for display in the integrated viewer. Plans and documents are shared using a password-protected, electronic signature.

For the Lehrter Bahnhof plans are made with EPLASS ...

For the expansion of Europe's largest train junction, Lehrter Bahnhof, the planners and developers at DB AG have placed their trust in an electronic method. Project participants access all information via a secure terminal server and can thus perform all tasks associated with plan processing and publication.

... and printed with ThinPrint .print

Although work is mainly performed onscreen, it must also be possible to print required documents – in true format in sizes up to DIN A0. Therefore the print management experts at ThinPrint were contacted in 2003. "To enable DIN A0 printout, we had to modify the print process as described in the company's white paper. It was then possible to print documents in this format," explains Eng. Andreas Fersch, Managing Director at SEIB ITC GmbH. ThinPrint .print was installed



Europe's largest train junction

ThinPrint GmbH

High-performance, consistent infrastructures for printing and distributing information in serverbased computing environments and via the mobile internet are the focus of the product portfolio of ThinPrint GmbH. A significant pillar of the company is the .print technology, basis for the software print solutions developed for server based, web based, and mobile computing. These solutions are being successfully applied around the world.

Previously the company has made its name mainly in the Citrix and Microsoft Terminal Services arena, but has been marketing its products increasingly and equally as successfully for distributed networks, web applications, and mobile applications. New innovations from the successful IT manufacturer are the product families Content Beamer, a plug-and-play solution for mobile internet access, and Public Printing for printing at public locations. Renowned distributors and resellers in 48 countries currently market the products of the German software manufacturer with branch offices in USA and Australia.

Thanks to strategic partnerships, the client components of the patent pending .print technology are integrated in a multitude of terminals, print boxes, PDAs, and mobile telephones from leading hardware manufacturers.

on the terminal server at SEIB ITC. When an EPLASS user wants to print a document from his onsite plotter, the print job is initiated on the terminal server. Normally, states Andreas Fersch, printing a plan would create print files 30-40 MB large – a volume that is difficult to send across the internet and can cause performance problems in other applications. Moreover, it was too time-consuming to install and manage the drivers on the terminal server for the EPLASS users' many different printers and plotters. The solution: ThinPrint's DRIVER FREE PRINTING technology. When a print job is initiated, the terminal server only sends print metadata to the onsite computer. Adaptive compression reduces the print data to a minimum. Particularly the vectored illustrations can be especially effectively compressed with the ThinPrint system, so that depending on the specific document, only perhaps 2% or less of the original size remains. The actual print process including sending the print data to the printer driver of the local printer or plotter is then performed on the computers or printers onsite. This prevents performance problems during transmission and means that no native printer drivers have to be installed on the terminal server. Print data transmission and hence the printout of important documents is therefore possible even across low-bandwidth connections. Server crashes due to printer driver conflicts are avoided completely.

As Andreas Fersch states, "The ThinPrint solution almost completely minimizes administration for printing in the terminal server area. Setup was quick and easy, and thereafter almost administration-free. We will also use the solution in our future projects. With this software solution, all plan information can be printed quickly, easily, and in every format. This product is simply ingenious, but also ingeniously simple."

In addition to Lehrter Bahnhof, EPLASS and .print are integral components of other large projects.

- **Lehrter Bahnhof:** At peak periods, 37 project participants at 10 locations worked with EPLASS on the construction of the 1,635 billion euro train station. About 100 documents are printed each day.
- **Stendal Pulp Mill:** The planning team for constructing the pulp mill factory, one of the largest industrial construction developments in eastern Germany, consisted at peak periods of more than 130 engineers, architects, and draftsmen. Daily print volume: 150 documents.
- **Taiwan High Speed Railway Line:** When building the Taiwan High Speed Railway Line, one of the world's largest infrastructure projects, HOCHTIEFConstruction used EPLASS to plan a contract section approximately 40 km (25 miles) long. Participating planners worked internationally at locations in Germany, India, Taiwan, England, Italy, and Japan, and printed with .print.
- **Koelnmesse:** The construction of four new exhibition halls with 68,000 square meters (732,000 square feet) exhibition space and 75,000 square meters (807,000 square feet) open-air grounds is being realized by HOCHTIEFConstruction AG as main contractor with help from EPLASS. 75 project participants at 9 locations work with EPLASS. Every day, about 225 documents are printed.

