

# SYSTIMAX®

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## SOLUTIONS

### Gmundner Zement Sets the Foundations for 10G Networking with Copper Cabling

Austrian cement production company chooses SYSTIMAX® GigaSPEED® X10D and VisiPatch® Solutions to upgrade cabling at its headquarters



**Gmundner Zement Produktions und Handels GmbH may be among Europe's oldest cement producers, but it is a company focused on the future. At its headquarters in Gmunden, Upper Austria, it is replacing the existing cabling network with a solution conforming to the latest TIA Category 6A and ISO Class E<sub>A</sub> cabling channel requirements and compliant with the IEEE 10GBASE-T requirements. The SYSTIMAX GigaSPEED X10D Solution it chose for the upgrade comfortably supports transmission at 10 Gb/s over unshielded twisted pair (UTP) copper cabling.**

The three-floor HQ building is located close to the company's 700,000 tonne/year production facility on a site it has occupied since 1907. Before its infrastructure upgrade, the building was equipped with SYSTIMAX Category 5 cabling that had served the company very well for many years. However, Gmundner Zement wanted to install new, state-of-the-art cabling technology before celebrating its 100th anniversary.

Gmundner Zement started its search for a replacement cabling infrastructure solution in 2005. It wanted new cabling technology that could support faster communications and new generations of systems well into its second century of cement production.

“ With the new 10G SYSTIMAX cabling we have laid the foundations for efficient administration and production operations at our headquarters. SYSTIMAX Solutions has a record of success and strong guarantees, so we know that those cabling foundations will be able to support our company however much it may grow and change in the future. ”

Mr. Dominik Mayr, IT-Manager of Gmundner Zement

When Gmundner Zement put its cabling requirement out to tender, SYSTIMAX BusinessPartner, S&T, based in Innsbruck, saw that the GigaSPEED X10D Solution could meet all the specifications.

This UTP copper cabling is a true Category 6A solution offering genuine, end-to-end 10G performance over 100 meters. It also has many practical advantages over the Category 7 shielded cabling solution that Gmundner Zement was considering at the time.

S&T then approached Gmundner Zement with a proposal specifying the GigaSPEED X10D UTP copper solution. This included more than 500 information outlets and 14kms of cabling. Having evaluated this proposal and compared it with the alternatives, the IT department at Gmundner Zement decided to go ahead with the new 10G copper installation.

A key reason for making this choice was the industry-leading 20-year guarantee and application assurances given with the GigaSPEED X10D Solution. These are backed by extensive testing at SYSTIMAX Labs to ensure that full 10 Gb/s data transmission is sustained even under adverse conditions.

“To ensure the future of the business, we need a cabling infrastructure that will be reliable when supporting advanced new IT applications over many years,” said Mr. Dominik Mayr, IT-Manager of Gmundner Zement. “With the new 10G SYSTIMAX cabling we have laid the foundations for efficient administration and production operations at our headquarters. SYSTIMAX® Solutions has a record of success and strong guarantees, so we know that those cabling foundations will be able to support our company however much it may grow and change in the future.”

At the Gmundner Zement site, horizontal GigaSPEED X10D connections run above the ceiling from a distribution frame in the main server room to outlets throughout the building.

In addition to end-to-end GigaSPEED X10D cabling, in the main distribution frame, S&T installed the innovative SYSTIMAX VisiPatch® patching hardware. This compact solution saves space and makes connectivity easy to manage without any sacrifice in performance.

The reverse connector design used by the VisiPatch System avoids the patch cord “spaghetti” seen on traditional patch panels. This makes moves adds and changes much faster. It also avoids errors because technicians don’t have to work round a mass of cords and have an unobstructed view of labelling on the panel.

The installation project, completed in a month, was challenging because of the need to remove old cabling. Installers had to do this work and install the new cabling without disrupting operations at the site. This was made easier by timed delivery of material to the site by SYSTIMAX distributor, Anixter,

Commenting on the installation, Joachim Otte, Country Manager of SYSTIMAX Solutions™ in Austria said: “Manufacturing businesses such as Gmundner Zement must be highly efficient to remain competitive. There is no room for them to waste money by installing new cabling that will be obsolete within a few years. They need a network connectivity infrastructure that lets them take advantage of the most productive IT systems available, both now and over the decades to come.”

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