

1974 | 2024

50

YEARS
SUSTAINABLE
QUALITY

kränzle®

MADE IN GERMANY



COMPANY HISTORY

ONE IDEA CAN CHANGE A LOT

COMPANY HISTORY OF JOSEF KRÄNZLE GMBH & CO. KG



1958

After eight years of primary school at the Illertissen town hall school, Josef Kränzle (born 1944) is offered a job for a year at the **Wieland Werken** in Vöhringen as a „Vesperholer“ (responsible for organising meals during working hours).



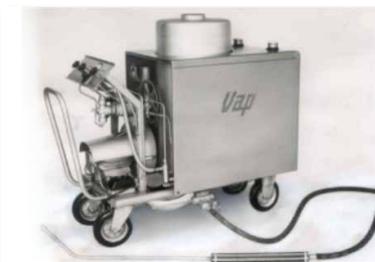
1959

After proving his worth as a „Vesperholer“, Josef Kränzle begins an apprenticeship as a lathe operator (now a cutting machine operator).



1959

Guido Oberdorfer demonstrates a „**Jenny**“ steam cleaner from the USA at **Wieland Werken**. This is improved by the **engineer Oskar Ehrle**. All the turned and milled parts are manufactured by Josef Kränzle, enabling him to learn the secrets of the pump and combustion chamber functions at a very early stage.



1959

The first prototype called **Vap** (standing for **V**APOUR) is created on behalf of Guido Oberdorfer. He replaces the **V** of **Vap** with a **W** and thus creates a new brand name. This is how the company name **Wap** is born.



1960

The **Wap** company starts with the first three machines in the car garage in Betlinshausen (a district of Illertissen). Josef Kränzle is involved in the development.

From the left: Guido Oberdorfer with his first two employees Rainer Oberdorfer-Bögel and Hans Moll in the car garage.



1962-1966

Josef Kränzle successfully completes his final apprenticeship exam and works partly in 3 shifts on a piecework basis in the **mechanical workshop at Wieland Werke**. At the same time, he prepares for the master craftsman course.



7 May 1966

At the age of just 21, Josef Kränzle obtains his master craftsman's certificate as a master lathe operator with a special permit.

1967-1974

After passing his master craftsman's examination, he is appointed to the Wieland Werke training workshop, where he trains the company's apprentices.



1969

Josef Kränzle buys a lathe for DM 2,000. **This is co-financed by his grandfather with a grant of DM 1,000.**



1969

In addition to his work at Wieland Werke, Josef Kränzle also lathes grey cast iron lamp bases for the Noris company in Nuremberg. **According to old records, the production wage ranges only from DM 14 to DM 17 including machine costs.**



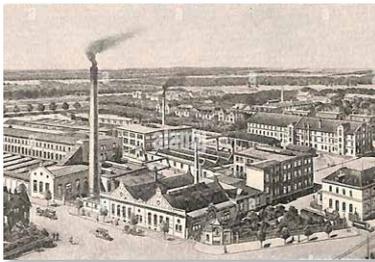
1970 **First own product:**

Josef Kränzle develops and manufactures brass plug-in couplings for high-pressure hoses. All turned parts are made by hand on the lathe. Assembly takes place after dinner at the family's kitchen table. Around 3,000 pieces are produced in this way every month.



1973

The first longitudinal trigger gun for spray pipes and spray lances is developed. The prototype is first made of wood and then of aluminium. In the end, only around 100 plastic models are produced each month on a part-time basis.



1 August 1974

After 16 years working for the company, Josef Kränzle resigns from Wieland, where he has worked his way up from „Vesperholer“ to apprentice, skilled craftsman and pieceworker to apprentice trainer. However, Josef Kränzle is still a member of Wieland company health insurance fund today.

1 September 1974

Josef Kränzle founds the company Josef Kränzle Armaturenbau in Illertissen.

Josef Kränzle • Drehermeister
Armaturenbau • Formdrehteile • Automatendrehteile



1 Februar 1975

The first employee is hired and stays until his retirement in 2016. The initial workplace is the basement at home and a car garage with an area of 6 x 3 metres.



1 May 1976

The first female employee, Ms Inge Seifert, follows one year later and stays until her retirement in 2014.



1976

Kränzle presents its new logo and slogan: "Better perfect than cheap"



1976

Start of development and production of the trigger gun with safety catch Starlet 1.



From May 1976

Start of development of the legendary UL 200 valves

1 August 1978

Move to the new production facility (later Plant 1) in Rudolf-Diesel-Straße in Illertissen.



1978



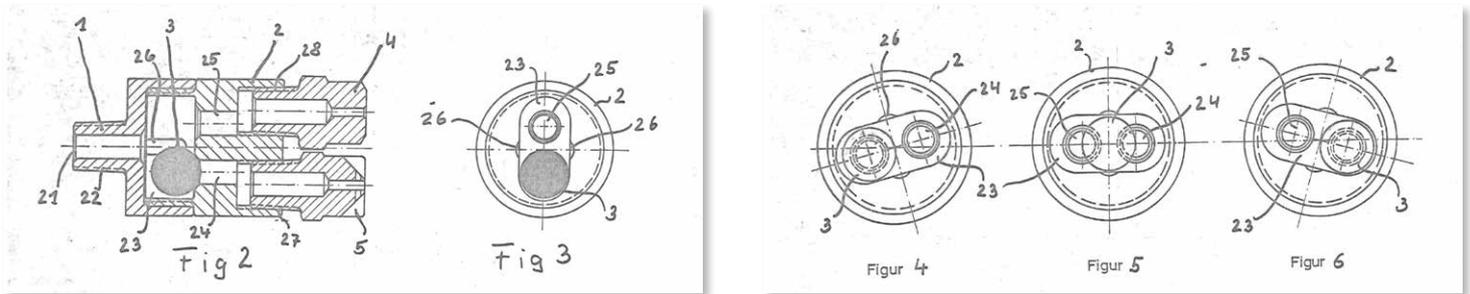
1986



2023

14 September 1978

Production of the first utility models for the later patented **multiple nozzle head.**



From January 1979

Kränzle develops further control valves and pressure gauges.



1979

Start of development and production of the trigger gun with safety catch Starlet 2. From 1979 to 2022, around 3,000,000 units are produced in 43 years.



1980

The first generation of the rotor nozzle is developed and built for around five years. The same goes for the pendulum nozzle and other spraying accessories.



1981 Development of the first own high-pressure pump type AX:

After one year of development, just in time for the **40th birthday of graduate businessman (Dipl. Kfm.) Lutz Droitsch on 27 November 1981**, the prototype of an AX pump (axial pump) is completed.



1982

The production of the AX pump (13 l/min - 150 bar) is set up. In the first year, 1,000 units are built.



1983

On 15 April 1983, graduate engineer (Dipl. Ing.) Manfred Bauer joins the company. At this time Kränzle has 40 employees.



1984

Ingrid Kränzle GmbH (sales company) is founded in Bielefeld. Graduate businessman (Dipl. Kfm.) Lutz Droitsch and his wife Sigrid manage the sales organisation until their retirement in 2011.



Putzi

1985

Production of the first portable Kränzle high-pressure cleaners „Putzi“ starts.

This is followed by the cleaner models HD 10-130, Profi-Jet, Power-Jet, K 105, K 130:



HD 10-130



Profi-Jet



Power-Jet



K 105

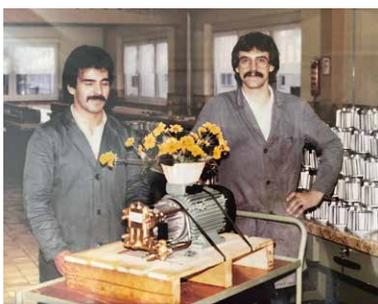


K 130



1986

The first in-line pump (Triplex) with a capacity of 15 litres and 200 bar goes into series production. However, production is discontinued after 500 units because optimisations still need to be made.



1987

Graduate engineer (Dipl. Ingenieur) Manfred Bauer takes over the pump production and final assembly of the high-pressure cleaners. The range of machines includes the Profi-Jet, Power-Jet, K 105, Bavaria Jet and K 130 models.

The company produces **20,000 high-pressure cleaners** per year.

Left: Ulisse Foddis

Right: Manfred Bauer



1988

Start of the development of machines for agriculture and industry with an optimum working pressure and flushing effect of up to 180 bar and 30 l/min.



1989 Second generation:

Ludwig Kränzle (master mechanical engineer) joins the company and takes over the production of the cold water high-pressure cleaners for industry and agriculture.



1990

The legendary two-wheeled Kränzle Spaceshuttle machines with AP pump are developed and launched on the market.



1991

Start of the development of today's dirt and turbo killers

1991

Kränzle builds up its own motor production out of necessity, as the previous supplier **VEM (VEREINIGTE MOTORENWERKE Thum, former GDR)** was no longer able to deliver due to the German reunification in 1989.



**1992**

The K 3000 power pack goes into series production for the industrial and agricultural sectors.

**1993**

Graduate engineer (Dipl. Ing.) Manfred Bauer gets the first mobile phone from Motorola (also known as a „bone“). The device weighs 1 kg and is 26 cm long.

**1 April 1993**

Graduate engineer (Dipl. Ing.) Rainer Bolkart sets up the development and construction department.

**1994**

The first hot water high-pressure cleaner **kränzle® therm** goes into series production.

**1994**

The workplace of graduate engineer (Dipl. Ing.) Manfred Bauer is equipped with the first computer.

**1996**

The first Kränzle 2 + 2 hand powered sweeper is presented and introduced into production.



1 September 1999

The company **Fa. Kränzle Cleantec** is founded together with Mrs Gerda Maier-Stoll and her husband Peter Maier (Festo). The company focuses on the manufacture of industrial vacuum cleaners.



2000 Kränzle makes vacuum cleaning child's play:

Kränzle develops the first own industrial vacuum cleaners **Ventos 25** and **Ventos 35**.

In Hall 7, **around 40,000 vacuum cleaners** are produced **annually** for the companies Kränzle and Festo under the management of Josef Leutenmaier and Klaus Butterhof. The photo on the left shows Leonard Würfel with the Ventos 25 vacuum cleaner.



2001

Kränzle celebrates the market launch of the high-pressure cleaner series quadro.

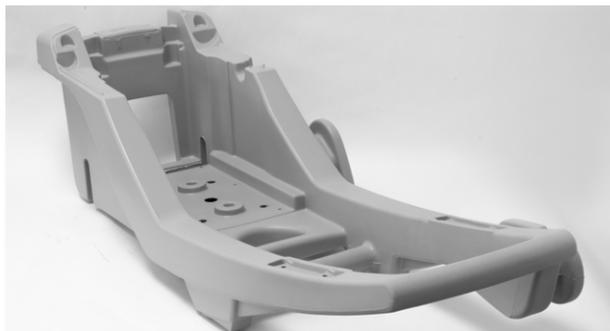


2001

Kränzle expands and, with the purchase of the Adlus plant, acquires today's Kränzle Plant 2, which has 34,000 m² of floor space (including 10,000 m² of production space). **The company Cleantec** then moves into Plant 2, which becomes the new production and logistics centre for up to 100,000 industrial vacuum cleaners per year.

2001

Investment in the first own plastic rotation machine. The corresponding department is set up by Bernhard Würfel (photo left).





2004

All index single-spindle machines are replaced by modern twin-spindle machines.



2005

Kränzle invests **1 Million Euro** in a new ceramic coating plant.



2006

The Ventos 20 E/L and 30 E/L industrial vacuum cleaners are developed and launched on the market.



1 September 2007

Josef Kränzle sells his shares in **Kränzle Cleantec** to Mrs Gerda Maier-Stoll and husband Peter Maier (**Festool company**). **Kränzle Cleantec** is then renamed **TTS Tooltechnik**.



2010

TTS Tooltechnik (formerly Kränzle Cleantec) relocates to the site procured by Josef Kränzle (40,000 m² floor space) at Pionierstraße 1 in Illertissen.



2010

Josef Kränzle Armaturenbau e. K. is renamed Josef Kränzle GmbH & Co. KG. Ludwig Kränzle joins the management and becomes Managing Director.



27 October 2010

Ingrid Kränzle GmbH (sales company) is acquired by Josef Kränzle GmbH & Co. KG. The site in Bielefeld continues to operate until 2017.



2011

The K 2000 series is developed and celebrates its market launch in the same year.



2012

Mr graduate engineer (Dipl. Ing.) Manfred Bauer and Mr graduate engineer (Dipl. Ing.) Rainer Bolkart join the management.



2012

The new K 1152 TST model is presented at the Interclean trade fair in Amsterdam. This high-pressure cleaner combines all the advantages of Kränzle technology and is the most frequently built device to date.



2013

Kränzle continues to expand and establishes subsidiaries in Poland (Warsaw) and Switzerland (Bremgarten), both of which are wholly owned by the company, in order to implement the brand strategy even more efficiently.



2014

With the bully series, new high-pressure cleaners are developed and launched on the market.



2015

After two years of development, the K 1050 consumer series, which also has a portable model, is presented to the sales partners.



2017

The **therm 1017 series** is introduced as a special model.



2018

Based on the in-line pump developed back in 1986, an in-line pump adapted to today's market is further developed and introduced into production.



2019

Graduate engineer (Dipl. Ing.) Rainer Bolkart unfortunately retires from the company and the management for health reasons.



2019

Michael Iske (drilling mill lathe operator with examination as a master craftsman) takes over the overall production management and joins the management.



2020

The Professional devices are converted from the M22 threaded connection to the D12 plug-in system.



2021

With the successful launch of the new Ventos 32 L/PC industrial vacuum cleaner, the proven Ventos 20 and Ventos 30 models are replaced after 15 years.



2022

The new Starlet 3 switch-off gun with safety catch is fully developed and presented.



2022 Third generation:

In order to maintain Kränzle as a family business, Leonard Würfel (master cutting machine operator and graduate in business administration) joins the company.



2023

The Quickly high-pressure cleaner is introduced as an entry-level machine for everyone.



2023

Kränzle develops new high-pressure cleaner series with a completely revised product design.



2024

Kränzle celebrates its 50th anniversary under the motto:

Kränzle – 50 YEARS SUSTAINABLE QUALITY

**Leonard Würfel****Josef Kränzle****Ludwig Kränzle**

THREE GENERATIONS – ONE SUCCESSFUL TEAM

Kränzle has been in family hands for over 50 years and will remain so in the future. While the managing partners Josef Kränzle and his son Ludwig Kränzle still run the company today, the third generation is already being introduced to the company. In this way, we are ensuring the continuation of the family business and the continuation of the corporate philosophy in the second and third generation.

The company premises over the course of time



1978

Plant 1 (main plant), Rudolf-Diesel-Straße 20, 89257 Illertissen
Development, production and sales



1986

Plant 1 (main plant), Rudolf-Diesel-Straße 20, 89257 Illertissen
Development, production and sales

Today's sites in Illertissen, Bavaria



2023

Plant 1 (main plant), Rudolf-Diesel-Straße 20, 89257 Illertissen
Development, production and sales

19,800 square metre site



2023

Plant 2, Siemenstraße 17, 89257 Illertissen
Rotation system, logistics and shipment processing
Fully automated high-bay warehouse with up to 6,000 pallet spaces

34,000 square metre site

FIGURES AND FACTS



In more than
70 ACTIVE COUNTRIES
Kränzle products are sold

more than
100,000
high-pressure cleaners
are manufactured
every year.



80 M €
Annual turnover (in 2023)



75 %
of the total production
are sold to the commercial
sector.



245
employees



54,000 M²
total area

kraenzle®

MADE IN GERMANY

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