

# For Immediate Release

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## **Starlinger: Production monitoring and optimization with complete software solution GRAFiT 4.0**

*Detecting machine downtimes before they happen: sounds like science-fiction. But this has long been possible with GRAFiT 4.0, a complete software solution for central production monitoring and digital process optimization. The software is used on Starlinger machinery and allows the operator to centrally monitor the complete machine park in real time – be it on a computer, via the smartView app, or on a monitor in the production hall.*

Digitization, product tracking, IoT, artificial intelligence: in production, this involves using machine data to optimize and automate processes. Modern software solutions such as GRAFiT 4.0 present the data of all connected machines in a clear, accessible form, and thereby make it available to the operator for use and analysis. The data is displayed in real time – for example via the smartView app – which allows for early detection, analysis and correction of errors. The central monitoring of the entire machine park offers numerous advantages such as higher productivity, less production scrap and lower costs. The system is available for the complete Starlinger product range (e.g., machinery for the production of plastic fabric as well as plastics recycling machinery) and has been designed with this portfolio in mind, but machines of other manufacturers can be integrated as well by means of standardized interfaces. Worldwide, around 2,000 lines are currently connected to GRAFiT 4.0.

### **GRAFiT 4.0 – structure and features**

GRAFiT 4.0 possesses a clear data structure; in the future, this structure will be geared towards machine learning, which means that the system can be trained to detect errors at an early stage. The resulting predictive maintenance of the machines leads to higher machine uptime, which in turn increases efficiency, reduces production scrap and lowers costs.

The smartView app features a user-friendly interface, which includes the option to individually adjust the menu bar. Popular features are push notifications, the storage of recipes, the export of data into a computer program or ERP system as well as limiting the access to machinery with an RFID lock. Online tutorials are available for operator training.

### **Smart solutions: GRAFiT 4.0 and rTRACK**

Based on a solution that was developed by an IT service provider roughly 15 years ago, GRAFiT 4.0 is an elaborate system that was perfected in cooperation with customers of Starlinger. With the founding of the independent subsidiary GRAFiT in 2018, the Starlinger Group placed the product on a new platform which guarantees continuous development and comprehensive technical support. With the backing of a world market leader, GRAFiT was able to further expand its product range: In the previous year, rTRACK, a software for batch tracking in the entire recycling process, was added to the portfolio. On delivery, the goods are marked with a QR code which is scanned at each station that the goods pass through. The data is recorded by the system and gives information about the receipt, processing and delivery of materials. The system makes an important contribution to quality management in areas such as PET recycling; another area of application is a concept developed by Starlinger that focusses on a circular economy for big bags made from polypropylene fabric.



# Starlinger

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## **About GRAFiT GmbH:**

GRAFiT was founded in 2018 with the aim of providing software solutions for the Starlinger Group. The company emerged from a long-standing cooperation between Starlinger and a developer of IT solutions. The first projects were implemented in 2004 at production plants of Starlinger's customers. As a subsidiary of the Starlinger Group, GRAFiT offers comprehensive service and short implementation times. The portfolio comprises complete software solutions for plant monitoring and digital process optimization (GRAFiT 4.0) as well as solutions for logistics such as batch tracking (rTRACK). The decisive advantages of these systems are their modular design and the use of proven technologies.

## **About Starlinger & Co. Ges.m.b.H.:**

Starlinger is a Vienna-based engineering company with production sites in Weissenbach and St. Martin, Austria, as well as Taicang, China. As the world's leading supplier of machinery and complete lines for woven plastic bag production, recycling and PET extrusion and refinement, Starlinger & Co. Ges.m.b.H. is a synonym for leadership in quality and technology in over 130 countries. Founded in 1835, the family-owned business has been exporting machines worldwide for more than 50 years with an export quota of over 99.5 %.

Sales and service centres in Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Thailand, Russia, South Africa, USA and Uzbekistan ensure quick and professional technical support and service.

## **Further information:**

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