



*Our great past achievements mean a strong
responsibility for the future*

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BRAUN®

160 YEARS · INNOVATION WITH TRADITION



Dipl. Ing. Martin Braun

Tradition and Innovation

There are not many industrial companies which manage to maintain their market position for over 160 years in the ownership of the same family. One reason is possessing the courage to launch new products and continue to develop existing products to meet the customer's requirements. Another reason is finding top class people, investing in their qualifications, working with them for as many years as possible and promoting team spirit.

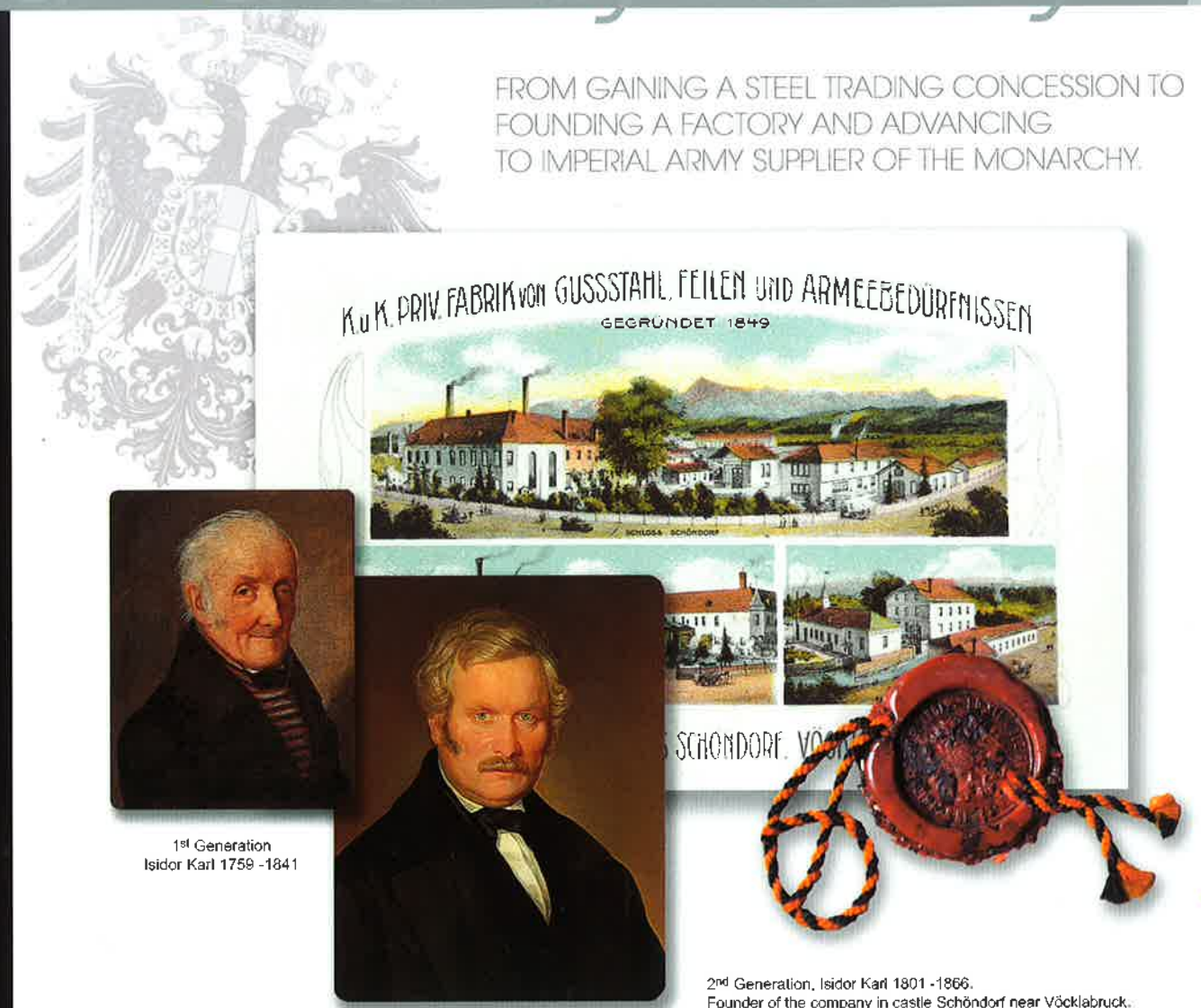
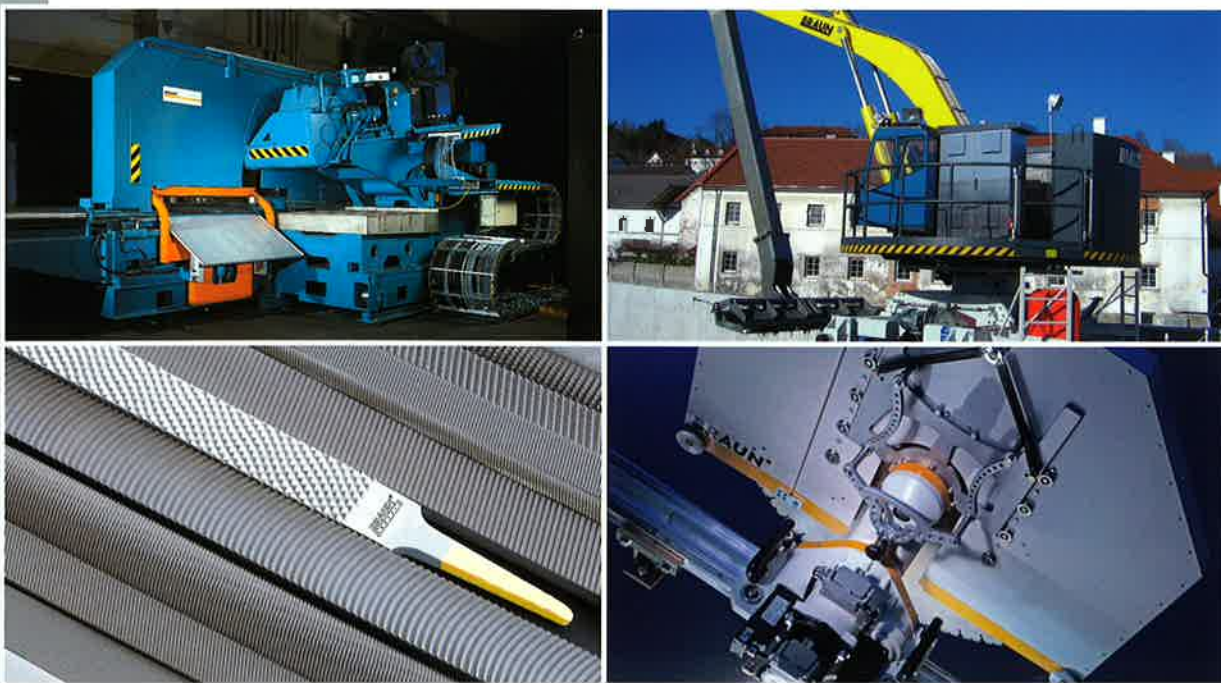
We always have been and continue to be leaders in quality and technology in all the areas we cover. Listening to our customers, delivering on time and providing customer service are as much a priority today, as they were when our company was founded in 1848.

Becoming involved in abrasive cutting technology in 1965, BRAUN set new priorities right from the outset. Innovative dry cutting technology was made possible on an industrial scale thanks to our involvement with leading manufacturers of cutting wheels and well known companies in the steel industry. Since then we have continued to optimise abrasive cutting, helping the process to gain acceptance worldwide.

As the technological leader, we offer our customers proven mechanical engineering concepts and extensive application expertise.

As a member of the sixth generation of the Braun family, I am proud to successfully lead our high technology company in the third millennium.

Martin C. Braun, President and CEO



1st Generation
Isidor Karl 1759 - 1841

2nd Generation, Isidor Karl 1801 - 1866.
Founder of the company in castle Schöndorf near Vöcklabruck.

1759 - 1848. During his military service Isidor Braun was the 1st black smith to Empress Maria Theresia. In Constance in 1798 he built the first and only file workshop for the Black Forest.

A historical postcard of the company: I. BRAUN & SONS in castle Schöndorf near Vöcklabruck. In 1848 Isidor Braun and his sons built a manufacturing workshop for files and forged wares. The production of armour plating was to be an important part of their products, as they succeeded in developing a resistant chrome nickel vanadium steel.

Its elasticity was very bullet proof and thus **the Monarchy became interested in BRAUN.**



1848. Founding of the factory.

1824 Isidor Karl Braun marries Anna Maria, born Thoma. She gives birth to three sons, Martin (born 1825), Leopold (born 1830) and Isidor (born 1834) as well as daughter Marie.

By carriage from Constance. Isidor Braun (born 1759) the founder of the company, dies in 1841. A few years later in 1848 Isidor Karl and his family leave their home town Constance towards the imperial Austria above the river Enns (later Upper Austria). The Austro-Hungarian monarchy offer expansion possibilities in an economic area. Isidor Karl Braun hopes that the good raw materials which the land has to offer, will enable him to produce high quality steel.

The family scout around the close area and are interested in the land of Lord Engl in Vöcklabruck. The castle has enough hydro power for the planed saw and mill and family Braun show much interest in the property even though the walls are in a bad condition. The roof is partially destroyed by fire and the northern end has completely collapsed. The Chapel is also in need of renovation.

The third generation – three sons – three ways of life.

Leopold: "Puchheim Beer". The middle of Isidor Karls three sons, Leopold, moves to Puchheim and founds a brewery in the 1860's. Within a short time the Puchheim Beer is distributed in the whole of the Salzkammergut and turnover is good. Today the location in Puchheim is the seat of the SPITZ Company.



Martin Braun 1825 - 1898



Johann Ulrich Isidor Braun 1835 - 1907



Leopold Braun 1830 - 1895

1863. The company is transferred to Martin and Isidor.

In 1863 Isidor Karl Braun transferred the property at Schöndorf to his two sons Martin and Isidor. At the same time the brothers Martin and Johann Ulrich Isidor found an open trading company I. BRAUN'S SONS.

In a letter from 1870 Mrs. Anna Maria Braun writes:

"I am doing fine, as Martin and Isidor are so concerned about me. There is an endless amount of work in the business. Martin and Isidor are working really hard and yet they care for one another. Otherwise it would not be possible to keep this business up. 50 workers in total; 4 railways are being serviced with new and old files!"



Honourable visitors at BRAUN'S at the beginning of the 20th century: in the middle holding the cylinder in his hand, director Wilhelm Zersch, with the cylinder on his head Isidor Braun.



Kaiser Franz Joseph medal 1871

Honourable Personalities.

On the 29th September 1867 Martin and Isidor Braun marry the sisters Maria and Katharina Enser, daughters of a privateer from Schwanenstadt. Both of them earned great respect from the town of Vöcklabruck and were announced citizens of honour on the 4th March 1874. The brothers were founding members of a song group 1850 and the table company Paixhanslia, of the later Schlaraffia. The family chronic shows a letter of the composer Anton Bruckner addressed to Martin Braun:

"My humble esquire, courtesy of the same, please allow me to express my sincere thanks for my honourable acceptance into the Paixhanslia association. Please also pass on my due wishes to the respectful Misses Laura and Maria. I was very happy to feel the comfort given to me by your highly respected family, and my only wish is that this comfort may never be taken from me.

With the highest respect, your humble servant,

Anton Bruckner, Vienna 22nd June 1885"



Castle Schöndorf 1848



From left Isidor Braun, Martin Braun, Dr. J. Mittermüller



Castle Schöndorf, 1891



Third from left: Johann Ulrich Isidor Braun (born 1834)



Castle Schöndorf around 1890



Middle Isidor Adolf Braun, left Kathie Braun

Proof of antique renaissance. It is said that Wezilo of Schöndorf lived in the castle around 1100 and thus gave it its name. For hundreds of years later it was the seat of the Lords Engl of Wagrain. Used as a seat for widows, the owners of Wagrain strongly neglected it. When family Braun take over the castle Schöndorf, only two rooms are occupied by a janitor and his wife. From the original beauty of this country house, only a marble fountain with the year 1595 remains.



Left castle Schöndorf, in the middle the pavilion, right the iron works with the large grinding stone

1871. Commendations and honours.

On the 14th October 1871 Emperor Franz Joseph I knights Martin Braun „in commendation for exceptional achievements and patriotic services" to Knight of the Franz Joseph Brotherhood. On the 17th November 1873 Ludwig III, Great Duke of Hessen and by the Rhein, honours him with the golden Commendation Medal. On the 26th July 1903 the achievements of Johann Ulrich Isidor were officially honoured, he was also given a Knighthood of the Franz Joseph Brotherhood.



Document „Goldene Verdienstmedaille"

1898. Take over preparatons.

From 1888 Isidor Adolf is manager of the BRAUN Company. He commences technical studies, and after his brother Ernst Theodor had completed his studies at the technical university of Leoben, he visits the technical university Vienna as an extraordinary visitor from 1894 to 1897; along side of which, he does business for his company.



Family Braun at the beginning of the 20th Century. From right: Isidor Adolf and Stephanie Braun, then Johann Ulrich Isidor Braun with his sister Käthe Kestranek; behind Nice Laura.

1898. 1898. The fourth generation - company take over

On the 16th May 1898 Martin Braun sells his half of the company's shares to his nephews Isidor Adolf and Ernst Theodor Braun with explicit instructions to run the company together with his father as I. BRAUN's SONS. The property rights of castle Schöndorf are transferred to the brothers in equal parts.

Uncle Martin dies on 8th November 1898 and so Isidor Adolf has to end his studies and takes over the running of the business with Ernst Theodor. Father Johann Ulrich Isidor (photo top middle) retires completely in 1904. He leaves the company and gives his shares to the brothers in October 1904.



Isidor Adolf Braun 1868 - 1925



Ernst Theodor Braun 1870 - 1907

Private changes. In the mean time Isidor Adolf Braun is married to Stephanie, born 1879 as the daughter of the registrar Dr. Dobler from Gmunden (photo top right). The couple bear 6 children. On the 16th September 1906 son Martin Isidor is born, followed by daughter Stefanie in 1908, Isidor 1910. Theodor is born 1916, Maria 1919 and Ernst Theodor 1924. The family has two great losses to account for in 1907: Johann Ulrich Isidor Braun dies on 23rd June 1907 and only a few

months later, on the 6th December in the same year, he is followed by his son Ernst Theodor. After the early death of his brother, Isidor Adolf becomes the sole owner of I. BRAUN's SONS. From the arbitrary of Johann Ulrich Isidor Braun, born 1834, died 1907: *„In memory will stay his constant caring of the workers of the factory, the latter of which he developed with his late brother Martin and achieved many commendations.“*

1914. The First World War.

On the 28th June 1914 the Austro-Hungarian heirs to the throne Franz Ferdinand and his wife were assassinated in Sarajevo. Austria and Hungary declare war on Serbia one month later. It is to be the start of the First World War which was to last until 1918.

The end of the war. The First World War ends after four years with the fall of the forces of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy and the German empire against the allies. The monarchy starts to crumble. In 1919 daughter Maria is born as Isidor Adolf and Stephanie Braun's fifth child. Famine is all present and food is rationed as prices rise. As a result of the war, redundancies and wage reductions lead to an unstable social climate in the country.

1924. A woman in a man's domain.

Amidst these difficult times, Ernst Theodor was born 1924 as the sixth child of the Braun's. One year later, on the 1st March 1925, Isidor Adolf Braun dies at the age of 57.

The widow is to experience a further heavy loss: two years after the death of her husband, on the 21st June 1927 the commercial student Isidor Braun dies at the age of 17 after a lung-illness. Maria Dosl remembers:

„We didn't do so well after dad's death. We were never hungry as we had a large fruit garden and planted vegetables and kept cows at the beginning. Mum said, if money was left, we would buy meat and if not then we would eat from the garden.“

At the end there was only one cow and two horses, used to transport heavy mill stones and files to the train station.“

The problems in the BRAUN residence take no end. Local taxes and the up keep of the workers use up much money.

To cover debts, Stephanie's mum sells her villa in Gmunden and moves into the castle with her daughter. The running of the factory becomes even more difficult.



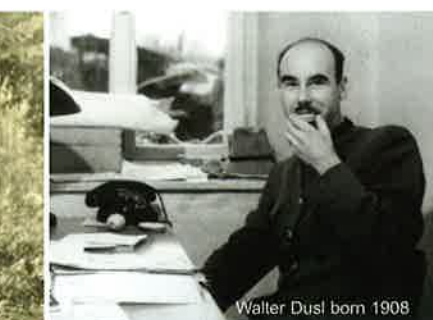
Isidor Adolf Braun (born 1868)



Martin Braun (born 1906)



Maria Braun (born 1919, later Dosl)



Walter Dosl born 1908

Beyond the war.

French and Polish foreign workers and towards the end of the war so to the Italian prisoners, work in the BRAUN factory.

Just like her brother Martin, Stefanie Braun talks to the prisoners – she speaks very good French and like the family, she is open and not at all against foreigners. Maria Dosl remembers a French Monsieur Prunox from Algier: Monsieur Prunox was a hotelier and used to cook for the prisoners of war, so she said. This was a special occasion, as we did not have our own kitchen. Later both of them visit the Braun's in Schöndorf with their families and even today the contacts of the former prisoners of war are kept upright by letter.



Family Isidor Braun 1924

Right side: Oriels and roof castle Schöndorf

Fire and a poor per's soup. In February 1934 a fire breaks out in the castle. The oriels and roof of the castle are destroyed over night. It is in the middle of winter and the water pipes are frozen.

The damage is extensive, a further blow to the destiny of the family in difficult times. The Hatschek family, whose business is not so affected by the crisis, helps the widow with a new roof. Stephanie Braun in turn provides the jobless of the time with a soup.

1938. The Second World War.

Annexation by the German Reich. On the 12th March 1938 Hitler's troops marched into Austria. The invasion took place without resistance – contrary to some worries on the German side. Engineer Martin Braun was ordered to manage his own business by the district governor Neyder in 1938. At the outset only a hand full of people were employed. However, Martin Braun began to expand and automate production. In 1943 Martin Braun's position was recalled and he was collected by the Gestapo. He was wrongly accused of showing prisoners on a globe, where the German forces were positioned.

1945/48. Personal results of the war.

Heavily wounded, Ernst Braun, a lieutenant during the war, was heavily wounded in the winter of 1944/45. His sister Maria brought him to Gmunden into the officer's hospital in May 1945, where they were able to save his legs. The new man is Walter Dosl. Although he is a technician he uses his knowledge of the Spanish language to gain profitable business connections to South America. He also connects in another way; he marries Maria Braun in 1948.

B Family history from 1948 – 2010

1948. A thoughtful year – 100 years BRAUN and the change to a personal liability company.

The open trading company I. BRAUN's SONS is changed into a personal liability company on the 1st January 1948. Martin and Ernst Braun join the company as personally liable shareholders with a stake of 30,000 schillings per person. Stefanie Braun, up to this point sole owner, also becomes a personally liable shareholder with a stake of 30,000 schilling. Maria Dusl is a further personally liable shareholder and pays in the remaining stake of 30,000 schilling. The company's name "I. BRAUN's SONS" remains.

100 years BRAUN – a foundation in the jubilee year.

Food, drink and music; company workers, their families and many guests of honour meet at the companies works for jubilee celebrations on 25th September 1948. The BRAUN Company is 100 years old. Over 100 people follow the invitation into the works courtyard where a large tent is built up. Martin Braun announces the grounding of a foundation with 20,000 Schilling capital for dependants of old invalid workers of the company. This calls upon enthusiastic ovations from the present.

Love, happiness and weddings. The jubilee year 1948 also calls upon two weddings: Maria Braun and Walter Dusl wed in matrimony and Martin Isidor Braun marries Margarete Haidn. Martin Christian Braun is born 1951, Evelyn Braun 1954 and Edith Braun 1958. Ernst Braun is not left alone, he marries Waltraud Meier.



The workforce at the 100 year jubilee celebration on 25th Sep. 1948.



Wedding Martin and Margarete Braun, 1948



Meeting to the WATERVLIET order in the USA, 1985



Families Braun at the 150 year jubilee celebrations, 1993

1957 Stephanie Braun dies.

Stephanie Braun dies on the 16th August 1957 at the age of 78. She maintained the company in difficult years and the continuation of I. BRAUN's SONS was her achievement.

The Sixties. The BRAUN Company take over the RAPID grinding materials works in 1962. Ernst Braun and his wife Waltraud take over sole responsibility of the division abrasive coated papers.

The sixth generation; a new format in the 70ies and a formal change of the generation

The 70ies.

Invest and expansions are the signs of the 70ies. In particular the abrasive cut-off machines are successfully sold to many European customers. So to the file production with over 2000 sorts can be increased and are mainly aimed at export markets in Europe, North and South America and Africa.



Gerhard Dusl born 1949



Michael Braun born 1957



Martin Christian Braun born 1951

Gerhard, Michael and Martin.

In the middle of 1975 Gerhard Dusl, Maria and Walter Dusl's son, enters the company.

Ernst Braun's son Michael Braun, joins the company after his graduation from the trading academy and works with grinding materials.

Martin Christian Braun takes over the management of the file-factory on 1st January 1979. Martin Braun junior could have imagined a management career for an international company -- he worked for several years in France and the USA -- however, his loyalty to his father was stronger as he saw that he was needed and interesting tasks awaited him.

10 Page The helm of the company is firmly taken into hand by the fifth generation in the fifties.



Martin Isidor Braun 1906 - 1997



Walter Dusl 1908 - 2003



Ernst Theodor Braun born 1924

Martin, Ernst and Walter.

Three directors, three manager personalities. Three men stand at the head of the company I. BRAUN's SONS from the fifties; Martin and Ernst Braun are additional personally liable shareholders; Walter Dusl is a worker but operates as the third director. The tasks are quite clearly defined and all three contribute to the expansion of the company.

Technician and developer – Martin Braun.

Martin Braun works in his special field. He is technical manager and designer and develops the abrasive cut-off, forging and file production automation machines. He is very important to the company as he is responsible for technical development in the machine factory, for which he received many patents and on the other hand was the driving force for automation in the file factory.

Man in the background – Walter Dusl. He is head of finance, very converse with taxes and negotiates the contracts with the banks. He is very careful of the cash flow and has earned a good standing with the banks. Not only is he head of accounting, but also responsible for file sales and for purchasing.

I. Braun's Söhne

Leader personality and visionary – Ernst Braun.

Ernst Braun is the leader personality for the workers and the visionary of the company. He is head of the file factory and later also commercial head of the machine factory which developed out of mechanics and also the abrasive paper division. He is very involved in sales and together with Walter Dusl further develops the export of files and machinery.

1989 – The splitting of the families and of the company into 3 separate companies.



Graphics of the splitting of the company into 3 separate companies.

Martin Christian Braun found that the splitting was very positive. Now each workforce had only one boss to whom they could orientate themselves. Martin Braun can now lead the way and develop the business into the future.

1990 – 2010 the BRAUN Spirit and ethics in business.

BRAUN was always a very social company and the handball and football matches between father, uncle and workforce were legendary. The families lived mixed together like in a small village and no hierarchy differences were made; children intermingled and played with one another. This is known as the BRAUN spirit. The feeling of belonging reflects at celebrations, festivities and birthdays. Successful orders are also celebrated together and all in all, the excellent climate within the BRAUN Company reflects in its results.

1848. Founding the factory is a risky step which needs extensive planning, perspective and pioneering spirit. Thanks to Isidor's knowledge of Tiegel steel forging fabrication and the exceptional quality of the products, the factory quickly earns a good name.

The sons Martin and Isidor, just like their father, are very conscientious craftsmen. The factory which was initially erected with few funds was extended and has developed into a respected business.

1860. Development reaches a high level: the factory has a workforce of 30 and produces goods worth 85'000 Gulden. The Arsenal management in Vienna give BRAUN & SONS a written confirmation (parts of certificate right hand side) about the quality of the purchased equipment.

1863. Isidor Karl Braun transfers the property rights of castle Schöndorf to his two sons Martin and Isidor. With the title deeds dating 22nd September 1863 half the property is transferred to each of them. Brothers Martin and Johann Ulrich Isidor found the open trading company I. BRAUN's SONS on the same day. On the 11th November 1863 the company is registered for the first time.



Certificate

To officially certify as requested, that the manufacturing company BRAUN & SONS from Schöndorf in Upper Austria has produced one thousand cavalry and 38 sappers armour chests with pick heads, made from bullet proof forged steel, for the imperial military. On delivery the responsible imperial artillery arsenal tested the said armour chests with shots from 15 steps distance. The material withstood the shots and is of a much higher quality than the delivery of previous industrialists, whereby the former can thus be highly recommended.

Signed: imperial artillery arsenal command, Vienna 8th July 1860



Isidor, Isidor Adolf, Ernst Theodor and Martin Braun with their employees

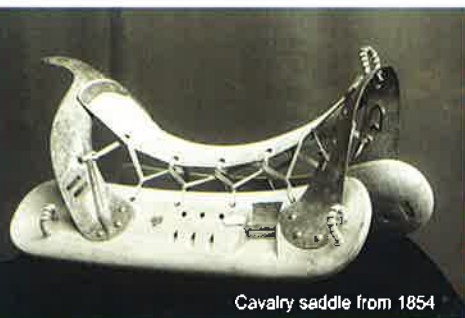
Steel and Iron – the markets den in the 1890ies

The extension of the factory is accompanied by extensive expansion plans. The products of I. BRAUN's SONS will be exported to many European States before the turn of the century and new markets and customers should strengthen this position in the whole of Europe.



Patents certificate for steel tank armour

1890. BRAUN's Enterprise is to be honoured in a very special way. From the 29th August to the 2nd September there is a large imperial manoeuvre in the area between Schwanenstadt and Schöndorf. His Imperial Highness Emperor Franz Joseph I. personally visits I. BRAUN's SONS forged steel and file factory and as a token of his appreciation he hands over a shiny needle of honour.



Cavalry saddle from 1854



The rolling and hammering factory during the First World War



Gun turret around 1914



Craftsman's engraving



Braun's Sons file assortment at the turn of the century



Electric steel oven during World War

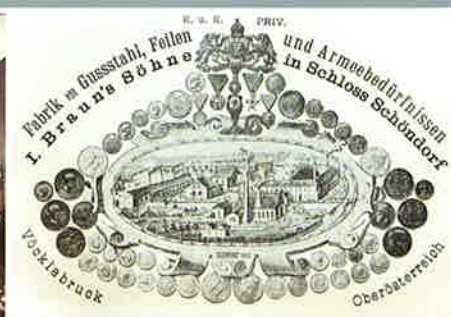
The two main shareholders and factory owners are Martin and Isidor Braun, both living at castle Schöndorf no. 61.

1872 production now entails forged steel files, forged steel and milling tin, suspensions and axels for railway wagons, forged steel anvils and sanitary items.

BRAUN presents its products at trade fairs and world exhibitions and is given many commendations and medals.



World exhibition Vienna 1873



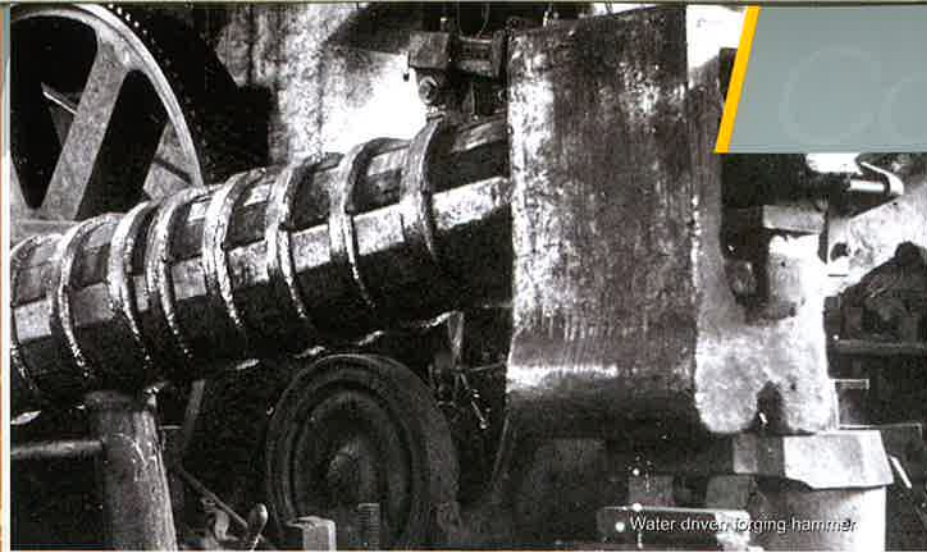
Company picture surrounded by medals and commendations

1914. With the outbreak of the war an enormous demand for files, fortified doors, armoured plates, machine gun shields etc. is generated. BRAUN's factory, which has always supplied fortifications and produced steel plates, receives war orders and concentrates mainly on the production of military components.

Machine guns, search lights, spotlight shutters, observatory posts as well as gate, door and window armour for fortresses and further more portable shields and armour for ammunition transports, security cashiers and so on. Officers continually come into the factory to be advised, check and take delivery of their orders. Business is exceptionally good and the order books are full.

1918. End of the war. The Emperor is dethroned. 1918 all war orders are cancelled and the production of military components finds an abrupt end.

The profits went into the purchase of property and estate but not into modernising the machinery for file production. The signed up war bonds are worthless and all invested money is lost. New challenges have to be dealt with as dark clouds rise above the horizon.



Water driven forging hammer



Worker with the AJAX forging hammer



File hammering machine in the file works



Factory worker 1943



Sand blasting in the cleaning department

1918. Difficult times between the World Wars and setbacks.

The borders of the new Austrian Republic are lighter and many Austrian businesses are confronted with the fact, that parts of their markets have been lost geographically. A challenge which I. BRAUN's SONS also has to take up. During the difficult times of industrial change, efforts have to be made to find new earnings potential. After the war the workforce counts only around 100 employees and all efforts are concentrated on files, machines and forgery.

1925. A woman in a man's world.

In the middle of these difficult times, son Ernst Theodor was born 1924 as the sixth child. A year later on 1st March 1925 Isidor Adolf Braun dies at the age of 57. As defined in the will of 1906, Wife Stephanie was to become the sole proprietor of the company.

1927/28. Orders situation and accounts.

In May 1928 the factory at Schöndorf employs 42 workers and two staff. The company is member of the Austrian file factory cartel association. The works are ready for full production and produce mainly various sorts of files and rasps. The workers also take up renewing used files and produce tools such as spades, axes, picks, crow bars and tools for railway lines and lumber jacks tools such as log picks. 20% of the tools are produced for private customers and 80% of the file factory's production is delivered to the federal railways workshops.



Photo of the workers in 1928

1938. The outbreak of the Second World War. Annexation by the German Reich. The political changes mean new business and personal challenges for I. BRAUN's SONS. Hitler's troops march into Austria on 12th March 1938.

Army works for the German Empire.

The particular focus of interest lies in those branches important to the military or for the operation of the four year plan project. As producer of files and other iron wares I. BRAUN's SONS works in an "interesting" field and delivers businesses important to the war machine with files and is sub contracted to the STYRIA works, the Hermann Göring works (today VOESTALPINE AG) in Linz and the Nibelungen works in St. Valentin as an army factory. The economic recovery of the company starts and occupancy starts to rise.

However Martin Braun is confronted with a very different experience as the first successes. As compensation for the workers forced to do military service, the company is first given ten Polish workers and 20 French prisoners of war and later more. Martin Braun who speaks fluent French and likes to speak to the foreigners, is accused of treating the prisoners of war too well, which some dislike.

Maria Dusch: „My mother as well as my brother Martin spoke French very well and discussed with the prisoners of war. Racism towards foreigners was never practised in our family. We treated the prisoners of war with humanity, which some disliked“.

1944. Splitting of the company.

With Stefanie's inheritance, a tool forgery, Stefanie and Josef Ringer become independent in 1944. Initially the old forgery is put at disposal free of charge. The contract foresees that the Schneider gardens and other be transferred. In the end the Schneider gardens remain in possession of I. BRAUN's SONS and property on the other side of the river are transferred to the Ringers. The end of the Second World War is near, on the 9th May 1945 the Generals of the German Army sign the unconditional surrender of Germany and Austria is occupied in four zones.



File maker at work



Truck „Standard“ built 1928



Factory River with power station



Production planning



File hammering machine in the file works



Lathe in the machine works



In the office, middle of the 50ies



Kaplan turbine, beginning of the 50ies

1930. I. BRAUN's SONS in the 1930ies.

With the help of her son in law Josef Ringer, Stephanie Braun puts all her efforts into keeping the business upright. In the 1930ies the file factory is reduced to but a handful of workers. However Stephanie Braun hopes for better times and does not want to put the children's inheritance at risk. The height of the world wide economic crises, caused by the New York stock exchange crash, is reached in the early 1930ies. I. BRAUN's SONS buy a 4/20 hp "standard minor" at the STYRIA works. The order confirmation from 1934 state „engine without guarantee, as seen and tested. Tools provided, 5 tyres. Price 1`700 Schilling.“

1948. A thoughtful year.

The open trading company I. BRAUN's SONS is changed into a personal liability company on the 1st January 1948. Martin and Ernst Braun join the company as personally liable shareholders with a stake of 30.000 schillings per person. Stefanie Braun, up to this point sole owner, also becomes a limited liable shareholder with a stake of 30.000 Schilling. Maria Dusch is a further limited liable shareholder and pays in the remaining stake of 30.000 Schilling.

1950. Exports increase.

Even before his studies Ernst Braun participates in international trading. After hard negotiations he manages to close a deal which will mean the delivery of 40'000 triangular files per month to the USSR from 1947 to 1949. The road for further exports is paved: an important business connection is made to Holland in 1950. The Dutch company Louis REYNERS, takes up the representation for I. BRAUN's SONS. In the same year exports were expanded to Italy, Brazil, Egypt, Greece, Africa and the German Federal Republic, later to be followed by USA. The amount of goods exported rises to between 60% and 70% of production.

Export boom in the 50ies.

From 1953 I. BRAUN's SONS sales rapidly expand. In just two years total turnover of file sales rise rapidly. Not only does home demand rise, but exports are doubled. New markets in India and Australia are established. However business in South America and West Africa is down due to import restrictions which have been imposed by many states on these continents.

„BLU-DAN“ - a brand is born.

Files from BRAUN have a particular trade mark. Two lions and crossed files are the typical signs up to the 50ies. Then an American competitor from the NICHOLSON Company, at that time market leader with over 50% of the world market share, contacts



Braun. NICHOLSON also uses a logo with crossed files. The Americans strongly suggest that BRAUN no longer use this trade mark. Furthermore NICHOLSON is prepared to generously compensate BRAUN for disusing the said logo. The Dutch representative Louis REYNERS suggests that they search for a new popular name. They think about a connection to Austria and come up with the idea of using the Blue Danube. BRAUN likes the idea and in the late 50ies they develop out of Blue Danube the word "Blu-Dan". The "Blu-Dan" files quickly develop to a trade mark.



Advertising poster BRAUN 50/60ies

150'000 files were produced per month. 70% to 75% of file production is exported abroad; alone the highly industrialized USA, buy BRAUN goods worth 4.6 million Schilling by the end of the 60ies. As the Beatles conquer the world with their songs, so BRAUN conquers the world markets with their files.

1962 BRAUN takes over the RAPID grinding material works.

For BRAUN the take over and new market segment is logical. Grinding materials as filing form part of working with materials and thus help the company to further establish their market leadership.

Product segment machine construction.

Slowly but surely it is time to modernize and replace the old machines in file hammering. However the specialized machines are not easily available on the market and BRAUN decides to develop and build them himself.

As the file programme consists of 1'600 different forms and sizes a fully automatic production line is not possible. Instead the machines are made more productive with automatic feeds and output transportation systems. This system allows three things. Firstly: file production is rationalised and modernized. Secondly: modernisation allows production to be increased to an average of 130'000 pieces monthly. Thirdly: BRAUN gains knowledge and experience in research and development of new specialized machines.

The 1960ies.

The BRAUN Company has grown to an Austrian middle sized business and in the 60ies employs around 120 people in its factory. The working climate is as always family orientated yet the working conditions are difficult. As yet, automation has not taken place. Whatever needs to be transported is transported by hand or in small wagons. Forklifts were not yet available. A working week in the 60ies was 48 hours and at peak times up to



Open abrasive cut-off machine

The first abrasive cut-off machines - begin of the steel cutting and grinding machines division.

BRAUN further develops the sector machine construction and builds up a reputation for innovative and high quality specialized machines and systems. In 1965 BRAUN builds the first abrasive cut-off machine. This machine works on the dry cut-off principle, which makes the use of liquid cooling fluids during cutting unnecessary. In the following BRAUN develops the first large-size abrasive cut-off machine. The developing partner for this project was the TYROLIT Company from Schwaz in Tyrol who produced the necessary cutting wheel (1200 mm diameter).



The research abrasive cut-off machine TSF 1200 (TS 12 V) for TYROLIT, delivered 1972.

The 1970ies.

Investments and expansion are the signs of the 70ies. In particular the abrasive cut-off machines find international customers and worldwide sales. An informal generation change takes place from the middle of the decade. Gerhard Dusl, Michael and Martin Christian Braun actively participate in the company. The decade ends with the introduction of information technology and a prestige project using hydro steel structures.



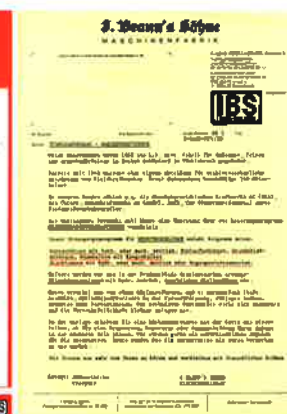
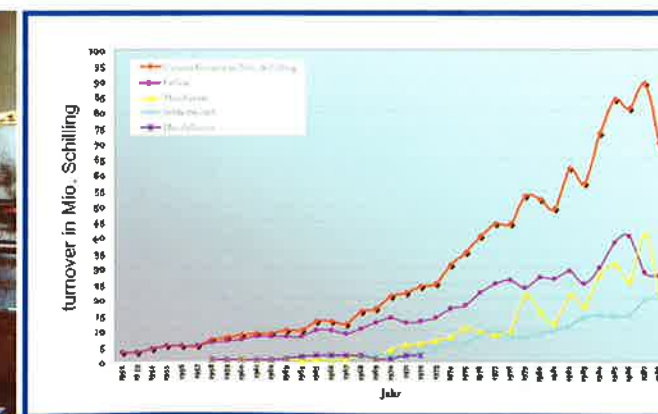
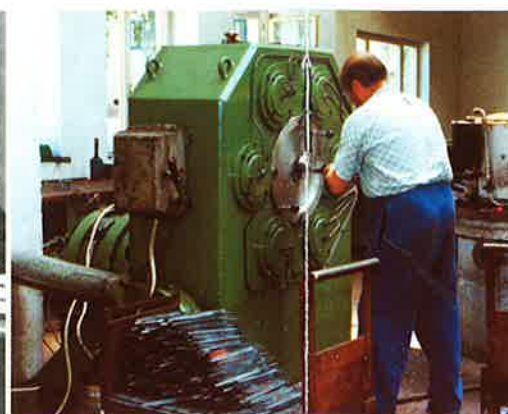
Project Steyr-Durchbruch renewal of the river dam for hydro power 1979

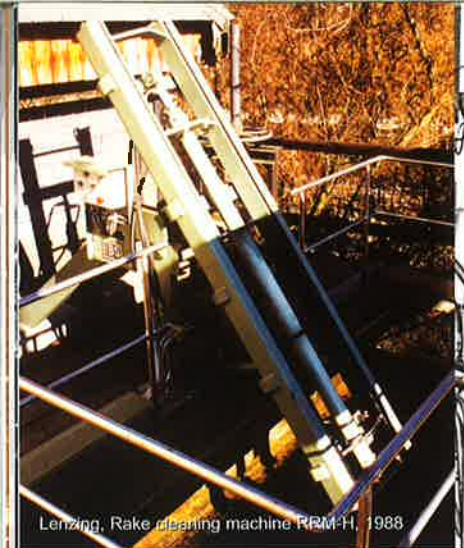
Hydro steel structures department.

The roots of hydro steel structures date back to the 60ies when rake cleaning machines were not only produced for the companies own use, but occasionally chain drawn machines for small power stations of the OKA were delivered. Walter Dusl and Martin Braun senior later addressed Martin Christian Braun "we have saved this department for you, so that you can further develop it". The department was only half heartedly developed and the first offensive initiatives were seen in 1975. Martin Christian Braun seriously picks up its development when he starts, however convincing the OKA (today the ENERGIE AG) as a customer is not easy.

Breakthrough with the Steyr-Durchbruch.

The first big order which Wilfried Reger remembers is the project today called ENERGIE AG near Steyrmühl, the so called Steyr-Durchbruch; which is a river dam for hydro power, is completely renewed by BRAUN in 1979. The order was signed before Martin C. Braun joined the company. The project Steyr-Durchbruch was to become an important reference.

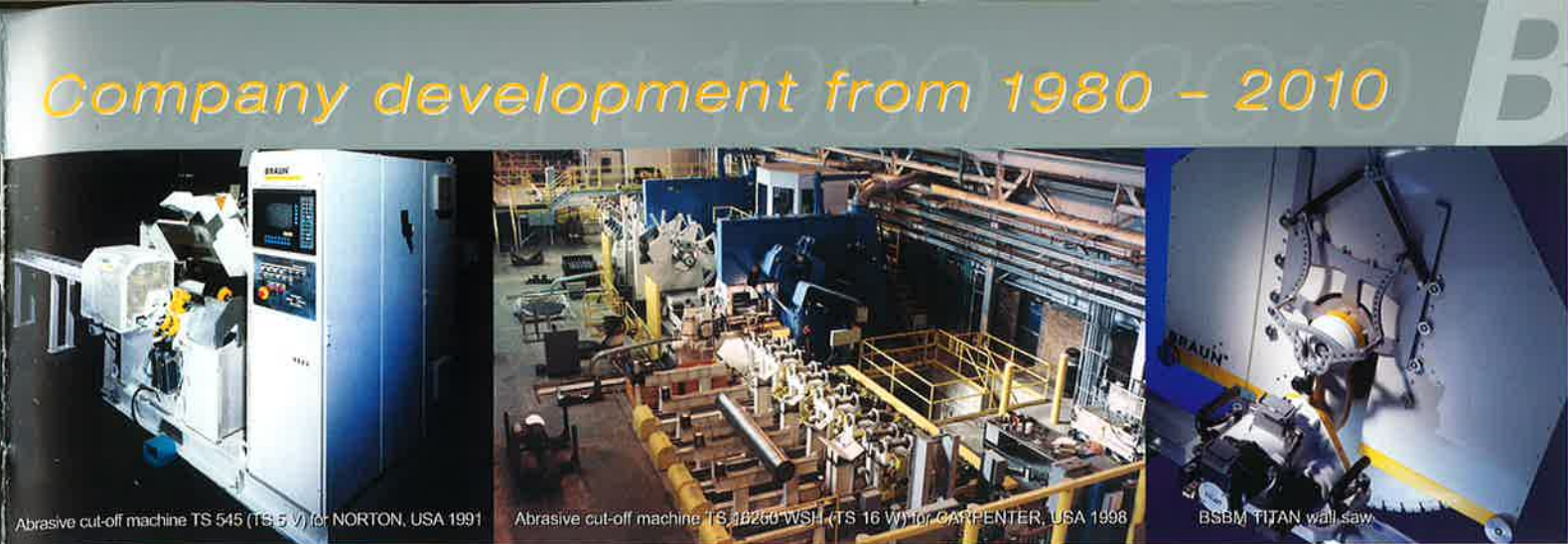




Lenzing, Rake cleaning machine RBM-H, 1988



Abrasive cut-off machine TS 12180 (TS 12 V) for AUBERT & DUVAL, France 1980



Abrasive cut-off machine TS 545 (TS 5 V) for NORTON, USA 1991

Abrasive cut-off machine TS 16250 WSL (TS 16 W) for CARPENTER, USA 1998

BSBM TITAN wall saw

I. BRAUN'S SONS beginning of the eighties

At the beginning of the 1980ies BRAUN employs 130 workers and produces files, grinding materials, abrasive cut-off and forging machines, rake cleaning systems, dam shutters, dam gates and turbine systems. 70% of the production is exported abroad and yearly turnover amounts to over 50 million schillings.

Formal generation change, Martin Christian Braun and Gerhard Dusi are registered as personally liable shareholders of the company on 24th June 1980.

Hydro steel structures boom.

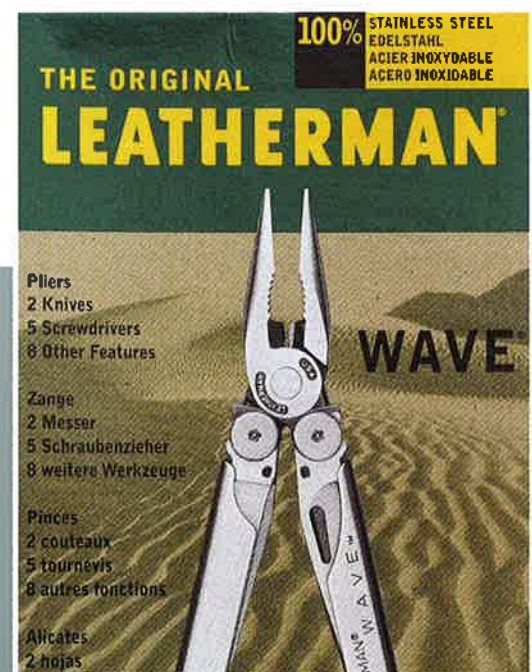
In the 80ies turnover in Hydro steel structures explodes. Driven by Martin Braun and Wilfried Reger turnover rises from 300'000 Schilling per year to eight million schilling in 1983 and then the record order of 22 million Schilling. To invest in clean energy out of hydro-power is a logical decision. BRAUN extends the available products for power stations and delivers large power companies such as OKA, SAFE, TKW, STEWAG, DOKW, EWR as well as many small power station owners in the whole of Austria.

Abrasive cutting developments.

In the further development of abrasive cut-off machines BRAUN decides to cooperate with leading companies in the production of grinding materials and tools. Next to TYROLIT, BRAUN also wins the companies RAPPOLD, NORTON and PFERD as partners for research and development projects. The most important applications for abrasive cutting are hot cutting in rolling mills and forges, as well as cold cutting in conditioning shops. For these purposes, BRAUN builds even larger abrasive cut-off machines. In 1988 BRAUN manufactures the first 1600 mm machine for BÖHLER in Kapfenberg. BRAUN grows along with the important customer BÖHLER and as a result delivers many internationally well-known steel production companies.

Strong turnover with files – LEATHERMAN

Original "Leatherman". Gerhard Dusi manages to gain a prestige order for BRAUN at the end of the 80ies and produces small pocket knife files for LEATHERMAN in Oregon USA. The pressed blanks are sent to BRAUN by air transport and worked on: flat sides and edges hammered, hardened and cleaned with glass.



Leatherman – the world's most successful tool manufacturer.



The world's largest wall saw at the BAUMA exhibition in Munich 1986

The world's largest wall saw.

Having made first experiences BRAUN starts to build a mobile wall saw. It is not to be a simple wall saw, the aim is to build the world's largest wall saw to date and the world's largest wall saw is to be presented at the world's largest building machine exhibition.

Company development from 1980 – 2010

1989 – The splitting of the company.

The company and families are split. In 1989 the three families go separate ways; the company is split into 3 new businesses on 1st July 1989 which are owned by the families Ernst and Martin C. Braun. Family Martin C. Braun takes over the BRAUN Maschinenfabrik with the divisions steel cutting and grinding machines, concrete cutting and drilling machines as well as hydro steel structures - together with the company's own power stations. The sector file factory, grinding materials factory and forging machines are taken over by family Ernst Braun and continue to be operated under the name I. BRAUN's SONS.

2000 and beyond.

The company in the new millennium.

Hydro steel structure expansion.

2003 is a very good year for steel for hydro steel structures and BRAUN successfully expands in Germany with constantly rising orders.

In the following years BRAUN takes up even larger hydro steel projects. The average value of orders for a long time lay between one and two million schillings. However in the new millennium the value of orders of many projects exceeded 1 million Euros.

Steel cutting and grinding machines in the new millennium.

Aside of the already well established abrasive cut-off machines on the world market, BRAUN develops a high-pressure surface grinding machine. The first customer to take delivery of such a machine is BÖHLER in Kapfenberg.

BRAUN also sets impulses through its US subsidiary BRAUN Machine Technologies, which was founded at the end of the 1990ies after a big order to enable American customers an easier ordering of spare parts and as a business support for the steel cutting and grinding machine division on the US market. Five hot abrasive cut-off machines – to date the largest single order – are delivered to England for a rolling mill project.

The jump to market leader. Important orders since 2005 have made BRAUN also a leading producer of surface grinding machines, a status long achieved with BRAUN'S abrasive cut-off machines.

The BRAUN representation in Moscow takes up business in 2009 followed by the founding of the BRAUN Machine Technologies (Beijing) in 2010.

The last step to the superlative. 2009 BRAUN develops and builds the first abrasive cut-off machines for the use of 2000 mm cutting wheels. Customers using these, the largest machines in the world, are specialised steel works in Italy, Austria and Sweden.

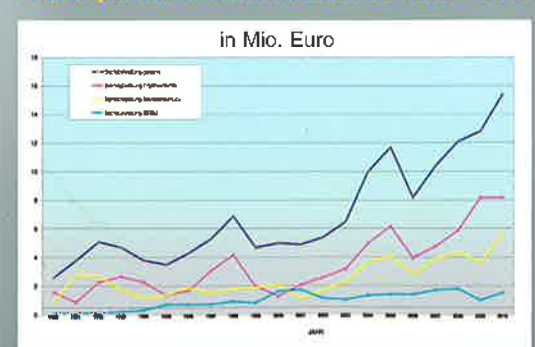
Tailwind for the BSBM sector – the Titan wall saw.

A further step is the investment into the new Titan wall saw. Development of the wall saw light commenced 2005, construction of the BWS 15 Titan was completed 2006. The Titan saw was introduced onto the markets in 2007. Unique features: the new saw from the BRAUN Company can be serviced worldwide through a modem, furthermore the built in parts made out of Titan save weight.

BRAUN Maschinenfabrik today.

Decades of experience, a motivated team of specialists and the complete engineering of all sectors in house, means that BRAUN stands for knowledge and reliability. Customer orientated, innovative products and an all round service offer are the basis for success on the market today. The number of employees has risen by 50% since 2002. In 2010 mankind is on its way to Mars and the BRAUN Company is still on a strong expansion course. The following pages will inform you of the current product and service programme of the BRAUN Maschinenfabrik.

Development of turnover BRAUN 1980 – 2010



A global reputation.

Technology at the cutting edge.

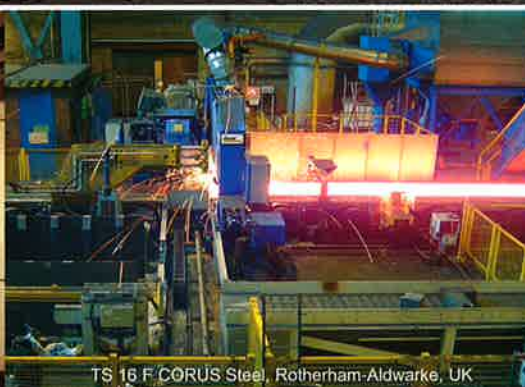
Competence, an advantage for customers; since 1965 BRAUN has been delivering its abrasive cut-off machines around the world. In the past and up to the present, the facilities have been built and tested in the main factory in Vöcklabruck. Project and design engineering, electric planning and software programming is all carried out by experts. Key components are produced in house at BRAUN. Modern high pressure surface grinding machines are built by BRAUN since 1998. For the revamping and upgrading of old machines, BRAUN takes over the pneumatic and hydraulic rebuilding and the automation of the refurbished systems. Technical customer support from the planning stages up to after sales service complete BRAUN's services.

Progress with system. BRAUN has extensive knowledge in the cutting and grinding system - from the machine, the tools and up to the materials. Machine and tool are always optimized in conjunction with the material to be cut or ground. BRAUN Maschinenfabrik works closely with the producers of cutting and grinding wheels. Together and with BRAUN's own research activities the continuous development of concepts, designs and processes are assured.

Evidence of one of BRAUN's many competences: Traverse abrasive cut-off machine TS 12 F for cutting layers of bars



Assembly of large-scale abrasive cut-off machines



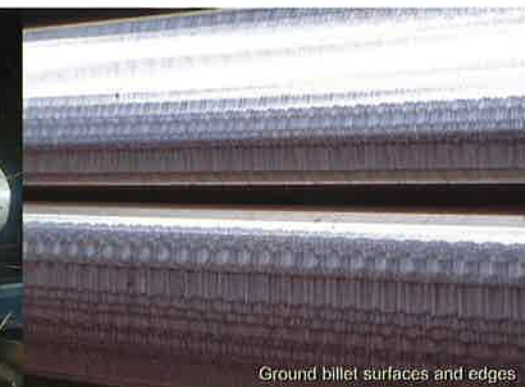
TS 16 F CORUS Steel, Rotherham-Aldwarke, UK



Cutting quality with abrasive cutting



Special HP-grinding head system BRAUN



Ground billet surfaces and edges



Control cabin with unobstructed view onto grinding progress



TS 20 L BOHLER Edelstahl, Kapfenberg, Austria



HP facility detail - discharging area with chain model

Our service programme:

Delivery of made to measure high performance machines with modern technical control, complete turn-key systems as well as technical support from A to Z.

- High-performance abrasive cut-off machines (cutting wheel diameter up to 2000 mm)
- Traverse cutting facilities for rolling mills
- Cutting systems for forging lines
- Cooling beds and complete conditioning facilities
- High-pressure grinding machines
- Components for test and processing facilities
- Flexible and innovative solutions for fully automatic turn-key installations
- Planning engineering and life cycle support

Our international customers trust our innovative and progressive steel cutting and grinding technologies:



Hydro steel structures. A modern and flexible technology.



BRAUN is the reliable partner for the renewal, expansion and optimisation of hydro power stations. Small, special and large units are totally built using hydro steel structures.

Individual solutions for individual need care for an optimum of economics and customer satisfaction from the project start to system operation.



Installation work on a dam flap



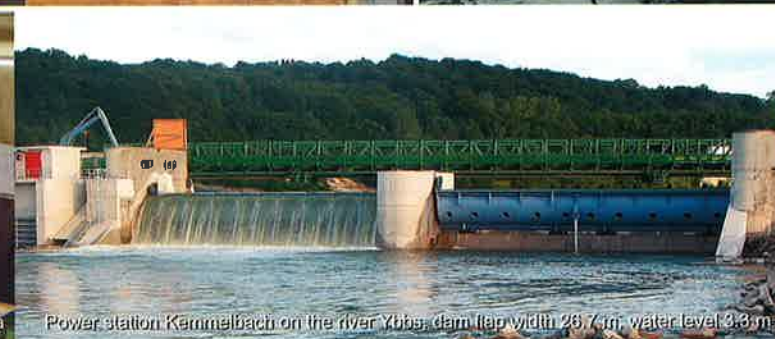
Bottom outlet gate power station Maller / Saxony state dam administration



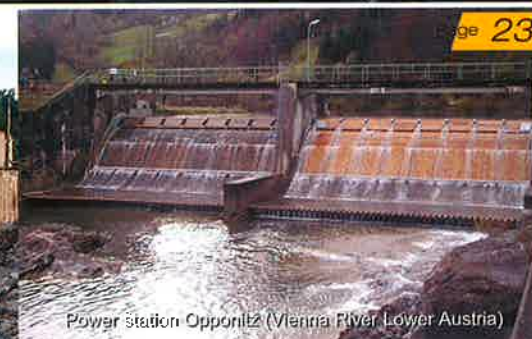
Turnable hydraulic bent boom rake cleaning machine



Bottom outlet gate power station Gosau dam EAG Upper Austria



Power station Kammhubach on the river Ybbs, dam flap width 26.7m, water level 3.3m



Power station Opponitz (Vienna River Lower Austria)



Motor driven rake cleaning machine power station Lurx / Sterzing / Italy



Gravel sluices gates power station Stadl Paura (EAG Upper Austria)

Decades of experience: the sector hydro steel structures has been our success since 1959.

Complete engineering in house by BRAUN: engineering, construction, static calculation and electric planning all from one mould.

Building and construction through BRAUN's personally trained experts

Building and construction of the hydro steel structures components takes place at Vöcklabruck. Installation throughout central Europe through BRAUN's own staff and worldwide through BRAUN supervisors.

Individual special constructions and revitalising of old systems

Construction of replacements, activation and automation of old systems.

Effective quality management

BRAUN's quality management meets the ISO 9001 regulations.

In house welding technology

Central European location

Company location in the heart of Europe with excellent transport connections on the main transportation routes.

Renowned power companies as customers and partners

In close cooperation with leading operators of hydro power plants we continuously further develop our know how and is the basis for high customer satisfaction.

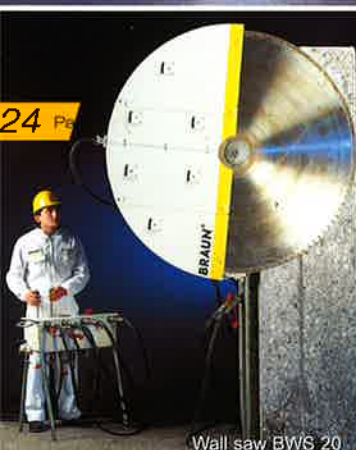


25 years of intense research and development of the sector wall saws and concrete cutting techniques.

Competence an advantage for professionals; as a professional partner BRAUN qualifies through optimised hands on systems which are developed taking into account the needs of the users. Special requirements are realised by special solutions on the basis of BRAUN's standard products. Customers are: concrete drillers and sawers, demolition companies, construction companies, installation companies, stone masons, material testing laboratories, specialists for reconstruction and dismantling such as in nuclear power plants.

Progress with system; for 25 years a team of constructors and application technicians have been busy developing and building wall saws, wire sawing systems and core drilling equipment. Aside of these units, BRAUN's assortment also consists of hydraulic units, mobile universal saws for steel and other metals and customized machines.

The wall saw TITAN sets a milestone in concrete cutting techniques and underlines the innovations of BRAUN



Wall saw BWS 20



Drill rigs BBD2W and BBD3W



BRAUN Combi-System



Hydraulic unit HAE 22V-0



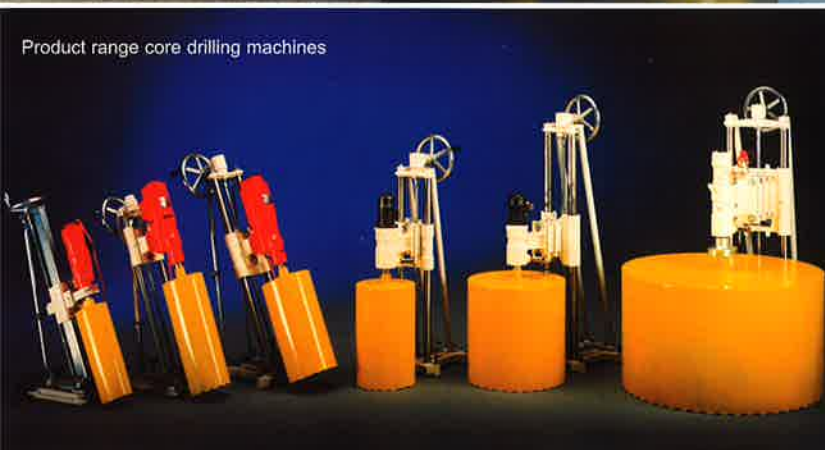
Fully automatic control system for HF-drives



Diamond wire saw with storage SSP12 HF-B



Wall saw BWS-12 with radio remote control



Product range core drilling machines



Compact wire saw



Detailed photo wall saw TITAN

Our machine programme:

- diamond drilling equipment up to 1400 mm core bit diameter
- Plunge saw up to 10 m cutting depth
- Hydraulic units up to 42 kW power and a wide range of accessories
- Wall saws with cutting depth of up to 1100 mm
- Wire saw with wire storage

Should special cutting and drilling work no longer be possible with standard machines, we will develop special machines and are thus the ideal partner for drilling and sawing companies.

Our customers trust the concrete drilling and cutting competence of BRAUN:



Files and tools - BRAUN quality since 1798.



The province of Upper Austria is predestined for file production, for it was the city of Hallstatt where the first prehistoric files were found.

Professionals from industry, handcraft, agriculture, forestry, building and construction have already been using our BRAUN files for decades. Furthermore the world wide trend towards „do-it-yourself“ created a new target group which is using files and rasps. This new market can be strongly expanded.



Selection of BRAUN's vast file assortment



Macro photograph showing rasp cut details

Presentation of the BRAUN file assortment



Wet irons for sharp knives



Professional ski clamping device for perfect edges



Swing-Cut for sharpening side and base edge



Detailed photo of a milled tooth file



Structure of a rasp cut

Since 1798 the brand BRAUN stands for quality. After extensive tests by external independents, BRAUN was given the quality seal "Austrian quality mark" (österreichische Qualitätsmarke). BRAUN is known all over the world.

OUR FILE PROGRAMME:

- Engineer's files
- Rasps
- Saw files
- Chain saw files
- Special files
- Precision files
- Whet irons and sharpeners
- Milled tooth files and blades
- CHROMINOX files
- Ski files and ski service tools
- Pattern maker's rasps hand cut
- Diamond precision files
- ELWAS files and holders
- Accessories (file handles and brushes, thread files etc.)

If special file and rasp work is no longer possible with standard tools, we are able to develop special files on request. Therefore we are the ideal partner for metal working companies.

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION NETWORK



STEEL CUTTING AND GRINDING MACHINES DIVISION

- BRAUN Maschinenfabrik/Austria
- ▼ BRAUN Machine Technologies/USA
- ★ BRAUN Machine Technologies/China
- ◆ BRAUN representation Russia
- Distribution partners

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- BRAUN Maschinenfabrik/Austria

CONCRETE CUTTING AND DRILLING MACHINES DIVISION

- BRAUN Maschinenfabrik/Austria
- Distribution partners



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