

Data Protection & Industrie 4.0

How to treat personal data on a corporate level



Extract

Editorial

Dear Reader,



Christian Steinberger

Data protection has been on the agenda of companies for some time, and the protection of personal data has become increasingly important for the companies of the machinery and plant engineering sector. With a view to the increasing sensitivity of customers and users regarding their data, high data protection levels are key for every company.

Especially under Industrie 4.0 conditions, data protection will gain in significance: integrated systems, data-dependent automation processes, cloud services and big data are keywords that data protection officers will have to take into account in the near future.

In this context, data protection also means pending changes have to be considered and the expenditure related to integrating these factors into the data protection policies of the company must not be shied away from. This is also necessary as data protection authorities have adopted a more proactive approach and monitor companies for adherence to data-protection rules.

The VDMA has recognised that especially smaller and medium-sized companies find it difficult at times to find their way through the wealth of statutory conditions imposed by the complex and partly abstract requirements of data protection. The present guide is therefore meant to outline the fundamentals of data protection and provide the companies with a useful tool to cope with the protection of personal data in their own companies.

An intrinsic factor of Industrie 4.0 is that data-protection aspects have to be implemented in each project right from the start. We hope that we have succeeded in offering you concise and practical advice that you can readily apply to many situations that you are aware of or that you become aware of.



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