



# Warsteiner Brewery versiondog Case Study

Refreshingly Efficient Automated Production with versiondog

**Preventive maintenance has long been the norm at the Warsteiner Brewery, but unplanned maintenance still happens. With no time to waste searching for data during downtime, they use versiondog to centralize data storage and monitor changes.**

Dipl.-Ing. Thomas Wenthaus works at the Germany-based family enterprise, the Warsteiner Group, in the operative engineering department. Wenthaus' staff members, who he lovingly calls "The Automators," work to optimize existing control processes, manage ongoing processes, and develop new processes, especially for new production facilities or new production lines. The team is also involved in plant maintenance which involves restarting machines and plant components.

## Why did Warsteiner Brewery need a version control and backup software?

In the past, each department of the company had its own systems for maintenance, repair, and operations. Individual departments used to save the current data for each PLC in their own ways.

Wenthaus saw that they needed a way to ensure PLC projects were safeguarded and versioned.

They introduced versiondog and haven't looked back.

## How does Warsteiner Brewery use versiondog for data management?

"Today, it's impossible to imagine working without it," Wenthaus says. "Having a centralized data storage system means that there is a complete change history to which all 60 users have access from whichever department they may be in."

In addition to the main brewery in Warstein, Germany, another brewery that belongs to the Warsteiner Group has integrated versiondog. Now, the team in Warstein can manage all PLC programs, even from afar.

versiondog also helps everyone at Warsteiner to meticulously document their work. They happily use versiondog to document change reasons, comments, and other metadata.

## How does versiondog help to reduce downtime at Warsteiner Brewery?

For food and beverage production facilities like Warsteiner Brewery, the biggest benefit of versiondog is reduced downtime. Why? It's common for each machine to be connected to one other via the network. If one machine comes to a halt, the entire filling and bottling process is put on pause.

“Thanks to versiondog, we are able to rapidly localize errors and get the plant back up and running again.”

The same benefits apply to Warsteiner’s robots. One wrong piece of data can cause the weeks of configuration work to fly out the window. For packaging machines like the ones that are used at Warsteiner Brewery, the calibration data must be precise with little room for error.

“The wonderful thing about versiondog is the fact that you know when exactly a particular change was made, who made it, and why it was made,” said Dipl.-Ing. Thomas Wenthaus.

versiondog also ensures that all data is centrally stored and available for comparison.

For the members of maintenance staff, this definitely has a practical use. It allows for errors to be detected quickly and for the cause of malfunctions to be identified and corrected swiftly.

## What is the automated backup process like at Warsteiner Brewery?

The brewery’s backup process with versiondog ensures that no data will be lost. The brewery regularly creates backups for fast and efficient disaster recovery. versiondog efficiently stores the data from all programmable logic controllers and other automated devices.

In the event that an error occurs on the assembly line or if the assembly line itself suddenly stops, the maintenance team can immediately swap out the malfunctioning component with a working version with confidence.

The frequency of backups depends on the relevance of the device. Not all PLCs are backed up on a daily basis. The number of backups per average day is around 40, but the Warsteiner Brewery runs between 300-400 backups per week.

**Learn more about versiondog, the version control and automatic backup solution trusted by Warsteiner Brewery, at [www.auvesy.us](http://www.auvesy.us).**

## ABOUT AUVESY

AUVESY (AUtomated VErsioning SYstems) is a global market leader in version control and data management for automated production. The company has grown steadily since it was founded in 2007, with its North American headquarters located in Grand Rapids, MI and its global headquarters located in Landau, Germany.



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