

Retrofit for maximum operational reliability

Modernization of ventilation technology at the Hochsteiermark Bruck Regional Hospital

The Hochsteiermark Regional Hospital in Bruck an der Mur, Austria, has retrofitted 45 ventilation systems with modern RadiPac EC fans from ebm-papst. The retrofit requirements ranged from maximum operational reliability to reduced maintenance and increased energy efficiency.

Precision right from the start

The retrofit took place at Bruck Regional Hospital, one of three locations belonging to the Hochsteiermark Regional Hospital, part of the Styrian Hospital Association (KAGes). The company Fischer Luft- und Klimatechnik took on the project planning and turned to ebm-papst Austria for the technical design of the fans. For this challenge, retrofit manager Jürgen Pichler at ebm-papst Austria and his team calculated optimal models for the individual systems. They employed ebm-papst's own FanScout software during the planning phase to determine the most economical solution for each system—based on operating points, operating times and efficiency values for maximum operational reliability.

Modernization during ongoing operation

Ventilation could not be completely shut down at any time, so the conversion was carried out in stages: Four ventilation systems per control cabinet were replaced with RadiPac units one after the other, which took around 10 days per group. The operating theater areas were particularly critical due to strict hygiene rules. Here, interventions were coordinated in terms of timing, hygiene checks were carried out, and instruments were relocated as necessary. In addition to the fan equipment, heat pumps and control cabinets were replaced and a web-based building management system was implemented to enable central control and monitoring. In each system, a RadiPac EC fan in various sizes now ensures quiet, efficient operation. Thanks to the elimination of V-belt or frequency converter losses, reliability is noticeably increased.

Reliable operation into the future

The compact RadiPac fans feature continuously variable EC motors and ensure quiet, low-vibration operation with high efficiency. The integrated flow control and the use of NanoWave filters from MANN+HUMMEL distribute the filter load more evenly, increase service life and reduce energy consumption. The new technology supports KAGes' 2030 climate strategy: greater energy efficiency, higher operational reliability and sustainable use of resources in healthcare. Six locations have already been modernized, with more to follow.

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Image 1: LKH Hochsteiermark is part of KAGes, one of Austria's largest healthcare providers with over 17,000 employees at 18 locations.

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Image 2: Efficient RadiPac EC fans from ebm-papst replace the old AC technology.

Images	ebm-papst
Characters	approx. 2,500, including headings and sub-headings
Tags	EC technology, RadiPac, FanScout, retrofit, hospital
Link	www.ebmpapst.com

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About ebm-papst

The ebm-papst Group, a family-run company headquartered in Mulfingen, Germany, is the world's leading manufacturer of fans and motors. Since it was founded in 1963, the technological leader has set international industry standards with its core expertise in motor technology, electronics, digitalization and aerodynamics.

ebm-papst offers sustainable, intelligent and tailor-made solutions for virtually every requirement in ventilation and heating technology. ebm-papst sets the benchmark across a wide variety of sectors, from ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration technology to heating technology, information technology, mechanical engineering and medical technology.

Over the 2024–2025 financial year, the ebm-papst Group generated turnover of 2.1 billion euros. The company employs around 13,500 people at 30 production sites, including in Germany, China and the U.S., and operates 50 sales offices worldwide.

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