

CIREX is one of the largest steel foundries in the world that uses investment casting. With this method complex 3D products can be created with the highest precision and of the most complex shapes.

CIREX also acts as a development partner for successful casting, always aiming to create the best possible cast by conferring closely with their partners.





CIREX is a development partner and manufacturer of high-quality steel precision casting, using investment casting.

CIREX has distributed its activities across four locations. Apart from the main location in Almelo (the Netherlands), there are two locations in Koprivnice (the Czech Republic), and a location in Stará Ľubovňa (Slovakia). All together CIREX employs over 400 people.

Optimizing the data transfers with the Czech Republic. A concentrated focus on business processes. Global access to all important policy and manufacturing documents. Only the best IT solution is good enough for CIREX. Finance Director Hans Alferink is still full of praise for what he believes to be the best option available: Cloud Workspace by Eshgro.

## Keep expanding in the future

Finance Director Hans Alferink started working at CIREX in 2009.

CIREX was on the up; not only the number of commissions was growing, there were also more and more employees. This meant there was work to be done for the Finance Director, who also manages the automation portfolio. "Our IT was solid and reliable. It wasn't bad, but it was very old and outdated. Employees only had limited access to the internet. Data transfers between the Netherlands and the Czech Republic were time-consuming. It was time to take the necessary steps to ensure CIREX could keep expanding in the future."

## **Functional** use

"Our plan was to set up a joint IT environment for the Netherlands and the Czech Republic," says Alferink. "We looked for a party that could offer a professional IT solution, a reliable partner who would also unburden us when it came to basic facilities. This would allow us to focus on the functional use of the applications and the growth of our business."

"Since we have been working in the cloud, we work with one single document structure. The speed of data transfers has increased substantially, as though we are all in the same building. Two islands have become one."



## Secure and familiar

CIREX unhesitatingly chose for Eshgro's IT solution after being tipped by Loohuis Telecommunicatie. Alferink: "We work for large clients in the automotive and aviation industries. Certification is crucial for us. We adhere to high standards for the secure and proper transfer of information and documents, as well as procedures. Eshgro is an extensively certified supplier of cloud solutions. This we could relate to and it instilled confidence. On top of that, Eshgro gave us an inspiring account of developments in IT. Talks between Eshgro and CIREX about the setup of our IT solution went ahead in pleasant cooperation. It was fully supported by our organisation."

**Customized for CIREX** 

With the purchase of the Cloud Workspace CIREX first and foremost wants to take the data transfers between the Dutch and Czech locations to a higher level.

"The manufacturing employees in the Czech Republic depend on the documentation done in the Netherlands," explains Alferink. "Files had always been sent by e-mail, but that was too complicated. Since we have been active in the cloud, we work with one single document structure. The speed of data transfers has increased substantially, as though we are all in the same building. Two islands have become one.

What's more, data from local machines and manufacturing equipment is duplicated in the cloud, giving us the security of a back-up."

By now CIREX has added Office 365 and Skype to its workspaces, enabling their Dutch and Czech employees to have chat sessions. Online meetings are now planned quickly and easily. Skype enhances the mutual communication, making it more accessible. It is informal and takes away language barriers.

Alferink realises that CIREX has been able to grow thanks to Eshgro taking away quite a few obstacles. "When I started here, we were working on two islands. Now we face the world as one. We don't earn our living with IT, but it does serve us well!"



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Hans Alferink, Finance Director CIREX B.V.











