

Mechanical and Electrical Engineering (MEM) Industry

The choice of location - an important success factor



MEM in the Canton of Aargau

Perfect conditions:

- Strong potential for innovation (Switzerland is a world leader in innovation and the number of patent registrations)
- Political stability, legal security, liberal labor laws (including flexible working hours)
- Availability of highly motivated and well trained specialists (the MEM industry is one of the biggest employers of apprentices in Switzerland, with over 24,000 trainees)
- Lower industrial electricity prices than the EU average

You will find in the Canton of Aargau

- Great potential to attract customers due to the central location in Switzerland and Europe (40% of Swiss GDP within an hour's drive)
- Excellent infrastructure (energy, communications and transport)
- Leading research and training facilities
- High quality of life and housing
- Business-friendly government
- Strong industry that has evolved over time (Switzerland has the highest industrial production per capita in the world)

Your advantage: In Aargau you will find the perfect environment for achieving international success.

Key Facts and Figures on the MEM Industry

- Over 12% of all employees in Aargau work in the MEM industry (Swiss average: 8,6%)
- The MEM industry contributes approximately 12% of Aargau's GDP (Swiss average: 9,5%)
- The MEM industry produces around 71% of Aargau's total exports (Swiss average: 30,2%)
- The MEM industry accounts for over 30% of Switzerland's R&D expenditure and employs 40% of all staff working in R&D

Training and R&D Facilities in Aargau

- Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI): www.psi.ch
- University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland (FHNW), School of Engineering: www.fhnw.ch/technik
- ABB Research Center and ABB School of Engineering: www.abb.ch
- libs Industrial Apprenticeships Switzerland: www.libs.ch

Swiss Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Associations

- Swissmem, Association for the Swiss Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Industry: www.swissmem.ch
- Swiss Association of Metallurgical Industry Suppliers: www.smz-net.ch
- Swiss Metal Union: www.smu.ch
- VSEI, Swiss Association of Electrical Installers: www.vsei.ch
- Swissmechanic, Swiss Association of Mechanical and Engineering Companies: www.swissmechanic.ch

Testimonials

Ferrum AG

«The founders of Ferrum AG recognized the benefits of the canton of Aargau almost 100 years ago. Other advantages of this central location include its easy access to the international airports in Zurich and Basel and the main Swiss freeways, and its proximity to research and training facilities such as the FHNW, ETH Zurich or the PSI, which is now also home to PARK innovAARE. The liberal cantonal parliament, together with the executive authorities, ensure that international businesses constantly operate in an optimal and ever expanding environment. Young skilled workers are increasingly looking for leisure and sports opportunities, and that is something else that Aargau and its immediate environment offer.»

Ernst Werthmüller, CEO, Vice-President and Delegate to the Board of Directors, www.ferrum.net

Swissmem

«With its long industrial tradition, high density of industrial companies and proximity to the airport and economic centers, Aargau is an attractive location for many different businesses. The University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland and the Paul Scherrer Institute provide access to partners for challenging R&D projects. The numerous educational institutes mean that businesses and research institutes can count on staff being highly qualified, both now and in the future. The canton is also building on its strength as a high-tech location with the PARK innovAARE.»

Robert Rudolph, Member of the Executive Board
www.swissmem.ch

Egli Maschinenbau AG

«For us, the canton of Aargau is an attractive business location. Most of our customers are within easy reach as a result of the very good transport connections and the short travel distances. This proximity is a vital competitive advantage, particularly when we are collaborating on new developments. Another advantage that Aargau offers is the long-term potential for human resources. All our staff live in the region. The combination of living and working in the immediate vicinity has benefits for everyone and also makes it easier to recruit highly qualified specialists. Cooperating with upstream and downstream businesses is extremely important for us. We build long-standing relationships with regional suppliers that are able to meet our high expectations and quality standards and also deliver on time.»

Marcel Egli, CEO, www.egli-cnc.ch

Eichenberger Gewinde AG

«Eichenberger Gewinde AG has remained utterly faithful to the canton of Aargau for 63 years. We specialize in threads and employ around 130 staff. We offer spindle solutions for almost every possible application, and if we do not have one already available we will come up with a customized solution. For us, this location in one of Switzerland's and Europe's strongest economic regions is perfect. The potential for networking, the high standards of technology and energy and the well trained labor force make this a secure and stable environment. Such conditions offer good support and increase the appeal and competitiveness of businesses.»

Kurt Husistein, CEO, www.gewinde.ch