

Plastics Industry

The choice of location – an important success factor



Plastics in the Canton of Aargau

Perfect conditions:

- large potential customer base thanks to the central location in Switzerland and Europe (40% of the Swiss GDP within one hour's drive)
- maximum mobility thanks to regional, national and international traffic networks
- approximately 10% lower wage costs than in the surrounding economic centers
- business-friendly government
- high quality of life and housing
- political stability, legal security, liberal labor legislation
- availability of highly motivated and well-trained employees

You will find in Aargau

- a long-lasting tradition of technology and engineering in the field of plastics
- a Europe-wide unique plastics cluster with more than 100 plastic processing companies (incl. sterile production), about 18% of all employees working in the field of plastics in Switzerland, and specialist suppliers
- Switzerland's leading centers of research and training in the field of plastics, including the Plastics Training and Technology Center KATZ, the Institute of Polymer Engineering IKT, and the Institute of Polymer Nanotechnology INKA
- Swiss Plastics Association: www.kvs.ch

Your advantage: A concentration of plastics-related competence within a radius of 40 km together with the best conditions for the latest technologies.

Training, Research and Development Facilities

- KATZ, Plastics Training and Technology Center: Component design and numerical simulation of the filling, holding pressure and warpage characteristics of injection-molded components, as well as tool design and sampling, component material tests and damage reports, www.katz.ch
- IKT, Institute of Polymer Engineering: Manufacturing and processing of demanding materials for, and in cooperation with, industrial enterprises in Switzerland and abroad, www.fhnw.ch/technik/ikt
- INKA, Institute of Polymer Nanotechnology, joint venture of the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI), www.psi.ch and the University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland (FHNW), www.fhnw.ch: Functionalization of plastics by micro- and nano-structured surfaces and/or by means of nanoscale additives, www.fhnw.ch/technik/inka
- ETH Zurich, Department of Materials: www.mat.ethz.ch
- Universities of Basel and Zurich, leading research institutions covering a variety of disciplines: www.unibas.ch, www.unizh.ch

Testimonials

Poesia Group, Poesia Holding AG

Manufacturer and wholesaler of seals and profiles

«For us Aargau and especially Unterkulm are an ideal central location for our company. The plastics industry is very well established in the region and within the canton. The presence of KATZ and KVS means that important institutions are extremely close by and so we are at the heart of things. The traffic networks in Aargau are very good. Our location in Unterkulm in the Wynental valley is also very well connected by rail which means the staff can use local transport to come to work.»

Emil Brändli, Chairman of the Board,
www.poesia-gruppe.ch

RIWISA AG

Specialist for high demanding plastics solutions and one of Europe's leading suppliers in the plastic processing industry

«For RIWISA AG the location Hägglingen in the canton of Aargau is ideal. There are many plastic processing companies located in our region. Specialized professionals may therefore be recruited mostly from the local area. In addition, the proximity to the German border allows us the recruitment of qualified staff from the near neighbor. The location is perfect – even from the standpoint of international distribution. With an export rate of approximately 50 percent of our products, the excellent traffic infrastructure as well as the fast access to the two international airports in Zurich and Basel are further arguments for the location of Aargau.»

Gerold Richner, CEO, www.riwisa.ch

INKA

Institute of Polymer Nanotechnology

«At the interface between plastics engineering and micro/nanotechnology, Aargau is developing into a top location for research, development and innovation. The proximity to renowned research institutes and universities, makes it possible for businesses to enjoy close and unhindered research collaborations. Our institute undertakes primary research and develops new applications of plastics. We benefit from a strong suppliers' industry in the canton, and we like the way we can successfully accomplish many projects in collaboration with the industry.»

Jens Gobrecht, Director of the Institute,
www.fhnw.ch/technik/inka

Airex AG

Leading company in the field of special foam materials

«Airex AG is a global industry leader in special foam materials with a strong focus on exports. 98 percent of our products are exported. Therefore an excellent connection to the motorway network and short routes to the international airports of Zurich and Basel are essential for us. Both these criteria are fulfilled in Aargau. And also when it comes to recruiting qualified staff, we benefit from the advantages that the canton has to offer. Here the proximity to the acclaimed universities is of crucial importance, ensuring that our power of innovation is kept up. And when it comes to easily obtaining staff, a definite advantage is the ability to point out they will be living in a beautiful setting with affordable property prices.»

Philipp Angst, Director Product Management,
www.airexag.ch