

### **thyssenkrupp Materials IoT expands spectrum for production digitalization: cooperation agreed with nexpro.digital**

To expand their range of solutions for the digitalization of industrial production, thyssenkrupp Materials IoT and nexpro.digital have concluded a cooperation agreement. While thyssenkrupp Materials IoT contributes the combination of industrial expertise and software development, nexpro.digital contributes extensive smart factory know-how and training expertise.

As a result of the cooperation, holistic smart factory solutions become possible. The range of services for customers includes the technology required in each case, such as hardware and software, effective tools for implementation and for monitoring and controlling production. Added to this are practice-oriented training offers and courses for employees, which have proven to be a key success factor and are indispensable in most cases.

With the IIoT platform toi®<sup>®</sup>, thyssenkrupp Materials IoT offers the necessary technology for production digitization, the aim of which can be to create transparency in production, depending on requirements. Based on this, the semi- and full automation of production processes up to a completely paperless smart factory is possible. "Thanks to the modular structure of the platform, our customers can flexibly adapt the degree of digitalization and automation to their individual needs," says Sebastian Lang, Managing Director of thyssenkrupp Materials IoT GmbH.

nexpro.digital specializes in the practical support and empowerment of customer organizations on their way to the digital factory. Its expertise includes vision concepts for a smart factory, support for implementation projects in industry, and the systematic empowerment of employees through standardized or customized training. As a joint venture between the Chair of Production Systems at the Ruhr University in Bochum and the Düsseldorf-based management consultancy LMX Business Consulting GmbH, nexpro.digital draws on both scientific methodology and successful practical examples from industry.

thyssenkrupp Materials IoT GmbH was founded in September 2019 as a spin-off from thyssenkrupp Materials Services. The team includes Industry 4.0 expertise built up over 15 years at thyssenkrupp in production digitization. As part of the strategic development of "Materials as a Service", the materials trader and service provider is systematically expanding its supply chain service business. This includes the development of innovative, data-driven business models such as toi®<sup>®</sup>. thyssenkrupp Materials IoT supports its customers on their

way to Industry 4.0 throughout the entire process: from consulting and implementation of IIoT technologies to support throughout the lifecycle of the solutions and operation of the underlying platform.

August 18, 2021

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**About thyssenkrupp Materials Services:**

With around 480 locations – 271 of them warehousing locations – in over 40 countries, thyssenkrupp Materials Services is the biggest mill-independent materials distributor & service provider in the western world. The wide-ranging capabilities offered by the materials experts enable customers to concentrate more on their individual core business and span two strategic areas: global materials distribution as a one-stop-shop – from steel, tubes and pipes, nonferrous metals and specialty materials to plastics and raw materials – and tailored services in the areas of materials management and supply chain management. An extensive omni-channel architecture offers 250,000 customers worldwide round-the-clock access to more than 150,000 products and services. A high-performance logistics system ensures that all deliveries are integrated smoothly into customer production processes on a just-in-time or just-in-sequence basis.

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