

60 YEARS

Putting customers first since 1965

60 stories for 60 years

INFORS 
We bring life to your laboratory



60 stories for 60 years

Join us in celebrating the relationships and breakthroughs that have shaped our journey.

A legacy of customer-centered excellence: For six decades, INFORS HT has built a legacy rooted in customer commitment, innovation, and lasting partnerships. To celebrate this milestone, we are sharing 60 Stories for 60 Years: a collection of inspiring stories from around the world that highlight the people and moments that define INFORS HT.

Explore stories that showcase our people and culture, memorable moments, growth and innovation, and customer successes, each reflecting our dedication to putting customers first.

Our history

Since our founding in 1965, we've remained dedicated to simplifying customer workflows with innovative technologies and practical solutions, driven by our belief that "you can make anything better".



1932

Where it all began

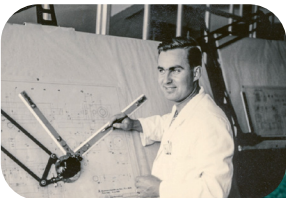
INFORS HT's story begins with its visionary founder, Alexander Hawrylenko. Born in Kyiv, Ukraine, in 1932, Alexander's creative upbringing and resilience shaped his innovative spirit. After enduring the challenges of World War II, he rebuilt his life in Germany, pursuing mechanical engineering.



1950s

The life of innovation

Alexander's problem-solving talent emerged in the late 1950s, inventing solutions like disposable baby bottles. In 1965, he founded INFORS HT in Basel, turning his passion into a company built on customer collaboration and practical innovation. Supported by his wife, Inge, Alexander laid the foundation for a culture of creativity and excellence.



1965

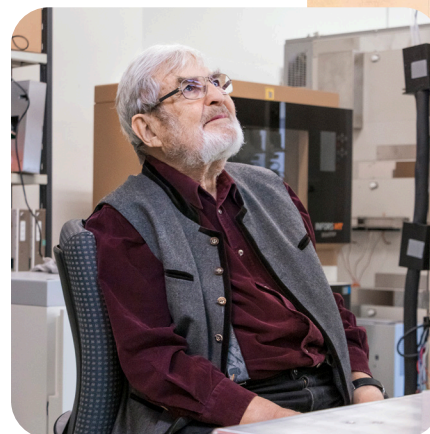
The start of INFORS HT

INFORS HT started as a small workshop with a mission to innovate for industry and research. The name, "INDustrie und FORSchung," reflects this dual focus, later expanding to include "HT" for "Hawrylenko Technics." Alexander's principles—listening, analyzing, and creating—remain core to the company's values today.



A legacy of innovation and collaboration

From pioneering shakers in the 1960s to driving today's biotechnological advancements, INFORS HT has earned a respected place within the global bioprocessing industry. Rooted in teamwork, innovation, and a laser focus on customer needs, we remain committed to helping shape the future of science.



Learn more at
infors-ht.com/history

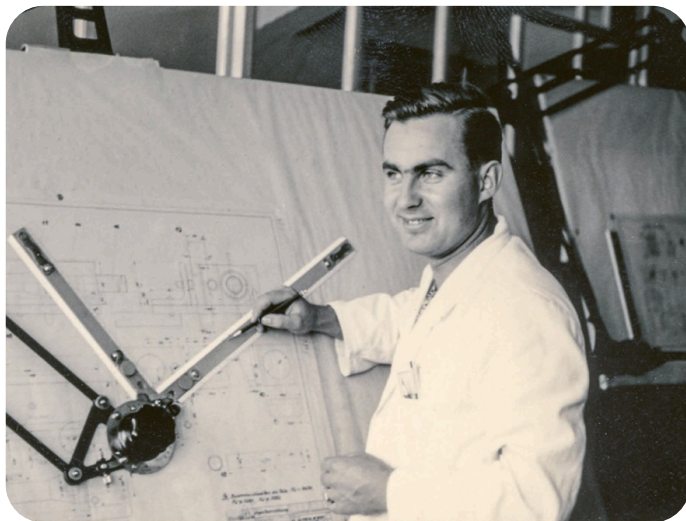
A start in a tiny kiosk

The beginnings of INFORS HT sound like a model start-up success story: Although Alexander Hawrylenko founds his first company not in a garage, but in a tiny empty kiosk in Basel's Bachletten district. His next stop is a bicycle cellar just around the corner, near St. Paul's Church, now already with two employees. As the company grows, INFORS HT moves to Hofstetten into an old industrial building. Here, however, it is very difficult to find suitable employees, since for most of them, the farming village on the plateau is too far away from the amenities in Basel. Another move, near to the city again, this time to Binningen into a detached house that is quickly converted into a production site. Before definitively settling in Bottmingen, Infors HT has changed its location altogether six times.



The first shaker and the vision that started it all

In the early 1960s, Alexander Hawrylenko, a young engineer, was fascinated by the potential of biotechnology. At that time, many laboratories were held back by slow, unreliable tools. Alexander believed that if researchers had better instruments, they could push the boundaries of science much faster. So, he took matters into his own hands. Working in a modest workshop, often late into the night, he began building the first INFORS HT shakers by hand. Every detail mattered, from the mechanics to the design.



His vision was simple yet powerful: create equipment that scientists could rely on to achieve groundbreaking results. That spark of determination not only produced a working prototype but also lit the fire that became INFORS HT. What started with one man's idea grew into a company that would, over six decades, support scientists across the world in making discoveries that continue to shape our future.

From a small workshop to laboratories worldwide

The first INFORS HT products were not manufactured in a factory but carefully built and tested by Alexander Hawrylenko himself. Each shaker was assembled with precision, a reflection of his engineering skill and attention to detail. As word spread, researchers began to notice something different about these machines: they were reliable, durable, and designed with the scientist in mind.

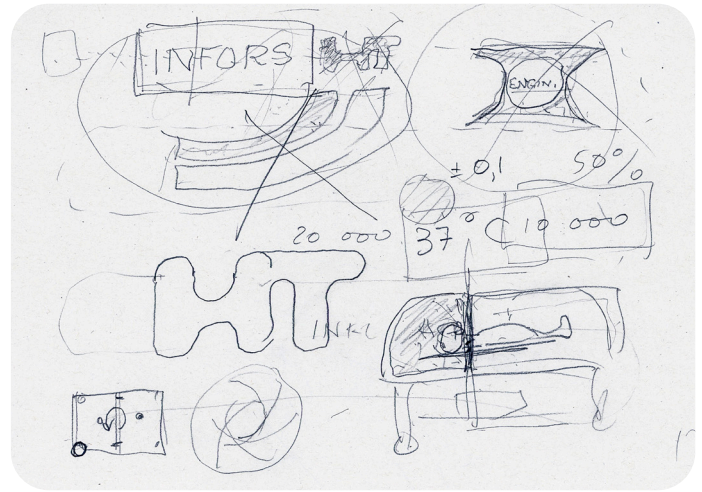
Soon, what began in a Swiss workshop attracted interest from laboratories across Europe. By the 1970s, INFORS HT was supplying institutions beyond Switzerland, and by the following decades, the company had reached every corner of the globe. Yet at the heart of this international growth was still Alexander's simple philosophy, never compromise on quality. Today, INFORS HT instruments are used on nearly every continent, a testament to how one man's vision and craftsmanship traveled far beyond his workshop walls, becoming a trusted companion for scientists everywhere.



A name with a promise: the meaning behind the INFORS HT brand

When Alexander Hawrylenko founded the company, he needed a name that reflected his purpose. He chose INFORS HT, short for Industry and Research (INDustrie + FORSchung) by Hawrylenko Technics. To him, it wasn't just a clever abbreviation, it was a statement of intent. Alexander wanted every product to be more than just hardware; he wanted it to be a tool that unlocked knowledge and advanced research.

The name embodied a promise: that INFORS HT instruments would always serve the scientist, enabling discoveries that would improve lives. Over time, the name became synonymous with reliability and innovation. Customers didn't just buy a product; they invested in a partner for their research journey. Even today, 60 years later, "INFORS HT" still represents that original vision, a fusion of technology and trust, created to make science more powerful and accessible. What began as one man's bold declaration has become a lasting symbol for generations of scientists and innovators worldwide.



A blast from the past: 20 year old Multitron Standard Shaker

Over 20 years ago, when I was selling INFORS HT shakers through another company, I sold a Multitron Standard Incubator Shaker to Nick Rhind, PhD at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center. After joining the INFORS HT sales team a few years ago, I stopped by to visit Nick, and to my amazement, his Multitron was still up and running!

- Bill Lach | Regional Sales Manager, INFORS HT, USA

A career shaped by hands-on R&D experience

In 2011, I joined the R&D team of a local biopharmaceutical company in Mexico, where I needed a very robust agitator, capable of operating 24/7. This led me to the INFORS HT bioreactors. 11 years later, I applied to be part of the INFORS HT, LATAM team, and here I am. I feel that the experience of being an end user is very useful in my day-to-day life and makes me feel proud to be part of the INFORS HT, LATAM team.

- Mario Novoa | Application & Sales Specialist, INFORS HT, LATAM

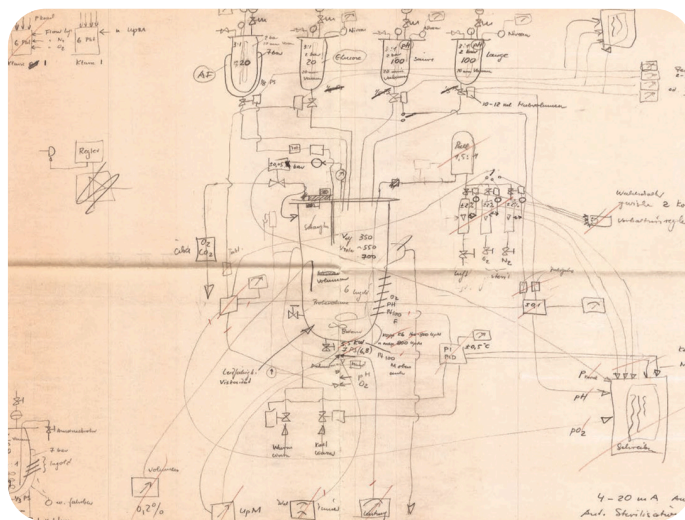


Design sketches on a beer mat

Some of INFORS HT's most creative moments didn't happen in the lab, but over dinner tables in small German towns. When the team was on the road visiting customers, the evenings were a cherished ritual.

A proper German dinner, with "Schweinshaxe" (pork knuckle) and a "Weissbier" (wheat beer), was almost mandatory. But after the second beer at the latest, something else kicked in: the irresistible urge to invent. Alexander Hawrylenko couldn't help himself.

With no drawing board in sight, he'd grab the nearest white space, a placemat, a napkin, or a beer mat, and start sketching. Whether it was a component idea or a bold new design, inspiration struck over drinks and scribbles. These spontaneous sketches often turned into real product concepts. What started on a coaster could end up as a fully functional device just weeks later. It was innovation in its rawest, most unfiltered form, brilliantly improvised, proudly hands-on, and unmistakably INFORS HT.



Seeing game-changing shaker innovation in action

In 1991, INFORS HT revolutionized the industry with the invention of the Multitron incubator shaker, introducing the concept of the stackable shaker. Just a few years later, on a service visit to a customer, I saw this innovation first-hand—a double stack of Multitron 1 incubator shakers in an equipment room. It was immediately clear how this ground-breaking design allowed researchers to reclaim valuable lab space, eliminating the need for entire dedicated shaker rooms. The impact was undeniable—Multitron had sparked a revolution in the industry, quickly becoming the gold standard for incubator shakers worldwide.

- Gary Tompkins | VP of Engineering, INFORS HT, USA

Pancake breakfasts in the United States

Twice a year, Peter Tunon, former CEO of INFORS HT, USA Inc., took the time to show his appreciation for the team and recognize everyone's hard work in a way that is both personal and heartfelt. These events are something the whole team looks forward to, bringing us together and reinforcing the strong culture we share. It's a reminder that our efforts matter and that being part of this team is something special.

- Tonya Anderson McCleary | HR Manager, INFORS HT, USA



Hands on expression systems workshop

In 2005 when the Genome and Vaccine Institute was set up, we received the order against all odds, being a lesser-known company then. The project went on to be an immense success. It paved the way for the first ever international hands-on expression systems workshop. INFORS HT and the people involved have one heart and it is passion that drives us. It serves as testament to our willingness to go far and beyond. That has left an impression with the customer that is hard to beat.

- Shaman Gaspar | Head of INFORS HT, South East Asia

Fermentation processes – from Erlenmeyer flasks to bioreactors

BY MAHALECHUMY ARJANAY

If you think fermentation is traditional biotechnology, think again. With the start of industrial biotechnology, fermentation has become the heart of biotechnology sector.

Fermentation has gone beyond the confines of cheese, bread, wine and beer production into production of monoclonal antibodies, biofuels, bioplastics, and high-value food, pharmaceutical and industrial ingredients.

From Erlenmeyer flasks and shakers, fermentation techniques have evolved into sophisticated bioreactors complete with computerised monitoring system, chillers, advanced probes to regulate critical parameters, and in-built sterilisation and cleaning abilities. A workshop jointly organised by INFORS HT, Malaysia Genome Institute (MGI) and Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) was an eye-opener on how companies spawn a vast array of new technologies to support the advancements in industrial biotechnology. INFORS HT is clearly showing leadership in this area.

THE APPLICATIONS
Categorically, bioreactors can be used for a wide range of applications including microbial, mammalian, insect, and plant cells, and even phototrophic microorganisms such as microalgae. In each instance the fundamental use may be either for purely biomass accumulation or for the production of secondary metabolites such as in the production of bioplastics or for protein



The process of fermentation which was once a simple natural process and still is has metamorphosed into a high technological state to serve the needs of modern industries.

in the media and replenish the media from time to time. The latest from INFORS HT are single use bioreactor vessels and shaker bag systems which drastically reduce contamination risks and ease validation documentation. Plant cells on the other hand such as oil palm cells are grown in a bioreactor for periods up to 12 weeks and is then harvested specifically for further growth in agar.

For all these applications, the bioreactor is the only viable and scalable option when production calls for uniform, homogeneous culture which can be quantified and qualified scientifically. This is why it is relevant. Apart from

the gap and is able to exchange ideas in experimenting. Shaman Gaspar, the regional manager for INFORS HT (M) Sdn. Bhd., the Southeast Asian subsidiary of INFORS AG, Switzerland says, "We want our systems to work for the customer and not the other way round."

For this purpose, fermentation workshops are organised regularly with major universities and institutes, where hands-on approach is emphasised. Scale-up solutions are offered at workshops for researchers who are first timers with such machines. This includes process and parameter optimisation, increasing yield, media formulation and most importantly obtaining

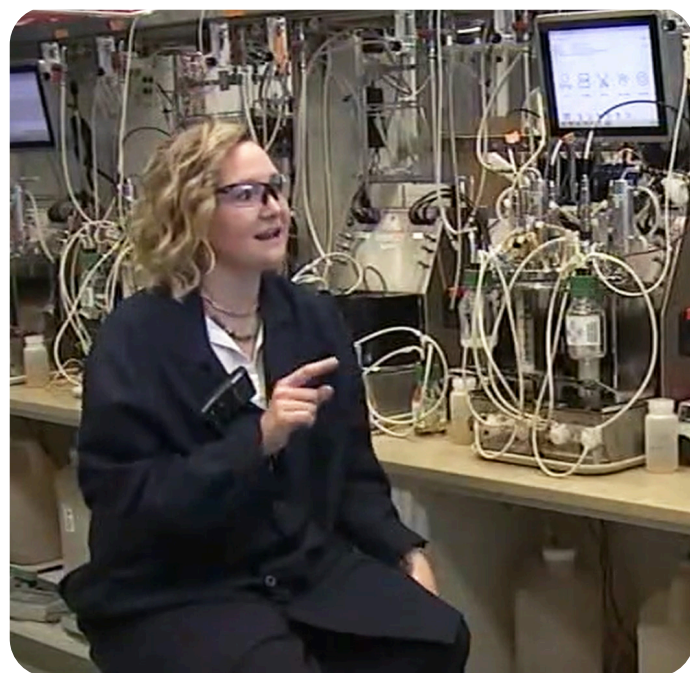
This "sticky mat" is stuck to the surface of the incubator shaking platform and conical flasks are placed on this mat, and they stay there in spite of the speed of the shakers. Researchers love this feature as they are washable, reusable and can be sanitized.

INNOVATION
Listening to the speakers from INFORS at this workshop, it is clear that innovation is an integral part of this company. "All our incubator shakers are made out of a single piece chamber to reduce contamination. We have continually developed better drive mechanisms for higher speed and for cell culture applica-

nation while you do sampling," says. Larger small amounts of sample can be taken using a sterile syringe.

Contamination is another area that INFORS HT looks seriously into as they strive to provide scalable solutions for customers. There are applications where standard bioreactor configurations may not necessarily meet the requirements. In cases such as those INFORS HT provides custom solutions, where the customer may need additional peripherals or even vessel modifications. The latest from INFORS is the LabCIP for Labfors 5, which is a Sterilizable in Place and Cleaning in Place solution for vessels as small as 500ml. This is a unique and one of a kind offering developed for the pharmaceutical industry, where the vessel is clean and sterilised without steam. This really reduces preparation time and allows the user fully automate the process.

Apart from this, INFORS HT has also developed bioreactors specifically for biotech application. Labfors 5 Bioreactor is one such system that undertakes to break down cellulosic fibres and conduct fermentation in one reactor. The Labfors Lux on the other hand is a special photo bioreactor with LED light source that aids in the development of photo sensitive microalgae. It is mind blowing to note the advances in fermentation technology which is largely driven by modern biotechnology in the areas of genetic engineering and drug development to produce biochemicals, biomolecules and biofuels. Industrial biotechnology particularly has evoked the fact that fermentation technology and bioreactors are indispensable in today's era.



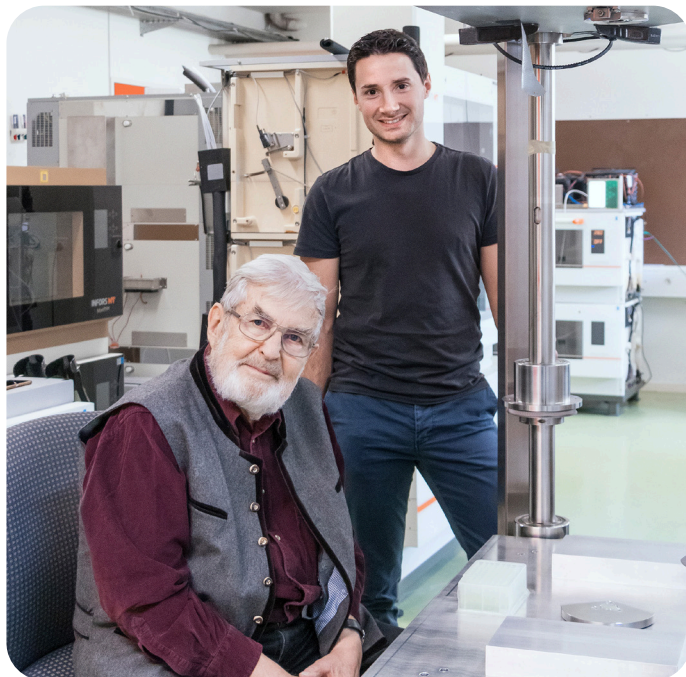
A single vessel to 100 bioreactors

In 2017 we started with a single Multifors bioreactor base unit at a Biotech company introduced to us at a conference. After 6 months of max RPM testing the team determined the Multifors was the most robust, efficient and flexible bench-top bioreactor for their fermentation. Starting in 2018 we installed over 40 more base units for two different processes. The customer now has multiple labs outfitted with high RPM bioreactors for gas fermentation, which offer reliable and consistent performance year after year. The company was featured in local news with these bioreactors on display, showcasing their ground-breaking carbon recycling technology.

- Lucas Schimmelpfenning | Regional Sales Director, INFORS HT, USA

A founder's curiosity that shapes innovation today

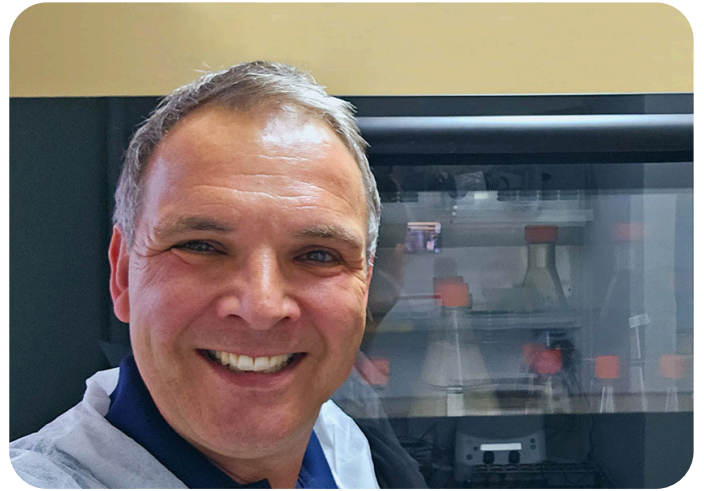
If there was one defining trait of Alexander Hawrylenko, it was curiosity. He was never satisfied with "good enough." Each time he finished a design, he would ask himself, "How can we make this even better?" That relentless drive to question, improve, and reimagine solutions became the DNA of INFORS HT. His curiosity led to innovations that shaped not only the company but also the wider field of bioreactors and shakers. For Alexander, innovation was not just about technical performance; it was about helping scientists answer questions faster and more effectively. His pioneering spirit turned INFORS HT into a company that refused to stand still. Today, that same culture of curiosity drives every new product and every new idea. It remains a direct legacy of its founder, a reminder that real progress comes when we dare to keep asking questions.



Over 30 years of service – experience, commitment and passion

I have been working in the INFORS HT Germany technical service since 1994 - and I'm not tired yet. In over three decades, I have mastered numerous challenges and always pursued the goal of satisfying customers quickly and reliably. In 95% of cases, I have the right spare parts with me on the first visit to solve problems immediately. Even after all these years, the job remains exciting. Every task requires experience, flexibility and commitment and this is exactly what motivates me in my role.

- Falk Hagemann / Sales Technician, INFORS HT, Germany



An exciting night in Istanbul

While visiting a customer in Turkey, we encountered an issue where the gassing in their bioreactor intermittently stopped, raising concerns about a potential problem with the Labfors bioreactor. Despite several checks during the day, we couldn't replicate the issue. Later that evening, the customer noticed through eve that the gassing had stopped again—so we immediately drove to the lab that night to investigate further. After some hands-on troubleshooting, we discovered the root cause: the gas supply was being unintentionally shut off during off-hours. Working together, we resolved the issue quickly and ensured uninterrupted operation going forward.

- Lea Wagner / Product Manager, INFORS HT, AG

Solving the CO₂ supply mystery

In a multi-tenant building with over 200 businesses, a customer reported low CO₂ readings on several Multitron incubator shakers. I found no issues with the equipment and traced the problem to a leak in the shared CO₂ supply room. While disconnecting the supply without closing the valve, the customer accidentally triggered a CO₂ alarm, leading to a full building evacuation. The issue was resolved quickly, and the customer was satisfied with the outcome.

- Brian LaPietra / Regional Sales Director, INFORS HT, USA



Touchscreen 3 facelift for bioreactors

Back in 2014, some of our bioreactor customers faced challenges configuring the touchscreen interface to meet their specific bioprocess needs. At the time, expertise on this topic was not yet centralized, which made it difficult to quickly identify consistent solutions. It took close collaboration across teams and valuable insights gained through numerous customer interactions to gain a comprehensive understanding. Building on this foundation, our Product Management and R&D teams worked closely together to significantly enhance the interface, culminating in the launch of Touchscreen 3 in 2017. What was once seen as a limitation evolved into one of the standout features of our bioreactors.

- Dirk Hebel | Head of Product Management, INFORS HT, AG



A Legacy of apprenticeship at INFORS HT

Now retired, I often look back on my time at INFORS HT with pride—especially the years spent working with young people. Early on, during my time as CEO, we made a lasting commitment to apprenticeship training. It was close to the heart of our founder, Alexander Hawrylenko, and just as meaningful to me. Sharing knowledge and craftsmanship wasn't just a goal—it was, and still is, a core value at INFORS HT. We didn't just train apprentices; we aimed to inspire them. That mindset helped create a program that continues to thrive. Many of our apprentices stayed on after their training, and many remain part of the team today. It is never a one-way exchange.

The energy, creativity, and fresh perspectives our apprentices challenge us to grow, too. Our motto was: "Everything I know, I pass on — otherwise it dies with me." That spirit of sharing and mutual exchange made our apprenticeship program more than just training—it became a true success story and a defining part of what INFORS HT stands for.

- Laurent Gutzwiller | Head of Internal Trainings, Retired, INFORS HT, AG

Heritage potluck & ugly sweater celebration

Our End-of-Year Heritage Potluck & Ugly Sweater Contest at INFORS HT, USA (Maryland, US) is a fun way to celebrate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Tonya and I wanted every team member to feel seen, accepted, and included. Sharing dishes from our backgrounds highlights our diversity, while the Ugly Sweater contest brings team spirit and support. The participation has been incredible, making this tradition a true success!

- Adriane Jackson | HR and Customer Service Coordinator, INFORS HT, USA



Our role in the COVID pandemic

During the pandemic, I saw INFORS HT products featured on national news broadcasts multiple times. It was a powerful reminder of the critical role we play in supporting scientific advancements. Our shakers and bioreactors weren't just in labs—they were directly involved in the development of U.S.-approved COVID vaccines. This was more than just a demonstration of our technology; it was proof of the trust researchers placed in INFORS HT service, support, and commitment to science. Knowing that our equipment contributed to such a global effort reinforced the importance of our work and the responsibility we carry in advancing research.

- Andy Magno | Former CEO, INFORS HT, USA



The search for the oldest Multitron

What began as a 30-year celebration of the Multitron incubator shaker became something much more profound—a testament to the innovation, reliability, and partnerships that define INFORS HT. In a global search for the oldest working unit, we heard from over 80 dedicated users, ultimately leading us to moloX GmbH in Berlin. There, we met Dr. Holger von Moeller, whose decades-long journey with INFORS HT reflects the deep trust built over time. The moment was more than a handover of new equipment—it was a celebration of shared progress and lasting connection.

Supporting biopolymer production

In 2006 we embarked on a niche area of bioprocess, the production of polyhydroxyalkanoates in a Labfors 3 bench-top bioreactor. The customer having limited funding for fundamental research opted to lease the machine from INFORS HT in Malaysia. The data generated made way for a project on a global scale involving University Sains Malaysia, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Berliner Hochschule für Technik etc. The Labfors performs flawlessly to this very day, and they have successfully scaled to a Techfors pilot bioreactor.

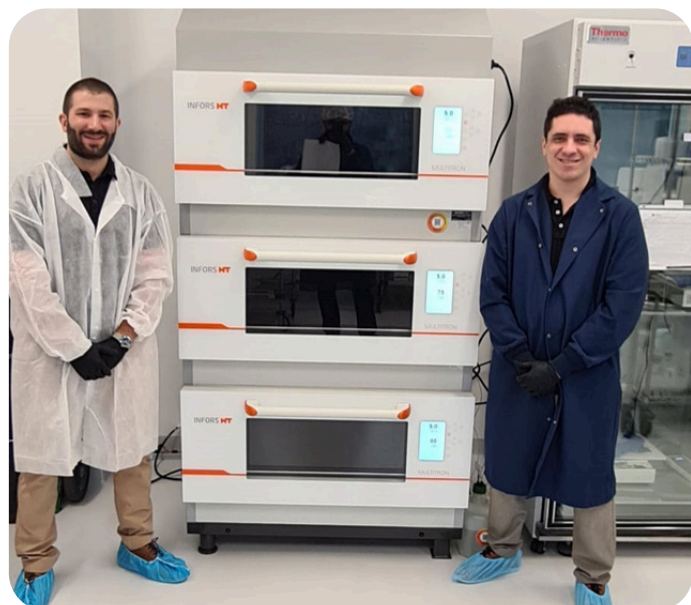
- Shaman Gaspar | Head of INFORS HT, South East Asia



Rittergasse, but make it romantic: Classic case of mistaken location

Some years ago, we got a call from a confused delivery driver. He said he was “at Rittergasse,” but he couldn’t find us. We asked for details, and his description didn’t quite match our Bottmingen HQ: elegant buildings, cobblestone streets, a view of the cathedral... Wait a minute. That didn’t sound like our industrial zone at all. That’s when it clicked: he wasn’t in Rittergasse, Bottmingen—he was in Rittergasse, Basel.

More precisely, at the Basel Civil Registry Office, right in the Old Town next to the Münster. Turns out, he wasn’t the last one to make that mistake. A few customers also ended up at the registry office when trying to find us. Now we just hope it never goes the other way—that a starry-eyed couple shows up at our loading dock on a Saturday morning, flowers in hand, ready to get married in Bottmingen. While we’re all about shaking things up at INFORS HT, that might be a bit too far!



Jefferson Institute for Bioprocessing collaboration

INFORS HT, USA started a collaborative relationship with the Jefferson Institute for Bioprocessing (JIB) in January 2024. With this unique partnership, JIB is utilizing a Multitron 4 triple stack to help generate cell culture data that INFORS HT and JIB are using for application based content to share with our mutual customers. The first project was a great success and led to INFORS HT’s first global webinar that launched in September 2024. We continue to collaborate with JIB and are excited to work with them on future projects.

- Mike Lesch | Regional Sales Manager, INFORS HT, USA

Swift service solutions, long-lasting trust

A few years ago, a customer had a Multitron incubator shaker in the lab that was causing problems, while I was on vacation. Despite being out of office, I organized spare parts via email and discussed potential solutions. Immediately after the vacation, I drove to the customer with all the parts and was able to solve the problem immediately. To this day, our customer still relates fast and smooth service to INFORS HT.

- Falk Hagemann | Sales Technician, INFORS HT, Germany



Connecting more than buildings: The story of the INFORS Passerelle

In 1980, INFORS AG settled into its new home at Rittergasse 27 in Bottmingen. The company was growing fast, and it soon became clear that expansion to the building across the street was needed. Expansion plans were shared with staff, and just a few days later, a team member jokingly suggested, “Why don’t we just build a bridge between the two buildings?”



While others chuckled, our founder, Alexander Hawrylenko didn’t. He saw efficiency. He saw possibility. Most of all, he saw a shortcut to save time walking across the street in the rain. Within days, Alex was already sketching out ideas for a Passerelle over a public road, which was a first for Bottmingen. Of course, the local authorities were not amused. Permits? Road rights? Historic preservation? Bureaucracy said “No.” But Alex wasn’t the kind of man to take “no” from someone with a rubber stamp.

He negotiated, explained, re-explained, charmed, and insisted (probably all in one conversation). After weeks of persistence, the Bottmingen council gave approval, likely realizing, “If we don’t approve this bridge, he’ll just build it anyway.” And so it happened: the first-ever Passerelle over a public road in Bottmingen was built. To top it off, INFORS HT even installed a pneumatic tube system discreetly under the Passerelle floor, allowing messages and small items to fly between departments in seconds: Efficiency at its Swiss finest. The result? Faster communication, stronger collaboration, and a daily reminder that at INFORS HT, no idea is too crazy.. if it works.



Taking my career to the next level at INFORS HT

When I was looking for a new challenge, I always felt confident in interviews – after all, it’s part of my daily business. But I was positively surprised by how thought-provoking the interview at INFORS HT was. The questions made me reflect, and their perspectives opened new doors. Suddenly, the decision was crystal clear: this is where I want to be. I can learn from the whole team and contribute my experience while continuing to grow. It’s rare to find a place where professional curiosity is truly encouraged, and that’s exactly what I found at INFORS HT. I’m still truly happy to be part of a team that challenges me and shares my passion for innovation and meaningful collaboration.

- Delia Fidale | HR Manager, INFORS HT, AG

Connecting globally through science at the 2023 Antibody Series

In September of 2023, INFORS HT gave me the opportunity to attend the Antibody Series, which is an event hosted by a valued INFORS HT customer, Fair Journey Biologics. The 2023 edition took place in Vidago, Portugal and brought together international experts to discuss innovation in antibody discovery and development.

INFORS HT served as one of Silver Sponsors, and I was fortunate to join some of my European colleagues to represent our company, where we meet and engaged with researchers from all over the world.

I am very grateful for the opportunity as this was my first time in Europe, and I got to visit Vila Nova de Gaia, Vidago, and Porto all in a week's time. The discussions, scenery, people, food, and culture were all top notch. I can't wait to go back. Obrigado!

- Mike Lesch | Regional Sales Manager, INFORS HT, USA



Like a concept car, but for scientists: INFORS HT at AACHEMA

Every three years, while all eyes in bioprocessing turn to AACHEMA, in 2006, INFORS HT decided to do something different to not just inspire or impress, but to surprise the audience. Instead of simply presenting the latest product, the team unveiled a bold "Design Concept": a fully functional prototype of an incubator shaker that wasn't for sale. It was built purely to show what was possible. The concept was interactive and futuristic, designed to delight the audience. When visitors pressed a button, the shaker platform stopped. The front door opened automatically. A tray with flasks slid out smoothly. Visitors could handle the flasks, explore, engage.

The tray slid back in. The door closed. The shaker resumed operation. It was fluid, elegant, and unlike anything else at the event. Just like concept cars in the automotive world, this wasn't meant to go into mass production. It was built to push boundaries and demonstrate what INFORS HT was capable of when imagination met engineering.

Today, launching a concept like this without a business case might be hard to justify, but in 2006, it was a daring celebration of innovation. And a clear message: At INFORS HT, we don't just follow trends. We create them.

- Laurent Gutzwiller | Head of Internal Trainings, Retired, INFORS HT, AG

A coffee break turned INFORS HT tradition

When I started at INFORS HT in August 1981, we had just moved into our new building in Bottmingen with a team consisting of about fifteen people. One of my favorite parts of the day quickly became our coffee breaks. Every day at 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., we all gathered for 15 minutes. It wasn't just about coffee, it was a time to connect, to laugh, and often, to solve problems. Whether it was a design, production, or quality challenge to solve, things just got sorted out naturally over a cup of coffee. That informal exchange opened the door to real collaboration and creativity.

Those breaks became a tradition, a cultural heartbeat of INFORS HT. Even today, we try to keep that spirit alive, adapting it to our growing team while holding on to what made it special: real conversation, shared purpose, and a strong sense of togetherness.

- Laurent Gutzwiller | Head of Internal Trainings, Retired, INFORS HT, AG



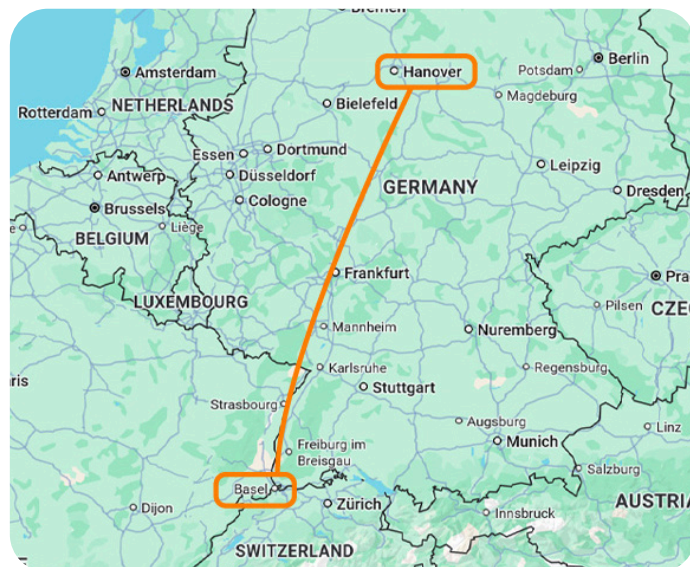
Innovation on tap: beer serving Techfors bioreactor

The ACHEMA event has always been the place where INFORS HT turned heads. Customers and competitors alike would flock to our booth, not just to see what was new, but to see what was unexpected. And sometime between 1994 and 2006, they were greeted by something no one saw coming: a Techfors bioreactor with a built-in beer tap. It was bold.. it was bizarre.. and it was a hit! People lined up not just to ask about the latest features, but to see if they could pour themselves a cold one straight from the bioreactor. The reactions? Laughter, amazement, and lots of selfies.

But the story doesn't end at the booth. We had brought the beer with us from Switzerland, and that created an unexpected challenge at the border. The customs officials were puzzled. They asked, "You're importing beer... inside a lab device?" Let's just say the declaration process was almost as complex as the Techfors control system. The beer tap might not have made it into the final product catalog, but it made a clear statement: INFORS HT is innovative, a little unconventional, and never afraid to have fun along the way.

From Basel to Hannover overnight – Powered by family, fueled by passion!

It was 1994. I was right in the middle of my university studies, but truth be told, I was already deeply entangled in the world of INFORS HT—because when your dad is the founder, well... you don't really "join" the company, you grow up in it! That year, we were set to showcase something truly special at a big expo in Hannover—a brand-new prototype that the entire engineering team, production crew, and logistics folks had been sweating over for months. This wasn't just a new machine, it was our pride and joy, and we were determined to unveil it in style.



But of course, in true INFORS fashion, the prototype was finished just the night before the show opened. No pressure, right? So what did we do? My colleague and I grabbed the machine, hopped in the van, and drove non-stop through the night—nearly 700 kilometers in under 8 hours. We rolled into Hannover just as the expo gates were about to open, adrenaline still doing most of the driving. With minutes to spare, we set up the prototype, wiped our brows (and maybe our tears), and watched the doors open to the crowd.

We were absolutely exhausted. But oh—so proud. That moment, that mad dash across Germany, perfectly sums up INFORS HT: a family that shows up, works together, and always goes the extra mile (or 700 kilometers) to make it happen.

- Anja Hawrylenko | Chairwoman of the Board of Directors, INFORS HT



Customer collaboration: 3mm proof of concept

In 2016, during a candid lunch with Cell Signaling Technologies, they mentioned a need to increase their protein production in 96-well plates. I explained that our 3mm throw at 1000min⁻¹ would do exactly that, but we did not have data to prove it yet. They could not conceptualize a this orbit and throw for HEK293 cells for fear of shearing forces. Their current application was a 25mm at 400min⁻¹. To encourage experimentation, we ordered them a Multitron 3 mm incubator shaker at a discounted price in exchange for shared application notes in a side-by-side comparison.

The results were so dramatically improved that the researchers earned an internal company recognition award. To this day, we still showcase this scientific poster presentation as proof of the impact the 3mm can have, and it has become INFORS HT's standard optimization platform for 96-well plates.

- Brian LaPeitra | Regional Sales Director, INFORS HT, USA

A career move where purpose and teamwork meet

Who would have thought a career twist would lead me here? From week one at INFORS HT, I saw the impact of the right team and mission. Having worked at different life science companies, it's refreshing to be part of a team that takes pride in its history. Reading Alex's story on day one confirmed it—I joined a company whose mission aligns with mine. Now, nearly two years in, that feeling has only grown, surrounded by a team driven to solve customer challenges.

- Ashley Treas | Americas Marketing Director, INFORS HT, USA



Scaling innovation with IBioIC in Scotland

One of the best parts of what we do is seeing how our technology helps others bring bold ideas to life. In Scotland, the Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre (IBioIC) is doing just that—supporting researchers and startups working to turn sustainable feedstocks into real-world biotech solutions. From seaweed and seafood waste to novel microbial strains, their projects are all about transforming what's possible in the circular bioeconomy.



At their FlexBIO scale-up facility, IBioIC uses several INFORS HT systems, including a 300 L Techfors pilot-scale fermenter and a Labfors 5 solid-state fermenter, to help companies bridge the gap between lab-scale and market readiness. The collaboration has been a true pleasure—marked by technical exchange, shared curiosity, and a mutual drive to make biotech more accessible and impactful. We're proud to support their work and excited to see where their journey leads next.

The engineer & the team

When Juntao Bai joined INFORS HT as a Control Systems Engineer, what struck him most wasn't just the technology, but the team spirit. Here, ideas flow freely, every voice counts, and collaboration drives innovation. For Juntao, working at INFORS means being part of something bigger, a culture of openness and trust that goes back to Alexander Hawrylenko's vision: technology built by people, for people, together.



Innovating through collaboration worldwide

Our founder, Alexander Hawrylenko believes success needs strong partners. At INFORS HT, innovation, expertise, and quality have always been key, but it is partnerships that turned those strengths into sustainable, real-world impact that could scale. **A few great example comes to mind:**

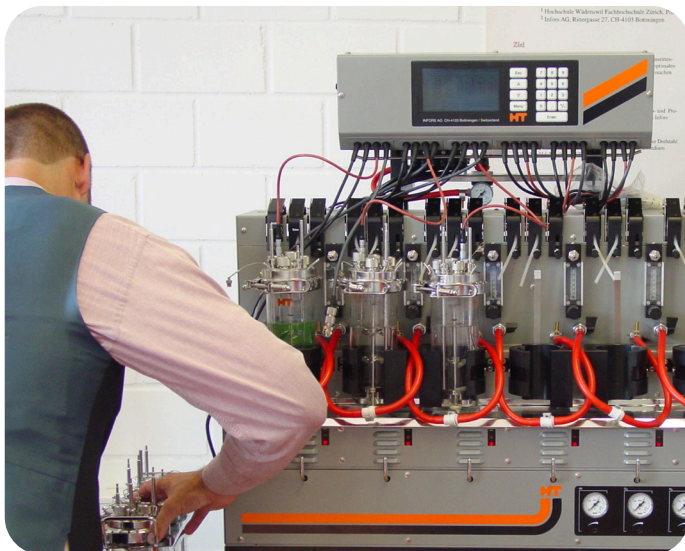
- In the U.S., our trusted partner ATR helped us enter the market and eventually co-produced the Multitron locally, laying the groundwork for what became the INFORS HT, USA subsidiary.
- In Switzerland, we teamed up with Madep, a local startup to create a solid-state fermenter, used in soil remediation.
- In France, 3C brought industrial-scale fermentor experience to complement our bench-scale bioreactor systems
- Alpfors and Microphyt joined forces with us on cutting-edge biotech applications

Behind the scenes, strong relationships with suppliers ensured consistent quality. And in the field, close contact with our resellers created a worldwide network built on trust.



Customer insights spark game-changing innovation

Some of the best ideas don't come from a whiteboard, they come from listening. Our founder, Alexander Hawrylenko, always made time to sit with customers, hear their challenges, and understand what would make their work easier, faster, more efficient. One day, during one of these conversations, a researcher presented a clear vision: "What I really need is a compact multi-fermenter with several small, independently controlled vessels, all on one chassis. I want to run multiple tests at once to accelerate my research."



It was a simple idea, but a powerful one. Six months later, the first prototype was delivered to that very customer for testing. The results were spot-on. The system worked exactly as intended and the customer was thrilled. What followed was a successful product launch and strong demand, particularly in the United States. That product was named Sixfors, the direct predecessor of today's bench-top bioreactor Multifors 2. The lesson? It's not just about engineering. It's about listening, truly understanding what helps the customer, and turning ideas into tools that make a real difference.

- Laurent Gutzwiller | Head of Internal Trainings, Retired, INFORS HT, AG

Ingenuity is part of our everyday work

At INFORS HT, innovation doesn't stop at the products we sell, it extends deep into how we work every day. From engineering to assembly, from trade shows to service, our teams have always built smart, practical tools to make their own jobs easier, faster, and better. The very first internal tool we ever developed was a small press to stamp volume markings onto the clamp discs used for Erlenmeyer flasks. It might not sound glamorous, but it saved time, improved accuracy, and kept things consistent on the shop floor.

Later came a custom-built rotating display table to exhibit our large stirrer at trade shows. Without it, moving and showcasing such a heavy piece of equipment would've been a nightmare.

With it, it became a centerpiece. For production, we developed a Multitron housing support system that makes machine assembly much easier and more ergonomic for the team. It's in use every day in the Multitron workshop and it's made a real difference in comfort and efficiency. In the service department we created a stacking and support system that allows technicians to access the bottom of a Multitron unit for maintenance without needing to unstack everything. It's smart, safe, and seriously timesaving.

These are not customer-facing innovations. They're team-powered solutions, built by people who understand the process inside out. Because at INFORS HT, we don't just invent for the market, we invent for ourselves, too. And that's what true innovation looks like: not just visionary ideas, but hands-on practicality, every step of the way.

- Laurent Gutzwiller | Head of Internal Trainings, Retired, INFORS HT, AG



From a high school start to a lifelong partnership

I remember that 36 years ago I was still studying in high school when we started Biogen and begun distributing INFORS HT products. Those were tough times and sometimes I helped my father to deliver the instruments. One of the times we went to take an Aerotron to the Complutense University of Madrid. We were walking down the corridors with the Aerotron placed on a small cart, and the students would turn to look at it and some would point to it and say... "look R2D2" (the little android from Star Wars), this happened more than one time.

We were so successful with the Aerotron and its brother the Aquatron that, when they were discontinued, we bought all of the remaining inventory. Recently, we found an Aerotron still working in a research center and the person in charge told us that it was the best incubator shaker he had ever bought.

- Rafael Trujillo | Sales Director, Biogen Científica SL

Latin America team celebrating “Infors Day”

The growth of Infors HT in Latin America brought a new challenge for managers and staff – how to maintain the connection of our ever-growing team across such a large region. So we implemented Infors Day, an annual event where the team meets to exchange experiences, update information about their regions, and connect with their colleagues.

In 2024, our trip was to “Ilha dos Arvoredos,” a rock located 1.6 kilometers from Pernambuco Beach in Guarujá, near São Paulo. In the 1960s, Fernando Eduardo Lee received a concession from the Brazilian Navy for scientific purposes and created a large laboratory for research in alternative energy technology and developed architectural solutions to make the island self-sustainable.

On this occasion, we were able to admire the work of a dreamer who transformed a rock into a habitable, 100% sustainable and independent environment. Proving that science and knowledge can turn a dream into reality.



The Alchemist: Bioreactors making their way into a new restaurant

In 2018 our partner, Buch & Holm, had a meeting with the chef Rasmus Munk, who was looking for laboratory equipment for his new restaurant concept, The Alchemist. In agreement with most of their suppliers, they made a special package offer and the order was placed. In the package there was a Minifors 2 and the software eve. Idea was to use it for doing fermentation experiments (ex. fish sauce) and if successful to even produce it and add this to the menu ingredients.

Before the opening, Buch & Holm management organized the B&H Christmas party at the restaurant and invited their key suppliers, and I was lucky enough to be among them. It was an amazing experience!

- Raphaël Boillat | Head of Distributor Management,
INFORS HT, AG

In for the long run - Building change that lasts

If your picture of an IT guy is tidy desks and tidy code, mine adds altitude, switchbacks, and countless mountain miles. I discovered ultra-trail running five years ago, and it has shaped how I show up—on and off the trail.

From the SwissAlps100 to the adventurous multi-day Mustang Trail Race in the Himalaya and the Hajar Ultra in the mountains of Oman - with the Swissman Xtreme Triathlon in the mix - those long hours in the mountains under tough conditions have sharpened what carries me both personally and professionally: focus, adaptability, endurance, and agility.



Recently at SwissAlps100 - a 160 km trail race with 10,000 meters of elevation gain and loss - I surprised myself. I stuck to my plan and my strengths, adjusted to the weather, stayed calm, and kept the goals in sight. I took moments to enjoy the alpine scenery, chat with fellow athletes and volunteers, recharge, and refocus. No rush - just steady progress. Ten kilometers from the finish, at an aid station, a kind volunteer offered homemade chocolate cake - two slices later, an endorphin surge lit the fuse and carried me to the finish line, ahead of my personal goals.

This long-distance mindset also shapes how I work. I'm the one racing - having the "fun" while working through the physical and mental lows - but there's always more happening behind the scenes. At Swissman you race with a crew - transitions, logistics, nutrition. No crew, no finish. It's the same professionally: no team, no arrival. With a team, we move more safely, adapt faster, and arrive - together. Whether it's two days non-stop on the trails or steady progress at work, 14 years at INFORS HT prove I'm here for durable change - in it for the long run.

- Pascal Meury | Enterprise / Solution Architect, INFORS HT, AG



Decisions made at midnight. Morning results delivered.

During a Factory Acceptance Test (FAT), the customer expressed serious concerns late in the evening after a joint dinner. This feedback was shared just before midnight, on the "Mittlere Brücke" in the middle of Basel. That very same night, the INFORS team took immediate action: production was informed without delay, and by the next morning, adjustments had already been implemented, precisely in line with the customer's expectations. When the FAT resumed the following day, the customer was visibly impressed by the speed and precision of the response. What initially seemed like a potential escalation turned into a powerful moment of trust and a clear example of our commitment to partnership and customer-centric action.

- Stefan Saal | Technical Sales Support, INFORS HT, AG

INFORS HT participating in the EUROSTARS program

Sometimes, the most impactful innovations are born not from competition, but from collaboration. That's exactly what happened when Microphyt, a French biotech pioneer, and INFORS HT teamed up to tackle a unique challenge: cultivating delicate microalgae species at preparative scale. Supported by the EUROSTARS program, an European Regional Development Fund, the project led to the creation of Alpfors, a next-generation photobioreactor designed for high-performance, bubble-free, aseptic cultivation under controlled light conditions.



The goal? Bridge the gap between laboratory research and industrial-scale microalgae production. Alpfors was designed to handle delicate, biofilm-forming microalgae—species like *Porphyridium purpureum*—with gentle, low-shear flow, advanced light chamber design, and even an automated wiping system to keep inner optics clear throughout cultivation. The goal? Enable higher yields with full control, minimal cell damage, and clean reproducibility. It began with a 50-liter prototype, built by INFORS HT and tested by Microphyt in 2014. The promising results led to the creation of the 150-liter Alpfors, which achieved threefold improvements in continuous production rates. But beyond its technical achievements, Alpfors represents something more: a successful cross-border partnership, a shared vision, and a smart solution to a real-world problem in biotechnology.

- Laurent Gutzwiller / Head of Internal Trainings, Retired, INFORS HT, AG



Recognized. Rewarded. But Never the Goal.

Over the years, INFORS HT has received some of the most respected awards in Switzerland and beyond—honouring our commitment to smart design, customer-centric innovation, and engineering excellence.

We're proud of these awards—but they've never been our goal. Instead, we've always focused on solving real problems for scientists, creating practical tools, and pushing ideas forward. The prize money? Often reinvested into R&D—or shared with the team to celebrate the people behind the innovation. Because at INFORS HT, we don't innovate to win awards. We innovate to make a difference.

- Aquatron – Innovationspreis beider Basel (1988): A bold, unconventional water bath shaker with no mechanical parts in water and a unique circular design.
- Terrafors – Swiss Technology Award (2006): A pioneering system for solid-state fermentation—developed to meet the unique needs of low-moisture bioprocesses.
- Minifors 2 – iF Gold Design Award (2017): A compact, powerful and intuitive bioreactor—developed with design input from Mayer-Hayoz, praised for combining power with simplicity.
- eve® – Best of Swiss Web Award (2017): A browser-based bioprocess platform that redefined digital lab control and data analysis.
- Finalist – Prix SVC (2023): A national recognition for outstanding Swiss SMEs demonstrating innovation and sustainable success.

When static struck: Electro-man solved the mystery static problem

Back in the days where bioreactors all had analog pH and DO probes, we had a customer with several Multifors vessels behaving strangely. The probes were randomly reading the maximum values with no logical explanation. While exploring the situation, I received thick, blue-line electric shock from the running water in their sink. We realized that the static electricity in this lab was so intense that the probes were picking up activity, sending the small 4-20mA reading to their maximum. We had to add supplemental grounding straps using alligator clips, and then the probes worked properly again.

- Brian LaPietra | Regional Sales Director, INFORS HT, USA



Excitement in every line of code

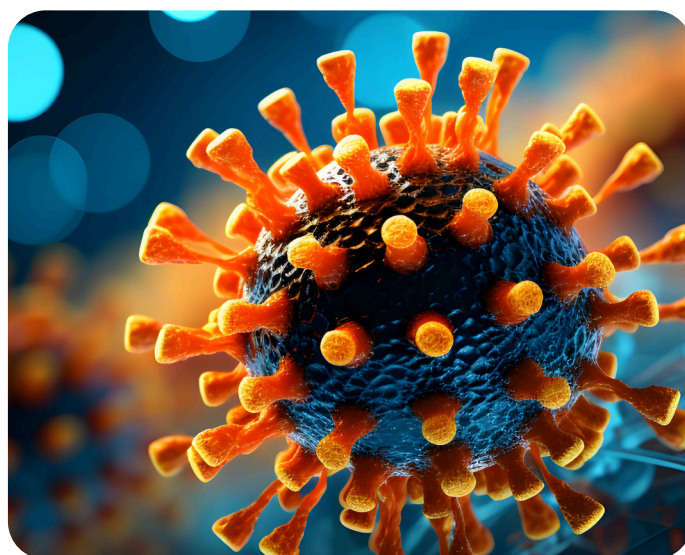
For Sekou Doumbouya, working in Software Engineering at INFORS HT isn't just about finding bugs, defining test strategies, and developing test automation frameworks, it's about being part of constant innovation. "The new technologies and innovations make my work exciting," he says, because each feature, each test, is a chance to push boundaries. Sekou relishes the challenge of ensuring precision and reliability, knowing that behind every line of code, there are laboratories relying on his work.

His role reflects Alexander Hawrylenko's founding belief: that equipment and tools should not only perform, they should inspire confidence in discovery. At INFORS HT, Sekou sees his day-to-day work as part of that legacy, shaping software that doesn't just work, but empowers.

Helping a customer in unprecedented times

A 5PM Friday call from a Pharma company in North Chicago during the early weeks of COVID resulted in a late night emergency service visit to replace a drive belt on a Multitron incubator shaker. During the next few months of COVID this customer knew they could count on INFORS HT shakers and our service and support. We updated and installed eight new stacks of shakers over the next several months to help them to increase their R&D capacity and meet the growing needs of COVID testing products.

- Lucas Schimmelpfenning | Regional Sales Director, INFORS HT, USA



1983: Germany subsidiary

Already in the early 1980s, INFORS HT was thriving on innovation and customer proximity. The company had built a solid reputation thanks to its tailor-made bioreactors and shakers, totalling approximately 12 products, all assembled at its headquarters in Bottmingen, with the largest and most dynamic market being in Germany. To manage sales across the border, INFORS HT had partnered with a Germany-based distributor, selling under their brand name. Alexander Hawrylenko understood the importance of building the INFORS HT brand and decided to end the distributor relationship and took a bold step forward.



In 1983, he founded INFORS GmbH, the German subsidiary, to take control of the company's presence in its most important market at this time. It wasn't just a business move—it was a statement. INFORS HT was committed to staying independent, customer-focused, and true to its identity.

- Laurent Gutzwiller | Head of Internal Trainings, Retired, INFORS HT, AG



1990: France subsidiary

Sometimes the best partnerships grow from challenge, and that was exactly the case with Dr. Jacques Winter, a pioneering microbiologist and one of INFORS HT's most important early customers in France. Dr. Winter was known for being avant-garde, sharp-minded, and demanding (in the best way). When he began working with our first-generation Techfors bioreactors and the early software platform, the collaboration quickly turned into something more than a customer-supplier relationship. Together, we refined, improved, and shaped the software to meet real lab needs. It was a partnership based on mutual respect, shared expertise, and a common goal.

As the trust between INFORS HT and Dr. Winter deepened, the next step became clear: In 2002, we officially appointed Dr. Winter as the director of INFORS SARL. Today, Dr. Winter is enjoying his well-earned retirement, having passed the torch to his talented protégé, Fabien Wattré, who continues to lead INFORS France with the same passion and precision. This story is a reminder of what defines INFORS HT—not just technology, but relationships that grow into leadership, and collaboration that builds legacies.

1987: United Kingdom subsidiary

From humble beginnings to a trusted partner: Founded in 1986, INFORS UK began in a modest office in Crewe, transforming over time into a key player in the British biotech landscape. From early fermenter sales to major collaborations with institutions like GSK, the UK team has combined Swiss precision with British spirit. Their story is one of growth, dedication, and unwavering commitment to customers—truly a cornerstone in INFORS' global success.



Brew, castles & cognac: INFORS HT 25th anniversary

In 1990, INFORS AG turned 25 and of course, we celebrated it in true INFORS style: not just with a party, but with a two-day adventure packed with laughter, tradition, and a touch of engineering genius. We kicked off the journey with a nostalgic visit to the Wardeck Brewery in Basel, just before it was torn down. It was a symbolic farewell to old walls and a toast to new beginnings. Next stop: Rickwihr in Alsace for a hearty lunch, followed by a tour of the majestic Haut-Koenigsbourg Castle, where medieval towers met modern team spirit. As the day wound down, we crossed into the Black Forest, enjoyed a cozy dinner, and stayed overnight at a local hotel. The next day brought us home by train, but not before one final stop: an evening in a traditional Cliquenkeller in Basel. And that's when the real surprise came.

The design office had created something unforgettable for company founder, Alexander Hawrylenko: a custom-built prototype called the "Musitron". It was a table shaker cleverly disguised as a record player, complete with a miniature shaking platform just big enough for a Cognac glass. It was brilliant, quirky, and 100% INFORS HT. More than a celebration, the 25th anniversary was a love letter to our roots: engineering with heart, celebrating as a family, and never missing a chance to shake things up.. sometimes literally.



2007: BeNeLux subsidiary

Around 2006, INFORS HT was having distribution challenges in the Benelux region and decided to end their existing contract. But when one door closes, a new one opens. An employee from the former distributor saw potential and reached out to the Hawrylenko family with a proposal: "Let's start fresh with a new, dedicated INFORS HT subsidiary for the Benelux region." The timing was right, and the vision aligned. In 2007, INFORS Benelux was officially founded, turning a business problem into a launching pad for stronger, direct relationships across The Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg. Sometimes, a setback is just the beginning of a smarter path forward.

2014: USA subsidiary

By the early 2000s, INFORS HT products had become a standout in the North American life sciences market. For years, the company's presence in the U.S. was managed through a predecessor organization that sold a variety of laboratory equipment, but INFORS HT products quickly emerged as the most valued by customers, making up the majority of sales in the region by 2005. In 2014, INFORS HT officially opened its own U.S. subsidiary, INFORS HT, USA Inc., in Maryland, bringing most of the former organization into the fold and setting the stage for focused growth in one of the world's most important biotechnology markets.



2016: Brazil subsidiary

In 2014, Christian Meier, then Area Sales Manager for Latin America in Switzerland, recognized the region's potential and proposed an expansion into Brazil. By October 2015, the foundations were being laid, and in April 2016, INFORS Latin America was officially established as a subsidiary of INFORS HT, with its office based in São Paulo.

What began with just three dedicated team members determined to build trust and strengthen the company's reputation has since grown into a thriving team of 15. Today, INFORS HT Latin America operates from a spacious and welcoming office, proudly serving customers across the region with the same commitment to innovation, reliability, and partnership that defines INFORS HT worldwide.



2023: Switzerland subsidiary

In 2023, INFORS HT launched a dedicated Swiss subsidiary to bring even closer support to customers in its home country. While INFORS HT equipment had always been manufactured in Switzerland, the new office provided localized service, direct communication, and faster response times, further strengthening relationships with Swiss universities, research institutes, and biopharma companies. Then in 2025, the company made a strategic decision to shift all Swiss operations back under the roof of the headquarters in Bottmingen. This move ensures continued efficiency while maintaining the same high level of customer service and responsiveness. Swiss customers remain well supported by a dedicated team at the global headquarters, just as they always have been.

INFORS HT, USA celebrating 10 years

INFORS HT, USA opened in 2014 and has since more than tripled its workforce, expanded into larger facilities, and strengthened its role in the biotechnology industry. Over the past decade, the subsidiary has built strong connections with the global INFORS HT teams, enabling greater collaboration and knowledge sharing across all areas of the business.

To mark 10 years of operation, a team from the US travelled to the Switzerland headquarters to celebrate the milestone as part of a unified global organization. This shared commitment, combined with a focus on delivering high-quality solutions, has positioned INFORS HT, USA for continued success in a competitive market.



Strong collaboration since 1975 – build on mutual trust and quality

INFORS has been a key supplier for Buch & Holm for decades, and our relationship is both a partnership and a friendship. We always find solutions together, and it has truly been a pleasure working with the dedicated team at INFORS HT. The first products were high-speed shakers, and in 1968, INFORS launched its first bioreactor. Our collaboration began in 1975, and together we've grown the business in Denmark ever since.

Today, we are proud to be the leading supplier of advanced incubator shakers and bioreactors to universities and pharmaceutical companies across the Danish market. Congratulations on 60 years, and here's to continuing this successful journey together.

- Mikkel Holm | CEO, Buch & Holm



Innovation begins with people: The INFORS HT way

For Alexander Hawrylenko, the founder of INFORS HT, machines were only part of the story. He firmly believed that technology was ultimately about people, the scientists who used it, the employees who built it, and the communities it served. From the very beginning, he built a company culture based on trust, respect, and collaboration.

He encouraged open conversations, valued every contribution, and created an environment where ideas could flourish. This human-centered philosophy became the foundation of INFORS HT's success. Customers felt that they weren't just buying a product; they were entering into a partnership with people who cared deeply about their work.

That sense of connection and responsibility has endured for 60 years. Today, INFORS HT continues to embody Alexander's belief that true innovation happens not just in laboratories or workshops, but also in the relationships and trust we build along the way.





The INFORS HT Future Vision: Imagining the Next 60 Years

A Legacy of Purpose: At INFORS HT, every milestone is more than a celebration of years, it's a reminder of the values that have shaped who we are. From the very beginning, my family believed that innovation only matters when it serves a greater purpose, and that progress means nothing if it doesn't benefit people.

We stand on the shoulders of those who built this company with courage, curiosity, and care. Their spirit continues to guide us, adapting, evolving, and staying true to the principles that started it all. As we look ahead, our strength lies in unity, integrity, and service. Together, we don't just build technology, we build a legacy that makes a positive mark on the world.

- Anja Hawrylenko | Chairwoman of the Board of Directors, INFORS HT



Thank you for celebrating with us.