

3DSE wins first place for the third time in a row at the Best of Consulting Mittelstand Award presented by WirtschaftsWoche magazine

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Munich, November 20, 2025 – 3DSE Management Consultants GmbH (3DSE) continues to rank among Germany's leading consulting firms: For the third time in a row, the company has been awarded first place in WirtschaftsWoche's Best of Consulting Mittelstand Award – this time in the Manufacturing Operations category. Following successes in the areas of Strategy (2023) and Sustainability (2024), 3DSE has once again confirmed its expertise in effective transformation and R&D excellence projects.

In this award-winning project, 3DSE supported a German technology company in the security and defense industry in fundamentally optimizing a key product range. The background to this was a sharp increase in demand and a high degree of product diversity, which had led to complex processes, bottlenecks, and a noticeable overload on the organization.

Working together with the customer, 3DSE developed an integrated overall solution based on behavior-oriented R&D optimization, anchored in three strategic thrusts:

- **Healthy organization:** Clearer responsibilities and improved resource management.
- **Synchronized processes (from push to pull):** Structured release cycles and focused multi-project management..
- **Modular product family (Lego):** Greater product maturity and flexibility through modular and model-based development.

Measurable impact and immediate improvements

Compared to the reference project, the project sets new standards of efficiency, which are becoming visible step by step during ongoing implementation.

- Up to 52% shorter development time
- Up to 48% lower resource consumption
- Significantly increased efficiency and delivery reliability in customer projects
- Improved predictability through validated forecasts for development scope and resource utilization

In addition, the foundations were laid for a multi-stage transformation program, including a detailed implementation plan and a working model for sustainably anchoring the changes.



Excellent collaboration

The success of the project is based on an intensive, interdisciplinary co-creation process: a mixed core team worked together at a steady pace and received regular critical input from a high-ranking jury. This approach generated strong commitment at all levels—from the team to management—and created the basis for sustainable change.

“We are delighted to receive this award from WirtschaftsWoche once again. This prize confirms the effectiveness of our R&D optimization approach and shows what a difference a consistently behavior-oriented approach can make to productivity, quality, and speed. We are particularly grateful for the trusting cooperation and enormous commitment of our customer and everyone involved in the project,” states Stephan Finkel, partner at 3DSE.

About 3DSE

3DSE Management Consultants GmbH partners with the world’s leading technology brands to enhance their R&D competitiveness. As the leading independent management consultancy for innovation and R&D, 3DSE operates from offices in Munich, Vienna, and Chicago. Since its founding in 2001, the firm has successfully completed over 800 consulting projects for more than 80 international clients. Focus areas include agile Systems Engineering, R&D performance improvement, modular product architectures, and disruptive innovation. Core industries served include automotive, mobile machinery, defense, medical devices, rail, and energy.