



CHRONOLOGY ADOLF BLEICHERT & CO

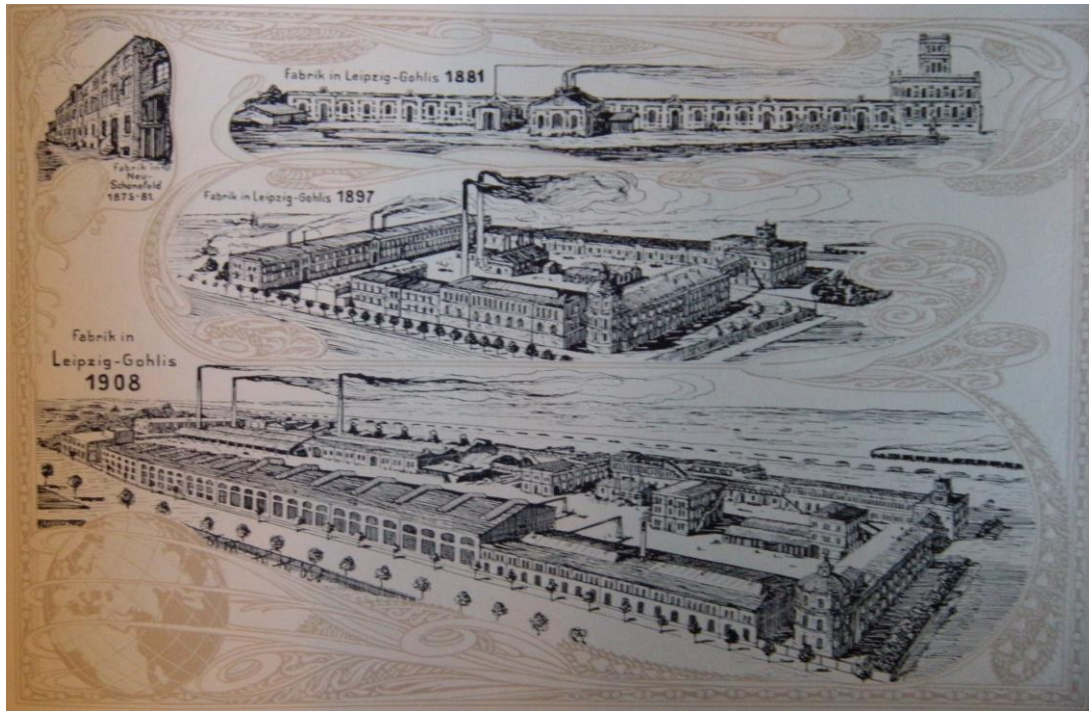
Founding in Schkeuditz and move to Leipzig

- 1874** July 1 Engineers Adolf Bleichert & Theodor Otto establish in **Schkeuditz**, Saxony, Germany, an Engineering Office for the design of rope ways. Company name: **Bleichert & Otto Engineering Office** (“only specialty: Construction of rope ways”) Relocation of the company to Leipzig, Weststrasse 55 (today abt.Friedrich Ebert Strasse) 1st.floor.
- 1876** August 23 Bleichert and Otto separate. The company is now known as **Adolf Bleichert Engineering Office** (Works for Rope ways?)
- 1877** October 1 Appointment of **Heinrich Piel** as a director. Rented workshop in **Neuschönfeld** near Leipzig, Eisenbahnstr.3. (20 workers)
- 1878** October 1 Relocation of the offices (6 employees) within Leipzig to Humboldtstrasse 30, 3rd floor.

Relocation to Gohlis

- 1881** **Piel** becomes a partner and the firm operates as an open partnership (OHG = Offene Handelsgesellschaft) under the name **Adolf Bleichert & Co. in Gohlis, Works for Rope ways.**
- 1881** October 1 Company moves to **Gohlis** near Leipzig, Feldstr.1, Germany (Office staff 20, Workers 70) celebrating both the move and the sale of the 100th Rope Ways. Architect of the factory complex: Max Bösenberg
- 1881** October 28 Registration of Incorporation at the Leipzig County Court. The company remains at the Feldstr.1 location. However, the street name changes: 1899 to Kaiser-Friedrich-Strasse 34 (the final house Number), 1945 to Victor-Adler-Strasse, since 1953 Lützowstrasse. In 1890 Gohlis was annexed to Leipzig
- 1887** July 30 Heinrich Piel dies. His widow **Anna Piel**, nee Bleichert, a sister of Adolf Bleichert (with her children as “Piel heirs”) assumes partnership.
- 1882** April A new street leading from Gohlis to Eutritzsch is named “Bleichert Street”
- 1887** December 1 Expansion of Gohlis facility
- 1888** September 8 Piel (and with it his heirs) left partnership as co-owner (as per notation in the Trade Registry).
- 1889** March 26 Adolf Bleichert appoints four Directors: O.H.H.Jung, F.Th.Bergner, Rudolf Pfaffenbach, Karl Streitzig.





The supplementary names to the main title ADOLF BLEICHERT & CO. GOHLIS (starting 1890: Leipzig-Gohlis), changed several times:

- 1881 Works for Rope Ways**
- 1885 Specialty works for the construction of Rope Ways**
- 1901 Specialty works for the construction of Bleichert Rope Ways, Loading Equipment and Cranes**
- 1910 Works for the manufacture of Ropeways, Telphers, Loading and Transportation Equipment**
- 1912 Specialty works for modern Transport- and Loading Installations**
- 1918 Specialty works for Rope Ways, Telphers, cable cranes, Loading- and Transportation equipment**

On letterheads also since abt. 1910:

Oldest and largest company in the world for the construction of Rope Ways (later) and Telphers

The listing of the supplementary names is not complete

- 1901** July 29 Adolf Bleichert died in Davos, Switzerland
In accordance with Adolf Bleichert's last will of July 12, 1894 and September 15, 1899 the company continues to operate as an open Partnership (OHG) and family operation.
- October 1 The two oldest sons Max Bleichert (Engineer) and Paul Bleichert (Administrator) join the management of the firm
- October 7 Registration in the Trade Registry:
Ownership and single signature right: Adolf Bleichert's widow Hildegard, nee Oelschig. Max Bleichert and Paul Bleichert sign jointly or with one of the directors. The remaining four children of Adolf Bleichert remain owners but have no administrative capacities.
- In addition a Board of Directors is created, consisting of Hildegard Bleichert, Jurist Dr. Joffe (Leipzig), Consul Gustav Tiedemann (Dresden – He is the father-in-law of Max Bleichert) and the directors of the firm.
- 1903** April 9 The joint signature requirement for Max Bleichert und Paul Bleichert is revoked. Each represents the company on his own.
- 1904** Gohlis Bleichert Street is extended by incorporating the Eutritzscher Carola Street
- 1909** Founding of **Bleichert & Eichner**, Charkow, Russia, the first Russian factory for rope ways
- 1911** Founding works for mechanical steel construction Lichtenegg near Wels (Austria). [headquarters at Vienna or there a second subsidiary, dissolved 1919]
- 1912** Founding of **Neusser Eisenbau Adolf Bleichert & Co. GmbH**, Neuss on Rhine, Germany
- 1914** [By internal memorandum Max and Paul Bleichert denied any rumors that they intended to restructure the company into a public corporation. They refer to the will of Adolf Bleichert, which would prohibit any change of the firm before the end of the business year 1915]
(Adolf Bleichert & Co. Leipzig: Confidential News, January 1914, No.14, pgs.16/17)
- 1914-1918** During I. World War Bleichert company produced hundreds of standardized aerial rope ways, but even ammunition for the Imperial Army.

- 1918** March 24 Max and Paul Bleichert raised to nobility by the King of Saxon. (Entered in the book of Saxonian Nobility on July 14, 1919, under No.549a)
- 1919-1922** Building of **Eutritzsches Factory IV**, near Leipzig, Saxony, Germany
- 1921** Founding **Adolf Bleichert & Co. Seilbahnbau K.G.**, Prague, Czechoslovakia
- 1924** October 7 Creation of **Adolf Bleichert & Co. Drahtseilbahn GmbH.**, as possible risk diversion for “System Bleichert-Zuegg”.

Conversion to a public corporation (AG)

- 1926** July 1 Change from an open partnership (OHG) to a Public Corporation (AG). New name: **Adolf Bleichert & Co. AG Leipzig** (supplement name as in 1918, see above) The shareholders’ equity of four million Reichsmark for 4,000 shares was raised by the brothers Max and Paul von Bleichert, with Max von Bleichert owning 2000 shares and Paul von Bleichert 1997. The shares are not freely traded at the stock exchange.
- Paul von Bleichert** retires from the management of the firm (apparently he had a minor heart attack). The official version states “In consideration of the health status of Mr. Paul von Bleichert and to facilitate any future inheritance disputes the owners have decided to change from an OHG into an A.G.”.
- (Company formation report Adolf Bleichert & Co., Leipzig-Gohlis, in: AG L, HR 24680, Vol.I, Pgs.20-21)
- December 16 The by-laws for the AG. (corporation) are issued.
- 1927** January **Adolf Bleichert & Co. AG. Leipzig**, registered in the Trade Registry thus completing the replacement of the open partnership Adolf Bleichert & Co.. Max von Bleichert becomes CEO of the new corporation.
- January 10 Adolf Bleichert & Co. as an open partnership (OHG) terminates (however, in accordance with the entry on July 31, 1929 in the Trade Registry the OHG ended on that date)
- 1927** **Paul von Bleichert** separated from the firm and sold his shares to **Felten & Guillaume**
- 1930** February 2 Creation of **Bleichert-Kabelbagger GmbH.**, as possible risk diversion for new excavator business

1931/1938 Bankruptcy and Liquidation Proceedings

- 1931** December 18 Caused by the Stock Market Crash of 1929 and the following international market crisis Bleichert company lost most of its export business. A suspension of all payments due to ill-liquidity was the consequence.
- December 30 Application for a settlement agreement was filed.
- 1932** January 5 A fiat of **bankruptcy** issued against Adolf Bleichert & Co.A.G.Leipzig by the District Court of Leipzig.
- February 6 Felten & Guillaume propose settlement agreement to avoid bankruptcy and successor company formed (as per Trade Registry: on February 19, 1932 only).
- March 5 Settlement negotiations before the County Court of Leipzig: Current Board of Directors dismissed under acceptance of a personal debtor's guarantee by Max von Bleichert. Liquidation proceedings initiated.
- March 10 Liquidation of **Adolf Bleichert & Co. AG, Leipzig**. Final proceedings extend into 1938.
The **ownership of the Bleichert-family of the firm ends**, although the name remains with the works as a well-known product name.
- April 4 Bankruptcy registration cancelled as result of the settlement proceedings.
- June 23 Last workers of **Adolf Bleichert & Co. Leipzig in Liquidation** discharged.
- June 29 **Bleichert Kabbelbagger GmbH**. declares bankruptcy.

Founding of **Adolf Bleichert & Co. Seilbahnbau Kom.-Ges. Bruenn** (CSR)

1932 Re-organization

- 1932** July 8 **Bleichert Transportanlagen GmbH. Leipzig** becomes successor by way of Adolf Bleichert & Co. AG in Liquidation and formed by **Prof.Dr.Ing. Adolf Rubin** (acting for *Felten & Guillaume* Cologne?). (80 staff, 95 factory workers, 3 apprentices)
Capital 1.2 Million Reichsmark

(RM 1,999,500.- payment in kind by A.Bleichert & Co. AG in Liquidation in form of buildings and manufacturing facilities in Gohlis, drawings, manufacturing equipment, patents and copyrights, machinery, furnishings and inventories).
CEO: Prof.Dr.Ing. Adolf Rubin - Address: Bleichertstr.15

1933 **Bleichert Transportanlagen GmbH. Leipzig** becomes a subsidiary of **Felten & Guillaume**, Cologne.
(Until 1935 Felten & Guillaume acquire all shares)
Felten & Guillaume is a subsidiary of **ARBED** Luxembourg

1933 November 23 In Berlin (Tempelhof) a street is named **Bleichert Street**.

1938 September 30 **Adolf Bleichert-Personen-Drahtseilbahn GmbH** dissolved by Felten & Guillaume

1939 January 1 Forming of **Bleichert-Fahrzeuge Vertriebsgesellschaft mbH.**, Berlin

1943 Founding of **Bleichert Stahlbau und Maschinenfabrik GmbH.**, Lazy (Poland)

1945 June 30 1,355 Factory workers, staff, apprentices, riggers

1945 *Engineers of Bleichert Leipzig established in Cologne [under ownership of Felten & Guillaume ?] **Bleichert Transportanlagen GmbH.**, operating during the fifties with the adjunct **Westdeutschland**.*

1946 Trust Administration

1946 February 4 Under the trust administration of the City of Leipzig, Office of Company Re-organization. Commissary Trustee: Dr.Theodor Schmidt.

March 7 Letter from the Shop Committee to Fritz Selbmann, Vice President of the State Administration of Saxony, demanding nationalization of the company.

June/July As a result of a referendum in Saxony against Nazi- and war criminals for the nationalization of companies (June 30) Bleichert is placed in "Group C" (i.e.no nationalization but mandatory administration and control by the SMD. "Group A" – Nationalization, "Group B" Return to owners)

1946/1953 SAG-Company

1946 July 1 Following Order No.210 of SMA Saxony dated July 19, 1946 (based on SMAD-Order No.? dated March 8, 1946) the firm becomes property of the Soviet Union retroactive to July 1, 1945 as a part of war reparations. It falls under the umbrella of the main administration “Podjomnik” (Russian for Lift, Cranes)

[SMA(D) = Soviet Military Administration (in Germany)]

August 31 New name:**Bleichert Transportanlagenfabrik der Sowjetischen Aktiengesellschaft fuer Maschinenbau Leipzig.**
Later shortform: **SAG Bleichert**
Buy-back of the facilities in Eutritzsch.

1950 (exact date not known) Attached to **SAG “Transmasch”**. Name: **(Werk) Bleichert der Abteilung der sowjetischen staatlichen Aktiengesellschaft “Transmasch” Leipzig .**
(Transmasch is a combination from the Russian of *Transport* and *Machinery*. The style of “SAG” is not always consistent: Interchangeable capital and small letters as well a short and fully written form).

1953 New name:**Bleichert Transportanlagenfabrik der Aktiengesellschaft “Transmasch” Leipzig**
[May 9: Combined economic council of the firm files an application for the re-naming of the firm and suggests the name “W.I.Lenin-Works” (“Die Eideckse” 4th year, No.10 dated June 1, 1953, pgs.1-2). The events of “June 17, 1953” however, pushed this topic of the agenda]

December 31 **Nationalized and turned over to the ownership of the DDR**

1954/1990 The Nationalized Company

1954 January 1 New name:**VEB Transportanlagenfabrik Bleichert Leipzig.** (As per letter of the Ministry for Machine Manufacturing to the work’s manager Näther on December 31, 1953). However, thereafter retroactive to January 1, 1954: **VEB Bleichert Transportanlagenfabrik Leipzig** (Letter from the Ministry of Machine Manufacturing dated January 14, 1954 as “Attestation for the naming of the company”).

(1954/55 A dispute between the Ministry of Machine Manufacturing and the management of the company is documented in such details that the document cannot be published).
[Since the letter has not been available the contents has been projected from the corresponding replies]:

July 1 **VEB Schwermaschinenbau Verlade- und Transportanlagen Leipzig**
(Letter July 15, 1954 from Ministry of Machine Manufacturing to Näther).
However, this name does not become effective, because
July 22: Protest by the division for Trade Fairs and Advertising of the Main Administration I of the ministry (letter is not available)

September 25: Works' Management decides on renaming to "VEB Transmasch (previously Bleichert) Lade- und Transportanlagen Leipzig".

October 28: Ministry of Machine Manufacturing (Manager of the Legal Division Dr.Spitzner) advises company that the Protest of the Division of Fairs and Advertising is not applicable based on the decision of the manger of the Main Administration I dated October 19, 1954 (letter is not available). Declines the adjunct "previously Bleichert".

December 2: The Works' Management suggests again the name "VEB TRANSMASCH Verlade- und Transportanlagen Leipzig". The adjunct "prev.Bleichert" should only be used temporarily for one year, but should not appear in the actual registration. (Minutes of the directors' meeting), [letter to the ministry not available]

1955 January 11 By letter dated December 2, 1954 the Ministry of Machine Manufacturing declines the proposal of December 2, 1954, but allows the adjunct "prev.Bleichert" on letterheads, orders etc. as an interims solution until December 31, 1955. Following the official name is announced (Eidechse 6.volumne, No.3 dated February 11, 1955, pg.10) AS:

1955 February 1 **VEB Schwermaschinenbau Verlade- und Transportanlagen Leipzig**
vorm.Bleichert [vorm.=vormals=previously]

October 27: Ministry for Machine Manufacturing: The adjunct „vorm.Bleichert“ can continue to be used.
The abbreviation **VTA** becomes common (starting when ?)

1955 *Formation of **Bleichert Foerderanlagen GmbH**, Nuremberg, has no apparent connection to the old Adolf Bleichert & Co.,Leipzig.
[It appears that Adolf Georg Bleichert, younger brother of Max and Paul von Bleichert without ownership interest in the Leipzig firm, was the name lender to the Nuremberg company formation]*

1959 February 1 The adjunct "vorm. Bleichert" is discontinued (verification still missing) and with it the last (formal) connection with the name Bleichert in the company name ends.

1962 *Fusion of **Bleichert GmbH**, Cologne, with **Julius Pohlig**, Cologne (founded in 1874 in Siegen) and **Ernst Heckel**, Saarbruecken (founded in 1905) all owned by Felten & Guillaume Cologne to the new entity: **Pohlig-Heckel-Bleichert Vereinigte Maschinenfabriken A.G. Köln & Rohrbach/Saar. Abbreviated title: PHB***

*Capital DM 15 million (96.8% owned by Felten & Guillaume)
1974 Employment: 2850*

1963 Gohlis/Eutritzsch Bleichert Street is re-named Wilhelm-Sammet-Street !

1973 March 21 Bestowal of the name “Paul Fröhlich” by the SED district directorate.
New name: **VEB Verlade- und Transportanlagen Leipzig “Paul Fröhlich”**

Froehlich, Paul (1913-1970), miner, after 1945 SED-official: beside other:

Ist Secretary of the District Directorate Leipzig (since 1952), Member of the Policy Bureau (since 1963), kept in contact with the works as an official, bestowal of his name on occasion of his 60th Birthday.

1980 As the result of the set-up of Industrial Complexes in the DDR:
New adjunct: **Werk des VEB Schwermaschinenbaukombinat TAKRAF Leipzig**

1985 January 1 Changed adjunct: **Stammbetrieb des VEB Schwermaschinenbaukombinat TAKRAF Leipzig**

(TAKRAF = Tagebauausruestung, Krane, Foerderanlagen – pit mining equipment, cranes, conveying equipment)

1990 May 1 After dissolution of the industrial complex and elimination of adjunct “Paul Fröhlich” name is **VEB Verlade- und Transportanlagen Leipzig**

1990-1993 Privatization and Liquidation

1990 June 1 New name consequently to the unification process of Germany:
Verlade- und Transportanlagen GmbH.

July 1 The complex TAKRAF is changed to a corporation and the only (?) Share holder the Trust Administration (Treuhandaanstalt) remains the share holder of the former Complex by now a GmbH.

1991 Production halted and company closed down.

1993 April 1

Verlade- und Transportanlagen GmbH. i.L. [in liquidation]

[The following paragraphs have still to be researched:

- **cancellation of Verlade- und Transportanlagen Leipzig in the Trade Registry at the County Court Leipzig**
- **Real Estate and buildings in Gohlis are being sold by the Trust Administration to LPL Liquidation and Management GMBH. Leipzig?**
- **Administration by Montan?**

- **Administration Building in Gohlis bought by Heiner Immobilien GmbH.**

- **(Eutritzsch participation sold by Trust Administration).**

- **Present property ownership of the Gohlis factory real estate.**

2000 December 7 Gohlis “Kirchweg” near to the old factory re-named Bleichert Street.

2009 Gohlis factory real estate acquired by Gohliser Höfe GmbH & Co.KG of the CG Gruppe with the intend to develop as office/recreation complex.

2015 Gohlis factory real estate are to be dismantled and new residential buildings and loft’s will be realized in place, as well as offices and commercial areas, but the original outer walls of the facade must be preserved as the former industrial buildings are considered historical monuments heritage. It is presumed that those construction works shall be terminated within 2017.

