

ER-ROAD FOR US

“May the new
working year be
auspicious for all
of us”

67

Âli Kerem Alptemoçin **03**

Our Leader's Message

Article 10

Çağla Altun

QDMS – Quality Documentation
Management System

04 News

12 Article

Mustafa Numan Ural
THE NEXT PANDEMIC?
MONKEYPOX

E-PAROLA,
Erkurt Holding A.Ş.
is a free publication.

Address:
Minareliçavuş Bursa OSB Mah.
Gri Cad. No: 38 Nilüfer / BURSA
T: (0224) 314 10 00
e-mail: e-parola@erkurtholding.com.tr
www.erkurtholding.com.tr

Concessionaire
Âli Kerem ALPTEMOÇİN
Preparation :
Erkurt Holding Communication Leadership



Âli Kerem Alptemoçin
Erkurt Holding President & CEO

Dear Members of the Erkurt Family,

We have come to another New Year and, as every year, we eagerly returned to our jobs after the holiday period. In my September articles, I usually analyse the past period and touch upon the issues that will come to the fore in the coming period.

On 5 September 2024, the Medium Term Plan for the period 2025-2027, prepared under the leadership of Vice President Cevdet Yılmaz, was announced. I would like to share with you some data that are of interest to us:

2024 year-end inflation will be around 41.50%.

They foresee this increase as 17.50 per cent in 2025, 9.70 per cent in 2026 and 7 per cent in 2027.

Since there is little time left before the end of the year, it is obvious that the inflation expectation this year will not exceed 45%. The 2023 inflation target of 66.77% seems to be 41.50%, but the 2025 target is very ambitious. Even if this target is revised, they still expect inflation to be in the 20-25% range next year.

If we look at the projections in the exchange rate policy, which has been adversely affecting our cost structure for a long time and has been below inflation, which has been eroding our profitability, the average Euro exchange rate at the end of 2024 will be 36.21 TL and 45.79 TL in 2025.

The rate of increase in the exchange rate in 2025 seems to be around 26 per cent. If inflation is really 17.50%, it seems that the situation, which has been very negative for all exporters so far, will partially turn in favour of exporters in 2025, but if inflation hovers above 17.50% and the rate of increase in the exchange rate remains the same, we will experience this difficult scenario in 2025 as well. In 2026, the rate of increase is projected at 5.71% and in 2027 at 5.52%. In both of these years, the rate of increase in foreign exchange is projected to be below inflation. This is what we understand from here: The government's view of monetary policy is a depreciating Turkish lira below inflation. Therefore, the rates of change in foreign exchange, loan interest rates and exchange rates will not be equalised. We need to get out of this expectation and analyse how we will live our lives accordingly.

In 2025, salary increases in the public and private sectors and the increase in the minimum wage seem to be realised at the level of the inflation rate. However, if these increases remain below food and rent inflation, there will be a very serious market contraction in 2025, this contraction will cause a cooling in production and thus an increase in unemployment rates. This is a reality that will seriously affect not only companies but also

households. In 2025, there will be an environment that will require savings, postponement and cancellation in all our expenditures, starting from automotive to clothing and food. Therefore, it is obvious that everyone should be prepared for 2025 and be very careful and frugal in managing both the home budget and the business budget. If this programme holds, there will be a relief after the second half of 2026. We will grit our teeth and tighten our belts.

I have been writing about crisis warnings and measures against the crisis since 2018. I also talk about this in our awareness meetings. But unfortunately, this is our reality that will not improve before 2027.

In this crisis environment, I believe that we have done our part as we should have done in terms of capital increase, asset sales and credit relations with banks. However, projections for 2025 and 2026 show us that we need to take more measures. We will definitely follow the things that are in our own power, such as increasing efficiency, developing austerity measures and austerity, much more strictly. I conveyed this to all our leaders at the Awareness Meeting we held on 06.09.2024. The next period will be a period in which we will be in more communication, the meeting traffic will increase a little, but we will work effectively and result-oriented. On the other hand, we have entered into a restructuring study with the banks we use loans from regarding the payment terms of our existing loans. This will be a study that will relieve our cash flow to some extent.

I wish that our new working year will be auspicious for all of us.

Together and Forever!

FORMFLEKS GAVE ANOTHER NEW FILAMENT IN EUROPE

On 30-31 July, at our Formfleks SA Craiova factory, Porsche company officials Mr. Baran Deniz and Mr. In the Logistics audit conducted by Mr. Baran Deniz and Mr. Efstratios Vassiliou, our company received a 'B' grade with 81 points and was entitled to be a supplier to VW Group companies.

This 2-day audit, which was conducted in the format of VDA 6.3 Process Audit, in which all leadership and production/logistics field areas were audited in detail, was of great importance for our Formfleks Romania plant in order to receive new projects from the VW Group.

With this success, our company, which has a 4-month production history, has achieved an important success by receiving approval from a very valuable OEM after Ford Otosan Romania by saying 'Together and Forever'.

Each audit is a learning method and an important training that changes the perspectives of the company that has passed the audit. Regardless of the score value received, this audit was also a very valuable training for us and our auditors, with their experience, provided our team with valuable information on how the system works and how to control it.



Ali Osman Kızıltunç, Formfleks Management Systems Coordinator, has been a very important guide for us in the preparation of the IATF 16949 infrastructure between Formfleks SA and Formfleks Turkey, the establishment of the KPI system, the understanding and adaptation of customer requirements with his support before and during the audit. Our holding employees and Formfleks SA employees, who support us with all their departments, are the main architects of this success. and Formfleks SA employees are the main architects of this success.

Logistics Supplier rating Datasheet			
Datasheet - Logistic Audit			
General information			
Date of assessment:	July 31, 2024		
Reason for assessment:	Logistic Audit		
Part number:	9K1.863.309, 9K1.863.310, 9K1.864.799, 9K1.864.044, 9K1.864.044.A		
Part name:	Div. Dämmungen (B-Säule, Hutablage, Schlossverkl.)		
FS-/GS-number:			
Assessed supplier:	Formfleks SA		
Location			
Country:	Romania	RO	
Address (zip, city, street, No.):	STR. A.I. Cuza nr. 2 807340 Isalnita / RO		
Supplier number:	00P87465/00		
DUNS-No.:	599910231		
Name of assessor:	Vassiliou, Deniz		
Department:	PLR4		
Information about the supplier evaluation			
Date of visit:	30. + 31.07.2024		
OEM participants:	Vassiliou, Deniz	B	
Supplier participants:	Murat Önen, Arif Eryilmaz, Constantin Stanculescu	81%	
Information about the supplier			
Employees:	53 employees in Craiova		
Parent company:	Erkurt Holding		
Other locations:	Turkey, Algeria		
References/ current supply relationships:	Porsche, Bentley, Mercedes, Ford, Stellantis		

12TH AWARENESS MEETING

We held our 12th Awareness Meeting on 6.9.2024 at the Development Workshop under the leadership of our Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr Âli Kerem Alptemoçin.



SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS MOBILITY

Our Foundation Manager Arife Koman and Education Coordinator Abdurrahman Balı visited Gürsu Municipality Collective Career Centre together with Coşkun Sabuncu, one of the administrators of Atatürk MTAL, to examine the successful projects implemented by local governments.

The 'Collective Career Centre', which was established within the body of Gürsu Municipality in order to support young people to get to know the professions of the future and to create their career development by increasing their social entrepreneurship aspects, develops cooperation with many private and public institutions operating in Bursa. The Collective Career Centre, which set out as 'Target Zero Unemployment', has now turned into a platform where 3000 people are actively looking for a job.

We interacted with the Collective Career Centre, which provides E-commerce and digital marketing trainings to women engaged in household production and organises Digital Entrepreneurship Academies.



GÜRSU MUNICIPALITY EXECUTIVES VISITED OUR FOUNDATION

Deputy Mayor of Gürsu Municipality Mr. Adem Yıldırım, Grant Projects Specialist Mr. Hüseyin Özmen, Grant Projects Specialist, and Murat Doğan, manager of Kolektif Career Centre, visited our foundation within the scope of corporate stakeholder visits.

During their visit, they were informed about the benefits of our multi-disciplinary studies with our students. They had the opportunity to observe our workshop environments that develop students' communication and cooperation skills and encourage the emergence of innovative ideas. They shared their ideas that bringing together students from different disciplines increases the potential to solve social problems and enables more effective and sustainable solutions. They expressed that in today's business world, individuals with the ability to work in multiple disciplines are more competitive and that they are excited about the reference of multiple disciplines in workshop trainings.



FORMFLEKS 2024 MAINTENANCE PERIOD COMPLETED

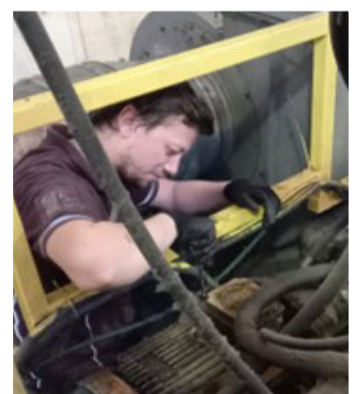
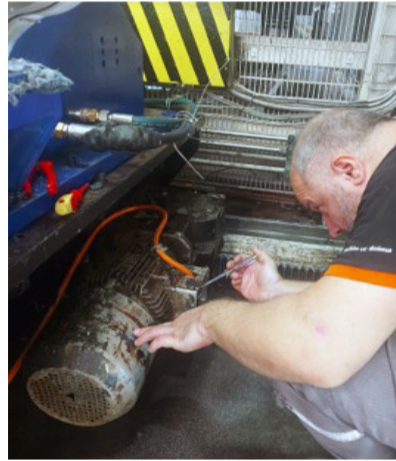
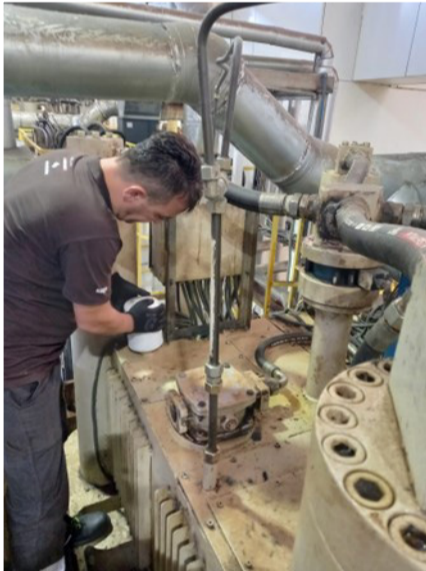
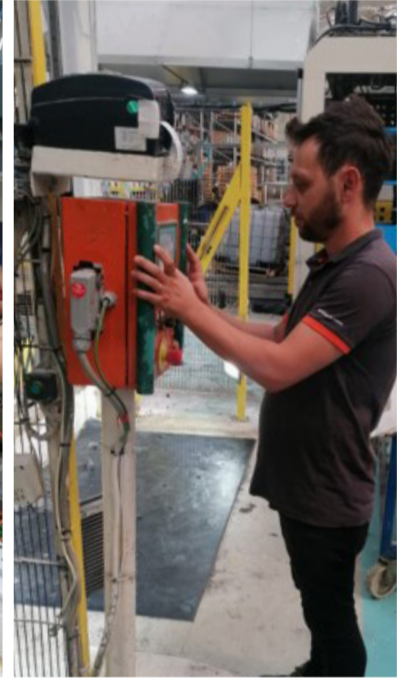
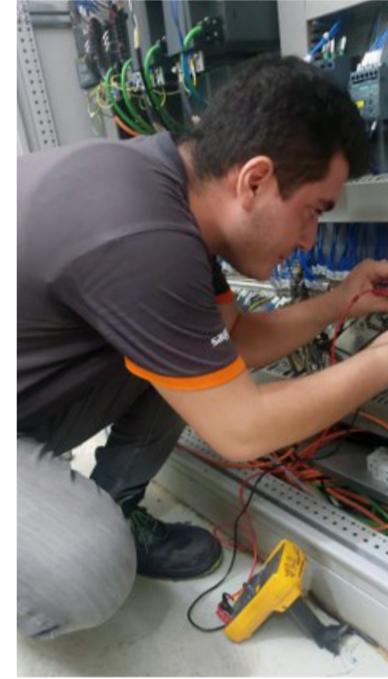
FORMFLEKS GÖLCÜK

As of 31.07.2024, our planned maintenance, which we started as of 31.07.2024, continued within the framework of 0 work accidents and efficient planned maintenance, and 4 electrical maintenance operators and 4 mechanical maintenance operators participated in our work.

Within the scope of the maintenance period, a total of 7 subcontractors and 20 personnel were assigned.

Before our maintenance works, a plan was made on IFS and general factory tidiness, painting and cleaning works involving all units were organised and the maintenance period was completed by complying with the plans.

Sincerely,
Formfleks Gölcük Branch Maintenance Team



FORMFLEKS OSB

Hello Friends

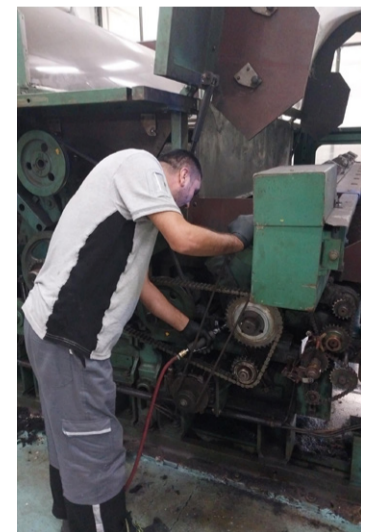
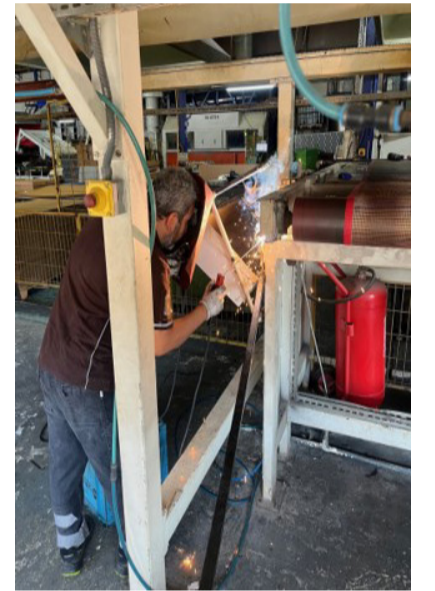
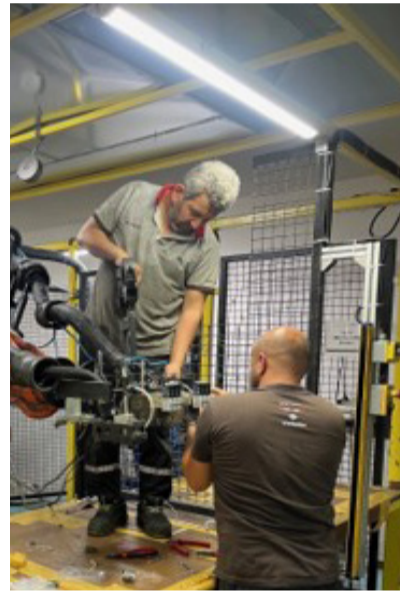
2024 We believe that we spent the period of local stoppages in our customer-based lines, which started in mid-July and lasted until mid-August, efficiently by performing a devoted work as the maintenance unit. By adhering to the action lists that emerged in both our pareto analyses and root cause analyses (DAF) of the incidental stoppages we experienced throughout the year, as well as adding the improvement and maintenance activities requested by us in our meetings with both production team members and production shift supervisors to our work list, we are leaving behind a busy period with the devoted work of our blue-collar maintenance operators and moving on to a much busier period. In fact, during this maintenance period, we have not remained location-based, but we have received the maximum efficiency we can get from our teams by providing our support to all locations in terms of both personnel and technical supply.

We touched the lines such as Linear-3, HC Press, Forming machines, 356 Casting line, which are especially critical in Carpet-1, Carpet-2 and PU lines. We have eliminated a large logistic movement traffic with the revisions of stretchers in forming machines, wheel shaft revisions, maintenance of lifting system equipment, increasing the movement speeds of 356 casting machine and saving time, vacuum machine relocation and installation of vacuum machines.

In this period, we completed works that require time and labour such as manipulator revision, carrier car maintenance, renewal of installations, replacement of oven resistances in the Linear-3 line, which we thought would cause long stoppages under serial working conditions. Apart from such issues that we had or thought we would have problems during the year, we also implemented a good work on energy efficiency. We moved our 34 kW capacity package chillers, which we use in the Hyundai line and which are responsible for cooling only 1 mould, to the Carpet-1 line. With the chiller with a capacity of 34 kW; 100 Hp Wj pump, 50 Hp Wj pump, Forming-2 and Forming-6 Machines' installations were also re-drawn and with the help of a collector, we provided the cooling system of these 4 lines rigidly. If we summarise this improvement briefly; let's have 1 Ferrari and 1 Anadol vehicle. While we were travelling at 70 km/h on the motorway with Ferrari, we were trying to move at 200 km/h with Anadol. With this study, we managed to move both of our vehicles in line with their own limits. In this way, we both reduced our energy consumption and provided cooling support for 5 equipment instead of 2. We supported the projects developed within the scope of ISO 5001 Energy Management System studies. We took actions in terms of both greenhouse gas disposal and efficient use of energy.

Sincerely,

Formfleks OSB Branch Maintenance Team



FORMFLEKS CEMRE

Hello Friends, The works carried out in our Formfl eks Cemre branch are generally as follows:

- Asselin and Feilong line annual general maintenance has been done.
- Cnc Cutting line was moved from Erkurt branch to Cemre branch and commissioned.
- PP Granule Grinding machine has been installed in Cemre branch.

Sincerely regards,

Formfleks Cemre Branch Maintenance Team

FORMFLEKS ERKURT

- EP30, EP34, EP01, EP28, EP28, EP24, EP02, EP19, EP27 Annual maintenance of presses were carried out.
- General cleaning of the presses was done.
- Oil and air leakage checks were carried out.
- Hydraulic oils were filtered. Missing oils were completed.
- Filter changes were made.
- Bolt tightness checks were made.
- Hot oil connections were checked.
- The inside of the electrical panel was cleaned.
- Cable, cable connections and switchgear were checked.
- Electric motor and hydraulic pump controls were made.

Sincerely regards,

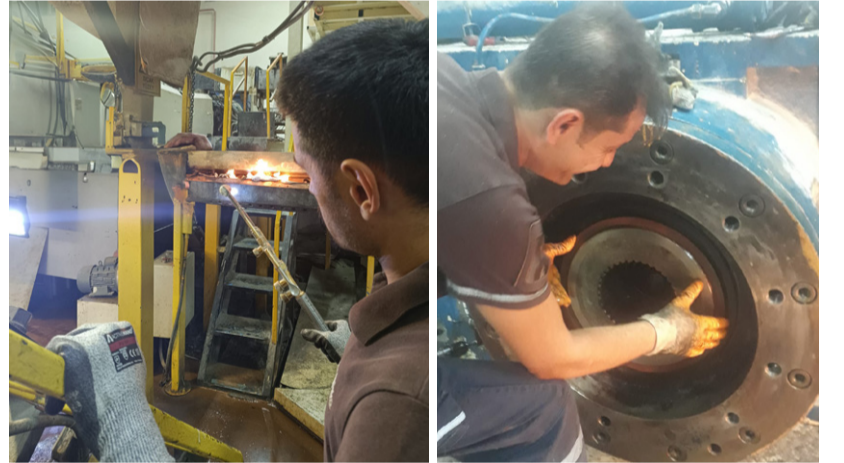
Formfleks Erkurt Branch Maintenance Team

FORMFLEKS TAYSAN

Within the scope of planned maintenance works, maintenance and improvement works were carried out on all lines in need of maintenance in our branch.

Kind regards,

Formfleks Taysan Branch Maintenance Team





Çağla Altun
Erkurt Holding Management
Systems Coordinator

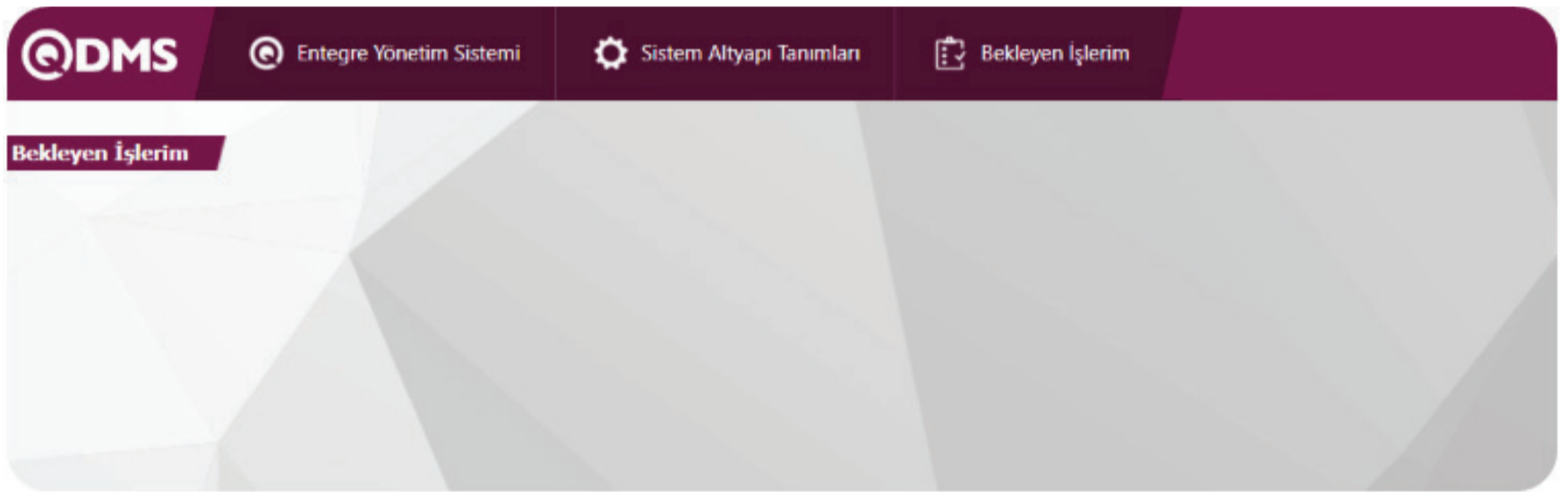
QDMS

QUALITY DOCUMENTATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Hello friends,

In last month's article, I talked about Pareto analysis, one of the problem solving techniques. In this month's article, I will talk about the QDMS programme, which is also an important subject.

QDMS Integrated Management System software actually summarises the bringing together of multiple systems that institutions and companies carry out internally. For this, it aims to create a holistic perspective between the systems in order to avoid any systemic disruptions or problems.



In this way, following all tasks such as revisions between systems and reviewing documents will no longer be a problem for you. The system has been specially developed to perform and control the tasks in a faster, faster and easier way.

Document Management Module is a module that covers issues such as creating the infrastructure in the documentation and reporting activities that businesses can use, communicating with businesses and informing the business in the change and renewal studies in these activities. It enables

the collection of existing activity reports and documents in a common system, in the desired format and in the desired language. Although some standards are kept closed in the system until approval is given, information about who has reviewed them can also be obtained.

Regulatory Preventive Actions (DÖF / DİF) Module; It is a QDMS module where defects or corrections in enterprises are followed up. It helps businesses in the stage after the problem is detected and processed. The person who needs to solve

D/K	Doküman Kodu	Dokümanın Klasörü	Doküman Adı	Doküman Tipi	Rev. No	Onay Tarihi	Hazırlayan	Revize Eden
	YP-02.001	02.04.01 PROSEDÜRLER	KAYITLARIN KONTROLÜ PROSEDÜRÜ	Prosedür	4	1.07.2024	CEYHAN AYDIN	ÇAĞLA ALTUN
	YP-02.002	02.04.01 PROSEDÜRLER	DOKÜMAN YÖNETİM PROSEDÜRÜ	Prosedür	19	1.07.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	ÇAĞLA ALTUN
	YP-02.003	02.04.01 PROSEDÜRLER	YÖNETİM SİSTEMLERİ TETKİK PROSEDÜRÜ	Prosedür	30	1.07.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	ÇAĞLA ALTUN
	YP-02.004	02.04.01 PROSEDÜRLER	RİSK VE FİRSAT YÖNETİMİ PROSEDÜRÜ	Telimat	6	1.07.2024	CEYHAN AYDIN	ÇAĞLA ALTUN
	YP-02.005	02.04.01 PROSEDÜRLER	SÜREÇLERLE YÖNETİM PROSEDÜRÜ	Prosedür	6	2.07.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	ÇAĞLA ALTUN
	MS-03.001	02.04.01 PROSEDÜRLER	MİSİONERİ PROSEDÜRÜ	Prosedür	4	1.07.2024	CEYHAN AYDIN	CEYHAN AYDIN
	MS-03.002	02.04.01 PROSEDÜRLER	KARŞIYAKA İZLENİM ALMA	Prosedür	4	1.07.2024	CEYHAN AYDIN	CEYHAN AYDIN

the problem is notified by e-mail. What needs to be done in identifying the source of the problem and planning solutions is forwarded to the relevant person.

Meeting and Action Management Module is a module where the actions of the enterprise such as meetings, projects, targets and management programmes are followed. It helps to determine and manage business plans in businesses and

Durum	DÖF No	İşlem Kaynağı	Müşteri-Bölüm-Tedarikçi	Açma Tarihi	Açan	Ekip Lideri	Uygunluk Tanımı	İş Yeri	Termin Tarihi
Kapalı	01845	Belgelendirme Denetimi	TUV NORD BELGELENDİRME FİRMASI	25.04.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	ERHAN ÇATAK	EYS MİNÖR ISO 9001: 6.2 Kalite Amaçları ve Durumu Erişmek için Planlama	BEKALP KALIP MAKİNE	1.08.2024
Kapalı	01844	Sistem Denetimi	BAKIM LİDERLİĞİ	14.05.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	ERTUĞRUL KARAKUŞ	EYS 14001 MİNÖR: Çevre Kazası	FORMFLERS GÖLCÜK ŞUBE	12.06.2024
Kapalı	01843	Sistem Denetimi	FABRİKA LİDERLİĞİ	14.05.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	YÜCEL TERZİ	EYS 14001 MİNÖR: Çevre Kazası	FORMFLERS GÖLCÜK ŞUBE	9.06.2024
Kapalı	01842	Sistem Denetimi	BEKALP KALIP FABRİKA LİDERLİĞİ	14.05.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	OSMAN ÇETİN	EYS 9001 MİNÖR: GSK Kontrolörü	BEKALP KALIP MAKİNE	9.06.2024
Kapalı	01841	Sistem Denetimi	BEKALP KALIP FABRİKA LİDERLİĞİ	14.05.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	ERKAN İYİKURT	EYS 9001 MİNÖR: Tasarım Onayı	BEKALP KALIP MAKİNE	9.06.2024
Kapalı	01839	Sistem Denetimi	FABRİKA LİDERLİĞİ	7.05.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	ALİ OSMAN PAZAR	EYS 14001 MİNÖR: Çevre Boyutları	FORMFLERS TAYSAN ŞUBE	7.05.2024
Kapalı	01836	Sistem Denetimi	BAKIM LİDERLİĞİ	7.05.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	VEDAT SENGELER	EYS 4001 MİNÖR: Yangın Tiplerinin Yanında Olması	FORMFLERS OSB	7.05.2024
Kapalı	01835	Sistem Denetimi	İNSAN KAYNAKLARI LİDERLİĞİ	30.04.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	YAVUZ BALIK	EYS 14001 MİNÖR: Çevre Boyutları	HOLDİNG	9.06.2024
Kapalı	01834	Sistem Denetimi	HOLDİNG SATINALMA LİDERLİĞİ	30.04.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	TUĞBA AWCİ	EYS 9001 MİNÖR: Yetkinlik	HOLDİNG	9.06.2024
Kapalı	01833	Sistem Denetimi	FABRİKA LİDERLİĞİ	30.04.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	HASAN ŞENER	EYS 14001 MİNÖR: Saha Turu Aksiyonları	FORMFLERS ÇENRE ŞUBE	10.06.2024
Kapalı	01832	Sistem Denetimi	FABRİKA LİDERLİĞİ	30.04.2024	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	HASAN ŞENER	EYS 14001 MİNÖR: Hedeflere Ulaşmak İçin İşletme Planı	FORMFLERS ÇENRE ŞUBE	10.06.2024

direct the relevant people to the relevant tasks. It facilitates the automatic determination of budget plans, activity percentages and actual completion percentages.

Audit Module is a module where you can follow your internal and external audits. By defining audits for certain groups in certain periods, audit results can be automatically reported and published. It can work integrated with DÖF and Action modules and can be converted into these actions.

Calibration (Measurement Uncertainty) Module; It is a module where you follow the errors and verifications in internal and external measurements in the form of work orders. Once

registered in the system, calibrations can be tracked in the form of work orders, batch work order generation can be created and responsible persons can be notified by the system. Reports, certificate and uncertainty account can be calculated separately.

Verification, Calibration and MSA reports can be followed from this module.

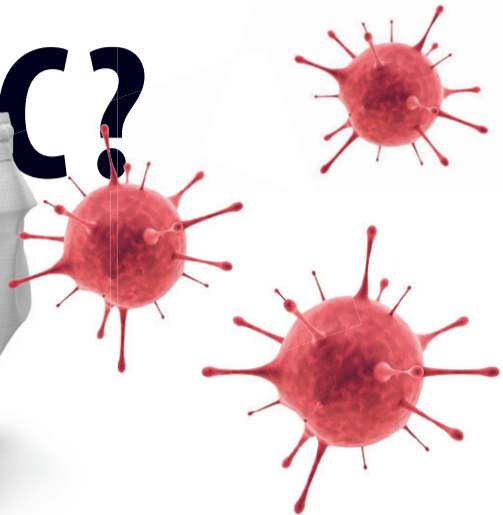
QDMS provides communication and coordination between units, individuals, parties and activities, saving labour and time and contributing to corporate memory.

No	Talep Eden	Sistem Giriş Tarihi	Aksiyon Kaynağı	Açıklama	Durum	Tamamlama Yüzdesi	Kalem Sayısı
155	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	5.04.2024	Denetimler->İç Denetimler	CSR - Müşteri Özel Gereksinimleri Denetimleri *2024	Kapalı		4
140	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	2.10.2023	Denetimler->İç Denetimler	Stellantis SQME Ziyareti Öncesi - Self Assessment PRQ İç Tetkiki	Kapalı		24
139	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	20.09.2023	Denetimler->Müşteri Denetimleri	IKEA JWYV Müşteri Denetimi	Kapalı		15
138	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	15.09.2023	Denetimler->İç Denetimler	IKEA JWYV İç Tetkiki	Kapalı		16
135	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	8.08.2023	Denetimler->İç Denetimler	Yönetim Sistemleri İç Tetkiki Gelişmeye Açık Yöneler - 2023	Kapalı		5
133	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	4.07.2023	Denetimler->Müşteri Denetimleri	FORD SMRT Q1	Kapalı	1	13
131	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	25.05.2023	Denetimler->Belgelendirme Denetimleri	ISO 27001 TÜV NORD Belgelendirme Denetimi (DFT)	Kapalı	95	23
124	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	31.03.2023	Denetimler->Belgelendirme Denetimleri	ISO 14001 TÜV NORD Belgelendirme Denetimi (DFT)	Kapalı	100	10
123	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	31.03.2023	Denetimler->Belgelendirme Denetimleri	ISO 9001 TÜV NORD Belgelendirme Denetimi (DFT)	Kapalı	1	11
122	ÇAĞLA ALTUN	31.03.2023	Denetimler->Belgelendirme Denetimleri	ISO 45001 TÜV NORD Belgelendirme Denetimi (DFT)	Kapalı	1	1



Mustafa Numan Ural
Workplace Doctor

THE NEXT PANDEMIC?



MONKEYPOX

Monkeypox Disease

Monkeypox is an infectious disease caused by the monkeypox virus, which is transmitted from infected animals, most commonly rodents, to humans. It is also transmitted from person to person; however, in the light of what is known so far, it is thought that this condition alone does not cause an epidemic. The clinical picture is similar to smallpox, but less severe. After the 1980 eradication of smallpox and the subsequent discontinuation of smallpox vaccination, monkeypox has occasionally caused small-scale outbreaks. It has been more than 40 years since routine smallpox vaccination was discontinued worldwide. Since the smallpox vaccine also protects against monkeypox in West and Central Africa, unvaccinated populations are now more susceptible to monkeypox virus infection. Monkeypox virus disease occurs primarily in Central and West Africa, usually in areas close to tropical rainforests, but is also increasingly occurring in urban areas.

Monkeypox Outbreaks

Monkeypox virus was first identified in humans in 1970 in a 9-year-old boy in the Democratic Republic of Congo in an area where smallpox had been eradicated. Since then, most cases have been reported from rural, rainforest areas of the country. Human cases are increasingly being reported in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in Central and West Africa. Since 1970, human cases of monkeypox have been reported from Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone and South Sudan. The true burden of monkeypox in these 11 African countries is unknown. Since 2017, Nigeria has experienced a major outbreak with more than 500 suspected cases, more than 200 confirmed cases and a case fatality rate of approximately 3%. Monkeypox is a disease of global public health importance as it affects not only countries in West and Central Africa but also the rest of the world. The first outbreak of monkeypox outside Africa occurred in the United States in 2003. This outbreak was linked to contact with infected domestic prairie dogs. These pets were imported into the country from Ghana. The outbreak resulted in over 70 cases of monkeypox in the USA. Monkeypox

has also been reported in travellers from Nigeria to Israel in September 2018, to the United Kingdom in September 2018, to Singapore in December 2019, May 2021 and May 2022 and May 2019, to the United States in July and November 2021. Multiple cases of monkeypox were also detected in several non-endemic countries in May 2022.

Ways of Transmission of the Virus from Animal to Human and Human to Human

Several animal species have been identified that are susceptible to monkeypox virus. These include rope squirrels,



tree squirrels, Gambian possums, primates and other species. Uncertainty remains about the natural history of monkeypox virus and further studies are needed to determine what the exact reservoir (main disease vector) is and how virus circulation continues in nature. Animal-to-human (zoonotic) transmission occurs through direct contact with blood, body fluids or cutaneous or mucosal lesions of infected animals and through contact with contaminated materials such as respiratory droplets, bedding, etc. Human-to-human transmission is also possible. Human-to-human transmission can result from respiratory secretions, skin lesions of an infected person or close contact with recently contaminated



objects. Transmission via droplet respiratory particles usually requires prolonged face-to-face contact, putting health workers, household members and other close contacts of active cases at greater risk. Eating undercooked meat and other products of infected animals is a possible risk factor. Transmission can also occur from mother to fetus through the placenta (which can lead to congenital monkeypox) or through close contact during and after childbirth. While close physical contact is a well-known risk factor for transmission, it is currently unclear whether monkeypox virus can be transmitted specifically through sexual contact, and more studies are needed to say for sure. While some cases have occurred in gay and bisexual men, anyone who has had close contact with someone with monkeypox could potentially contract the virus.

Symptoms and signs of the disease

The incubation period (the interval from infection to the onset of symptoms) is usually between 6 and 13 days, but can vary between 5 and 21 days. The signs and symptoms of the disease can be divided into two periods. The first period is the spreading period lasting between 0-5 days, characterized by fever, malaise, lymphadenopathy (swelling of the lymph nodes), intense headache, back, throat and muscle aches, severe weakness. A distinguishing feature of monkeypox from smallpox is lymphadenopathies (swollen lymph nodes), which occur 1 to 2 days before the onset of the rash or rarely with the onset of the rash and fever. Lymph nodes in the neck, groin and armpits may swell on one or both sides of the body. Lymphadenopathy is a distinctive feature of the monkeypox virus case, compared to some diseases that initially appear similar (chickenpox, measles, smallpox). The second period is a period of skin rash, which begins 1-3 days after the onset of fever. The rash is more intense on the face, arms and legs than on the trunk. The rash usually starts on the face (in 95% of cases) and affects the palms and soles of the feet (in 75% of cases). The oral mucosa (in 70% of cases), genitalia (in 30% of cases) and conjunctiva and cornea (in 20% of cases) are also affected. The rash evolves sequentially from macules (flat-bottomed lesions) to papules (slightly raised firm lesions), vesicles (lesions filled with clear fluid), pustules (lesions filled with yellowish fluid) and crusts



that dry up and fall off. The number of lesions varies from a few to several thousand. In severe cases, the lesions can merge until large areas of skin fall off. Monkeypox is a self-limiting disease with symptoms usually lasting two to four weeks. Severe cases are more common among children. The degree of exposure to the virus is related to the patient's state of health and the nature of complications. Underlying immune deficiencies can lead to worse outcomes. Although vaccination against smallpox was protective in the past, today people aged 40 to 50 years (depending on the country) may be more susceptible to monkeypox due to the cessation of smallpox vaccination campaigns worldwide after the disease was eradicated. Complications of monkeypox include secondary infections, bronchopneumonia, sepsis, encephalitis and corneal infection resulting in vision loss. The extent to which asymptomatic infection occurs is unknown. Monkeypox case fatality rates have ranged from 0 to 11% in the general population and are higher among young children. Recently, the case fatality rate has been around 3-6%.

Diagnosis and diagnosis of the disease

In the clinical differential diagnosis, other rash diseases such as varicella, measles, bacterial skin infections, scabies, syphilis and drug-induced allergies should be considered. Lymphadenopathy in the prodromal phase of the disease may be a clinical feature to distinguish monkeypox from chickenpox or smallpox. If monkeypox infection is suspected, health workers should obtain an appropriate sample and transport it safely to a laboratory with appropriate capacity. Confirmation of monkeypox infection depends on the type and quality of the sample. Samples should therefore be packaged and sent to the laboratory in accordance with national and international requirements. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is the preferred laboratory test given its accuracy and sensitivity. Therefore, the most appropriate diagnostic samples for monkeypox infection are obtained from skin lesions. Biopsy is an option if possible. Lesion samples should be stored in a dry, sterile tube and kept cold.

Treatment

There is currently no proven, reliable treatment for monkeypox virus infection. Smallpox vaccine, antivirals and

vaccine immunoglobulin are used to control an outbreak of monkeypox in the United States.

In monkeypox infection, clinical care is essential and patients should be provided with fluids and food to alleviate symptoms, manage complications and prevent long-term sequelae. Secondary bacterial infections in the patient should be treated.

Vaccine

Vaccination against smallpox has been shown in several observational studies to be about 85% effective in preventing monkeypox. Previous smallpox vaccination can therefore alleviate the course of the disease. Evidence of prior vaccination against smallpox is usually the vaccination mark on the upper arm. Currently, the original (first generation) smallpox vaccines are no longer available to the public. Some laboratory staff or healthcare workers may have received a new smallpox vaccine to protect them in case they are exposed to orthopox viruses in the workplace. An even newer vaccine based on a modified attenuated vaccinia virus (Ankara strain) was approved for the prevention of monkeypox in 2019. This is a two-dose vaccine with limited availability.

Prevention and reducing the risk of transmission

Raising awareness of risk factors and educating people about measures they can take to reduce their exposure to the virus is the main prevention strategy for monkeypox infection. Scientific studies are ongoing to assess the feasibility and appropriateness of vaccination for the prevention and control of monkeypox. Some countries are developing policies to vaccinate people who may be at risk, such as laboratory staff, rapid responders and health workers.

Surveillance and rapid identification of new cases are critical to contain the outbreak. During human monkeypox outbreaks, close contact with infected persons is the most important risk factor for monkeypox virus infection. Healthcare workers and household members are at greater risk of infection. Healthcare workers caring for or taking samples from patients with suspected or confirmed monkeypox virus infection should follow standard infection control measures. If possible, people who have been previously vaccinated against smallpox should be selected to care for the patient.

Unprotected contact with wild animals, especially sick or dead animals, including their meat, blood and other parts, should be avoided. In addition, all food containing animal flesh or parts should be thoroughly cooked before eating. Some countries have introduced regulations restricting the import of rodents and non-human primates. Captive animals potentially infected with monkeypox should be isolated from other animals and quarantined immediately. Animals that may have come into

contact with an infected animal should be quarantined with standard precautions and monitored for monkeypox symptoms for 30 days.

WHO declares "global emergency"

The monkeypox virus (mpox) is now spreading across Africa. The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared a "global emergency" due to the outbreak of monkeypox virus affecting Africa.



WHO had declared a state of emergency for the same disease two years ago. However, the current strain of monkeypox virus, called Clade I, is more contagious. However, the current strain of the monkeypox virus, called Clade I, is more contagious.

Has it been seen in Europe and Turkey?

A case of monkeypox was seen in Sweden, one of the Scandinavian countries. "This afternoon, a severe case of Clade I type of mpox was detected in Sweden,"

Swedish Minister of Health and Social Affairs Jakob Forssmed said. The Swedish Public Health Agency said in a statement that the person infected with the virus contracted the disease in Africa.

On behalf of Turkey, the Ministry of Health said in a statement that monkeypox has not been detected in Turkey and that there is no need for restrictions or additional measures.

The Ministry's statement is as follows:

"Following the Emergency Committee Meeting held by the World Health Organization on August 14, 2024, it was announced that monkeypox (mpox) constitutes a public health emergency of international importance. No cases of monkeypox disease, which is seen especially in the African continent, were encountered in Turkey in 2024. There is no need for any restrictions or additional measures in our country yet. The necessary studies are being carried out by our Ministry and the process is being followed sensitively with our scientific committee and health infrastructure. Updated information will be presented to the public."

Source:

www.ttb.org.tr/
www.klimik.org.tr/
www.saglik.gov.tr/

together & forever

BEINGGLOBAL



Istanbul (Centre)

Oruç Reis Mah. Tekstil Kent Cad. Koza Plaza B Blok 30. Kat No:12 İç Kapı No:114-115 Esenler / İstanbul
T: +90 (212) 395 79 00 - F: +90 (212) 274 16 96

Bursa (Branch)

Minareliçavuş Bursa OSB Mah. Gri Cad. No:16 16159 Nilüfer / Bursa
T: +90 (224) 314 10 00 - F: +90 (224) 243 30 90