

VIPA distinguishes at the product discontinuation stage between discontinuation of modules which are replaced by a follow-up product and discontinuation of products which are deleted without replacement from the product portfolio.

Following procedures are defined:

Product discontinuation with a replacement by an follow-up module:

- With the „announcement of product discontinuation“ the Last-Time-Buy phase starts. This phase is limited 3 to 12 months depending on the situation of parts procurement.
- The follow-up product is available at the latest after the phase of Last-Time-Buy.
- After the phase Last-Time-Buy the product is discontinued. The modules are still available in the price lists for one year and are marked as spare parts. The modules can still be ordered. The selling price is increased by 5%.
- After one year the discontinued modules will be removed from the price list.

Product discontinuation without replacement:

- With the „announcement of product discontinuation“ the Last-Time-Buy phase starts. This phase is limited 3 to 12 months depending on the situation of parts procurement.
- After the phase Last-Time-Buy the product is discontinued. The modules are still available in the price lists for one year and are marked as spare parts. The modules can still be ordered. The selling price is increased by 5%.
- After one year the discontinued modules will be removed from the price list. From this moment on VIPA standard products are still available as spare parts up to 8 years. Depending on remainder of stock and the possibilities of procurement of modules, return of the defective modules may be necessary.

