

Media Release

Oerlikon acquires Finnish surface engineering company DIARC Technology Oy

Balzers, Liechtenstein, 20 February 2018 – Oerlikon has acquired DIARC Technology Oy, a provider of surface engineering technologies and services in Finland. The acquisition will enhance the range of technologies provided by Oerlikon Balzers in the automotive and precision components industries and expand its portfolio of surface treatments.

DIARC Technology Oy, a Finnish company founded in 1993, manufactures thin-film coatings that improve the performance and durability of tools and precision components. The company currently has 16 employees developing DIARC® FCAPAD (Filtered Cathodic Arc Plasma Accelerator Deposition) coating technologies and servicing customers with ta-C structured amorphous diamond, functional carbon and metal nanocomposite thin films as well as ultra-dense metal nitride and metal oxide coatings, all at a very low deposition temperature of less than 100° C.

This acquisition represents the next stage in Oerlikon Balzers' strategy to increase growth in the automotive industry and to enhance the service it provides to its customers. As well as increasing Oerlikon Balzers' footprint in Finland, DIARC adds new functional coatings for surface adaptation, advanced functionalities and surface protection. Oerlikon Balzers will therefore be able to provide additional expertise and a broader portfolio of surface treatments to its customers worldwide in R&D, coating services, process development and equipment.

The acquisition agreement was signed on 4 January 2018 and officially completed on 19 February 2018. The acquisition means that DIARC will become part of a technology leader in surface solutions, backed up by the Oerlikon Balzers global R&D and production network. All day-to-day operations in the existing location, as well as business and cooperation with DIARC customers and partners, will continue as usual, now as part of Oerlikon Balzers. Both parties have agreed not to disclose the purchase price.

"DIARC offers unique and innovative surface solutions to its customers in Europe based on their high levels of expertise and experience. As a highly specialised service company in the tools and precision components market, DIARC will further enhance our portfolio of ta-C solutions for the automotive market and strengthen our footprint in the Scandinavia region. This acquisition sees us further accelerate the global expansion of our services. DIARC solutions perfectly complement our existing technology and coating portfolio, introducing a new surface technology in addition to what we currently offer. We welcome on board DIARC's team of talented and highly skilled engineers", said Jochen Weyandt, Head of Business Unit Automotive Solutions, Oerlikon.



The DIARC facility in Espoo, Finland



After the successful signing of the contract (left to right):

Markus Grammes - Project Manager Innovation ThinFilm Automotive, Oerlikon Balzers

Jonas Lundberg - General Manager Oerlikon Balzers Sweden & Finland

Jukka Kolehmainen - President of DIARC-Technology Oy

Klaus Schwebel - Global HR Business Partner BU Automotive Solutions, Oerlikon

Paula Kokare - Project Manager M&A, Oerlikon

Avrath Chadha - Head of Business Line ThinFilm Automotive, Oerlikon Balzers

Jochen Weyandt - Head of Business Unit Automotive Solutions, Oerlikon

Jürgen Becker - Head of Engineering PVD ThinFilm Automotive, Oerlikon Balzers

Tapani Haikola - Vice President of DIARC-Technology Oy

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About Oerlikon Balzers

Oerlikon Balzers is one of the world's leading suppliers of surface technologies that significantly improve the performance and durability of precision components as well as tools for the metal and plastics processing industries. Extremely thin and exceptionally hard coatings, marketed under the BALINIT and BALIQ brand names, reduce friction and wear. The BALITHERM brand opens up a broad range of heat treatment services, whereas BALTONE comprises coatings that are available in a full range of elegant colours, perfectly suited for decorative applications. Under the technology brand BALIFOR, we develop the technologies for tailor-made solutions for the automotive market, and ePD delivers solutions for the metallization of plastic parts with chrome effects. Worldwide, more than 1'100 coating systems are in operation at Oerlikon Balzers facilities and its customers. Equipment engineering and assembly of Balzers' systems are processed in Liechtenstein and in Bergisch Gladbach (Germany). Oerlikon Balzers operates a dynamically growing network of more than 100 coating centres in 35 countries in Europe, the Americas and Asia. Oerlikon Balzers is – together with Oerlikon Metco - part of the Surface Solutions Segment of the Switzerland-based Oerlikon Group (SIX: OERL).

About the Surface Solutions Segment

The Surface Solutions Segment of the Oerlikon Group includes the two brands Oerlikon Balzers and Oerlikon Metco.

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Oerlikon Metco enhances surfaces with coating solutions and equipment. Customers benefit from a uniquely broad range of surface technologies, coating solutions, equipment, materials, services, and specialized machining services and components. The innovative solutions improve performance and increase efficiency and reliability. As innovation leader, Oerlikon Metco is forging new paths with materials for additive manufacturing (AM). Oerlikon Metco serves industries such as power generation, aviation, automotive, and other specialized markets. The **Surface Solutions Segment** operates a dynamically growing network currently consisting of more than 145 facilities with over 140 coating centres in 37 countries in Europe, the Americas, Asia and Australia, employing more than 6000 people. The Surface Solutions Segment is part of the Swiss-based Oerlikon Group (SIX: OERL).