

Media Release**Oerlikon Balzers continues expansion with new customer centre in China**

Balzers, Liechtenstein, 4 April 2019 – **Recently, Oerlikon Balzers, a leading global provider of surface technologies, held the Grand Opening Ceremony with guests of honour and customers to inaugurate its new coating centre in Dongguan, China. A much larger production space was required in Dongguan in order to process the rapidly growing order volume of recent years. Oerlikon Balzers started its coating business in China in 2004. The new customer centre is now the second largest in China. It is one of 111 coating centres in 35 countries worldwide.**

Oerlikon Balzers began production in Dongguan, one of eleven customer centres in China, in 2008. As the existing production centre had insufficient capacity to meet the high demand for Oerlikon Balzers' solutions for cutting and forming tools, and now for precision components as well, the company decided to relocate the customer centre to provide a production area three times the previous size. This new facility will allow the company to fulfil the growing number of new orders from a wide range of industries and offer enhanced services to its customers in this heavily industrial region of China.

Marc Desrayaud, Head of Oerlikon Balzers, explained in his speech at the opening ceremony: "Since 2008, when we began production in Dongguan, our customers have placed more and more orders every year, a clear demonstration of their confidence in our technologies and services. We feel honoured by this strong relationship and will not let our customers down. Relocating to these new premises is part of our long-term growth strategy: establishing this new customer centre in Dongguan allows us to continue serving our customers while also expanding the range of services we provide. We have invested in the latest coating equipment and technologies and have recruited new staff in order to provide our customers with first-class environmentally-friendly coatings combined with an excellent service."



From left to right: Ian Howe (Head of Precision Components), David Franz (Regional Executive North East Asia), Peter Liu (General Manager Oerlikon Surface Solutions China), Marc Desrayaud (Head of Oerlikon Balzers), Ye Kunhong (Governor Representative), Henry Guo (Director of Sales & Operations Balzers Industrial Solutions, China), Wolfgang Kalss (Head of ThinFilm Cutting Tools) and Pravin Shirse (Managing Director Oerlikon Balzers India) cut the ribbon.



Marc Desrayaud (Head of Oerlikon Balzers) and Ye Kunhong (Governor Representative) unveil the traditional inauguration plaque.

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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. BALIMED ThinFilm coatings, with wear-resistant, biocompatible, antimicrobial and chemically inert properties, have been developed especially for medical applications. Under the BALIFOR technology brand the company has introduced technologies which provide tailor-made solutions for the automotive market, while ePD allows the metallisation of plastic parts with a chrome look.

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, in Langenthal (Switzerland) 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 and Oerlikon AM – part of the Surface Solutions Segment of the Switzerland-based Oerlikon Group (SIX: OERL).