

Media Release**Oerlikon Balzers expands service offerings in the US with new customer centre in St. Louis**

Balzers, Liechtenstein, 5 June 2019 – **Recently Oerlikon Balzers, leading provider of surface solutions, has begun production at its new customer centre in St. Louis, MO. Equipped with the latest coating technology and pre- and post-treatment systems, the new coating centre will allow Oerlikon Balzers to supply coating services for cutting and forming tools to its customers in St. Louis and across Missouri. The official inauguration, as part of an open day, is planned for August.**

The new customer centre maintains Oerlikon Balzers' high quality standards and allows the company to offer a wide range of services with dedicated workflows for its customers in the automotive, aerospace and other industries across Missouri. Oerlikon Balzers has invested in the latest machinery and technology in order to deliver high-quality products and additional services, including pre- and post-treatment.

A wide range of coatings are available for an almost unlimited number of applications for precision components, cutting, forming, aluminium die casting and plastics processing. Alongside the classic BALINIT A and BALINIT B ThinFilm coatings, Oerlikon Balzers also offers BALINIT ALCRONA PRO and BALINIT LATUMA for high-performance tools to meet the ever-increasing requirements of modern high-quality machining. These coatings are extremely wear-resistant, with excellent hot hardness and thermal shock stability, and deliver superb results with dry and wet machining at high cutting speeds. A further coating is BALINIT FUTURA NANO, which delivers ultimate performance for metal forming and precision components.

Steve Crowley, Head of Sales and Operations, President of Oerlikon Balzers North America, said: "This is an exciting day! We are expanding our service in St. Louis with a brand new customer centre in the US, and there is nothing better for me than introducing the Oerlikon Balzers name and services to a new area. We have worked for a number of years with fantastic customers in the greater St. Louis and Missouri area, and the opening of this new centre now allows us to take our relationships to the next level by having a full-time presence here. For us, it is all about providing the highest-quality service and being part of the local community. We are really pleased to be here."

Nathan Olds, Regional Executive Americas, said: "At Oerlikon Balzers, we are on a continuous mission to supply the market with the highest levels of service and the newest technologies. We want to grow our business worldwide, but always tailor our business to the needs of the local market. The new centre in St. Louis, MO, is one of the 26 centres operating in North and South America. We are committed to expanding and improving our offering to the American market and the St. Louis centre is the next step on that journey."



Oerlikon Balzers has recently opened a new customer centre in St. Louis to offer its customers of the automotive and aerospace industries high-quality coatings and additional services for cutting tools and precision components.

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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).