

**Media Release****Oerlikon Balzers opens new application support centre for pre- and post-treatment in Sweden**

Balzers, Liechtenstein, 22 October 2020 – **Oerlikon Balzers, a leading supplier of surface solutions, has opened a new application support centre in Uppsala, Sweden, for the pre- and post-treatment of cutting tools for the automotive industry. Not only does the new location give customers an information and consulting centre: it also serves as a training centre for new employees and apprentices, so that Oerlikon Balzers staff can keep up-to-date with the latest pre- and post-treatment technology and offer first-class service to customers around the world.**

Oerlikon Balzers' in-depth expertise has made the company an indispensable partner in the production of powertrains for commercial vehicles. The Oerlikon Balzers primeGear service for reconditioning high-quality cutting tools, offered in many customer centres worldwide, reduces manufacturing costs for gear components and preserves natural resources. It was introduced following many years of research and development conducted in collaboration with commercial partners and customers.

The new location in Uppsala serves as a Global Competence Centre, where the tailored surface pre- and post-treatment service will be further developed and optimised. Following Oerlikon Balzers' strategy of being as close as possible to its customers, the surface treatment services provided at the former location in Uppsala (formerly Primateria) have been decentralised to the individual customer centres in Sweden. This step brings Oerlikon Balzers even closer to its Swedish customers, accelerates logistical processes and improves the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint by eliminating transport routes.

Marc Desrayaud, Head of BU Balzers Industrial Solutions, says: "The new global application support centre has been established to further develop the reconditioning process for cutting tools in collaboration with our commercial partners and customers. It also allows our global employees to be trained in the latest pre- and post-treatment technology. Now that we offer the primeGear service at the respective customer centres, we are even closer to our customers – which accelerates logistical processes and also reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions."



Oerlikon Balzers' tailored surface pre- and post-treatment service will be further developed and optimised at the new application support centre in Uppsala, Sweden.

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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 110 coating centres in 36 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).