Press Release

New 1,600 m² technology center opened

Oerlikon Barmag continues to invest in research & development at the Chemnitz site

Chemnitz, July 2, 2015 – following just ten months of construction, the new technology center of the Chemnitz-based machine and systems builder Oerlikon Barmag was opened today. In the future, the 1,600-m² new-build on Zwickauer Straße will be the venue for the development and testing primarily of extrusion systems for tapes and monofilaments along with winding/texturing machines, twisting machines and carbon fiber winders. Furthermore, the new, attractive building will be used as a showroom for Oerlikon Barmag innovations.

In the presence of Berthold Brehm, the Deputy Mayor of Chemnitz, and many of the 160 employees, the responsible Oerlikon Manmade Fibers segment managers symbolically cut the red ribbon on Thursday afternoon. “Today is a very special day for us, for our employees, for our entire company and also for the City of Chemnitz. With our investment in the new technology center, we are underlining the fact that our innovative power in the area of tape and monofilament systems is being concentrated, and consequently sustainably anchored, here in Chemnitz”, announced Steffen Husfeldt, who has been successfully managing the Chemnitz site for decades now, with pride.

The light-flooded, bright and friendly research & development center will be filled with life over the coming weeks. People and machines will be moving into the 1,600 m² building together. The space within the production facilities now vacant and to date used by Oerlikon Barmag for its research & development activities can now be utilized for other purposes. For example, to expand production capacities in manufacturing and assembly.

2015 will be a successful year for the Chemnitz site

“If everything runs as planned, we will this year – thanks to an innovative product portfolio and the extraordinary commitment of our local management and our employees on-site and off-site with our customers throughout the world – experience maybe the most successful year in the 149-year history of the Chemnitz site”, stated Georg Stausberg, CEO of the Oerlikon Manmade Fibers segment.

The diversity of applications for tapes and monofilament yarns are currently making the Chemnitz-based Oerlikon Barmag technologies so very attractive. Because industrial textiles are very much on trend and are enjoying growing popularity in many sectors of the industry. Its applications range from carpet backing fabrics, artificial turf, geotextiles all the way through to the agricultural sector.

“Especially in the case of our extrusion systems, we are currently registering rising demand”, explains Managing Director Steffen Husfeldt. “In the case of our new EvoTape system, for example, we have several very decisive advantages over our competitors that make newly investing in our tape systems very interesting for our customers.”

Innovation think-tank in new guise

As an innovative technology company, all new developments of the market leader for monofilament and tape systems set benchmarks in terms of profitability, process stability and sustainability. The customers

of the Chemnitz-based manmade fiber systems builder are spread around the globe. Whether in Europe, America or Asia – they will all once again be looking at Chemnitz in the future and focusing on the new ideas from the innovation think-tank that now features a new guise.

2016: 150 years of Oerlikon Barmag in Chemnitz
Chemnitz is the oldest site of what is today the Oerlikon Manmade Fibers segment: founded as Carl Hamel AG in 1866, the company was located at its current site in Schönau as early as 1896. Following World War II, the plant became VEB Textima Spinn- und Zwirnereimaschinenbau, with the Remscheid-based Barmag AG taking over the well-established company in 1991. Since 2007, the enterprise has been owned by the Swiss Oerlikon technology conglomerate as part of Oerlikon Barmag.

Looking back on almost 150 years of company history, numerous groundbreaking product developments testify to the innovative spirit of the textile machine builder. Today, 160 permanent members of staff work at the Chemnitz site, 36 alone working in research & development. With its innovative, technologically-sophisticated products and its strong market position, the Chemnitz-based century-old company is an attractive regional employer.

571 words

Captions:
Fig 1 OerlikonBarmag_ExtrusionsTechnikum:
From July 2015, Oerlikon Barmag technology experts will be developing high-tech machines and systems for the textile industry in the new, state-of-the-art R&D center.

Fig 2 OerlikonBarmag_Wicklermontage:
High-precision winders for the manmade fiber industry are developed and manufactured at the Chemnitz-based Oerlikon Barmag plant.

Fig 3 OerlikonBarmag_WinTrax:
Carbon fibers are considered to be the material of the future and are being deployed in fiber composites. With the WinTrax carbon fiber winder, Oerlikon Barmag now has a winder for the especially challenging carbon fiber process in its portfolio.

Fig 4 OerlikonBarmag_EvoTape:
Quantum leap in tape yarn manufacturing: in conjunction with the WinTape tape yarn winder, the new EvoTape extrusion system produces under extremely efficient conditions.

Fig 5 OerlikonBarmag_EinweihnungTechnologiecenter:
Inaugurate the new R & D Center at the Chemnitz site: (from left to right) Ralf Schilken (CFO Manmade Fibers Segment), Steffen Husfeldt (Managing Director of the Oerlikon Barmag Chemnitz site) and Georg Stausberg (CEO Manmade Fibers Segment).

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About Oerlikon
Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) is a leading, globally-active technology group supplying growth markets with market-leading technologies and services for surface solutions, systems for manufacturing manmade fibers, transmission systems and drive solutions as well as prevacuum and high vacuum technologies and pumps and the corresponding accessories. The leading Oerlikon technologies enable customers to increase their product performance and productivity, utilize resources and energy more efficiently and make a contribution towards sustainable development. As a Swiss company with a history stretching back more than 100 years, Oerlikon and its in excess of 15,500 employees are present at more than 200 sites in 36 different countries. In 2014, sales totaled CHF 3.2 billion. The company, which invested CHF 121 million in research and development in 2014, employees more than 1,300 specialists for developing innovative and customer-oriented products and services.

For further information: www.oerlikon.com

About the Oerlikon Manmade Fibers segment
With its Oerlikon Barmag and Oerlikon Neumag brands, Oerlikon Manmade Fibers segment is the world market leader for manmade fiber filament spinning systems, texturing machines, BCF systems, staple fiber systems and artificial turf systems and – as a service provider – offers engineering solutions for the entire textile value added chain. As a future oriented company, the research and development at this division of the Oerlikon Group is driven by energy-efficiency and sustainable technologies. With the expansion of the product range to include polycondensation systems and their key components, the company now caters to the entire process – from the monomer all the way through to the textured yarn. The primary Oerlikon Barmag markets are in Asia, and – for Oerlikon Neumag – in the USA, Turkey and China. Correspondingly, Oerlikon Barmag and Oerlikon Neumag – with just under 2,500 employees – has a worldwide presence in 120 countries as part of the Oerlikon Manmade Fibers network of production, sales and distribution and service organizations. At the R&D centers in Remscheid, Neumünster and Chemnitz, highly-qualified engineers and technicians develop innovative and technologically-leading products for tomorrow's world.

For further information: www.oerlikon.com/manmade-fibers