

Media Release

Capacity-expansion in Austria stands for general growth in Europe

Oerlikon Balzers opens second coating center in Austria

Balzers, Liechtenstein – April 23, 2014 – Oerlikon Balzers, the technology leader in high-quality surface solutions, has opened a second coating center in Austria. By taking this step, the Coating Segment of the Oerlikon Group is creating the capacity it needs to meet the growing demand in Europe for innovative coating solutions for tools. "The large number of new technologies that we have recently introduced is also fueling our growth in the traditional tool market," says the Segment's CEO, Dr. Hans Brändle.

The new coating center is in Ohlsdorf, a town in Upper Austria that is located between Salzburg and Linz. It specializes in coating solutions for shaft tools and indexable inserts. "In selecting the location, Oerlikon Balzers has positioned itself in the middle of an economically growing region," said Dr. Roland Herb, Head of Business Line Tools at Oerlikon Balzers. "As a result, we can also significantly reduce service and throughput times for major customers who make machinery, tools and molds as well as automotive suppliers in the region."

The added capacity in Austria is the latest step that the Segment has taken in the ongoing expansion of its global network of coating centers. Last year alone, Oerlikon Balzers opened three new centers in the United States, China and the Philippines. With a network that now consists of 94 coating centers in 34 countries, the Segment is the world's technology leader for coating services. The Segment's solutions enable the productivity of cutting, punching and pressing tools to be increased as well as their service life extended. The technological spectrum covers a large range of services, including thin-film physical vapor deposition (PVD), pulsed plasma diffusion (PPD) and various polishing and regrinding services. It has also been enhanced with embedded PVD for design parts (ePD), a process used to metalize plastic components.

At the end of January 2014, the acquisition of Metco, the coating business for thermal spraying at Sulzer, was announced. As a result of this transaction, the Oerlikon Segment will become the global technology leader in surface solutions.



Innovative coating solutions by Oerlikon Balzers: Tools coated with BALINIT

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About Oerlikon

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) is a leading high-tech industrial group specializing in machine and plant engineering. The Company is a provider of innovative industrial solutions and cutting-edge technologies for manmade fibers manufacturing, drive systems, vacuum, surface solutions and advanced nanotechnology. A Swiss company with a tradition going back over 100 years, Oerlikon is a global player with around 13 000 employees at over 150 locations in 34 countries and sales of CHF 2.9 billion in 2013. In 2013, the Company invested CHF 122 million in R&D, with over 1 000 specialists working on future products and services. In most areas, the operative businesses rank either first or second in their respective global markets.

About Oerlikon Balzers

Oerlikon Balzers is the global leader among providers of coatings which significantly improve the performance and service life of precision components as well as of tools for metal and plastic processing. These coatings, developed by Oerlikon Balzers and marketed under the brand names BALINIT and BALIQ, are extremely thin and exceptionally hard. They significantly reduce friction and wear. Oerlikon Balzers also develops processes, manufactures and sells systems and production facilities, and offers contract coating services through a dynamically growing network of 94 coating centers, now in 34 countries throughout Europe, the Americas and Asia. Moreover, the company develops an integrated approach for the low-emission metallisation of plastic parts under the technology brand ePD. The enterprise is based in Liechtenstein and has 3 400 employees worldwide, over 700 of which work at the company headquarters in Balzers, Liechtenstein (including apprentices). Oerlikon Balzers is a Business Unit of the Switzerland-based Oerlikon Group (SIX: OERL).