

Media release

Oerlikon Balzers expands expertise in reconditioning of tools

Balzers, Liechtenstein, 31 January 2013 – In line with its global growth strategy Oerlikon Balzers, one of the leading providers of coating services worldwide, is not only consistently expanding its global network but also its service offerings. Increasingly, the company will be able to provide complete solutions for the reconditioning of high-performance round tools to its customers, particularly in emerging regions. To this purpose Oerlikon Balzers is adopting a standardized concept by the brand “rox” for the set-up and operation of regrinding centres from the Austrian Tool Management provider TCM International, in addition to taking over the “rox” training facility in Stainz (Austria).

Coated high performance tools such as drills and milling cutters are crucial for high productivity in present-day metal processing. If correctly reground and recoated they reach the same performance as in new condition. Through a network of by now 90 coating centres Oerlikon Balzers provides recoating services worldwide that excel at consistent quality on the highest level. However, there is still a lack of comprehensive regrinding services of satisfying quality, particularly so in the fast-growing emerging markets. Thus, not all customers get the benefit of this cost-efficient service. In order to bridge this gap, Oerlikon Balzers will expand its coating competences at these locations by its own regrinding service. Therefore, Oerlikon Balzers is adopting a complete concept for the setup and operation of standardized regrinding centres that bears the brand name “rox”, from the Austrian company TCM International. The parties agreed not to disclose the purchase price. „With this extension of our service portfolio we are able to provide reconditioning of the highest quality to our customers in all regions“, comments Dr Hans Brändle, CEO of Oerlikon Balzers.

Oerlikon Balzers is also taking over the pertinent “rox” training facility in Stainz in Styria (Austria), in order to consistently reach top-quality worldwide, also in regrinding, through standardized training.

All 11 employees of the “rox” grindery in Stainz will be taken on by Oerlikon Balzers. The current TCM International grinding centres are not affected by this new development and will continue to operate as before.

Manfred Kainz, CEO of TCM International says: „We are pleased that the concept developed by us has convinced Oerlikon Balzers. I am sure that the company will see to a global and professional implementation thereof. “

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About Oerlikon Balzers

Oerlikon Balzers is one of the world's leading suppliers of surface technologies, which significantly improve the performance and durability of precision components as well as tools for the metal and plastics processing industries. These coatings, marketed under the BALINIT® brand name, 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 by now 90 coating centers in Europe, the Americas and Asia. Moreover, under the technology brand ePD™, the company develops integrated services and solutions for the chrome look metallization of plastic parts. Oerlikon Balzers is a Business Unit of the Swiss Oerlikon Group (SIX: OERL).

About TCM International

The Austrian company TCM International, domiciled in Stainz (Styria), has been the global market leader in Tool Consulting and Management for several years. TCM operates a total of eight servicing centres worldwide, with roughly 550 employees.