

**Media Release**

## **Oerlikon Balzers receives Pinnacle Award from Delphi Automotive**

**Balzers, Liechtenstein, 26 July 2016 – Oerlikon Balzers received a 2015 Pinnacle Award for Supplier Excellence from Delphi Automotive, its most prestigious supplier honor. Oerlikon Balzers was recognized for its contributions to Delphi's Excellence culture and commitment to quality, value and cost performance.**

Furthermore, Oerlikon Balzers received a 2015 Technology - Pinnacle Award for Supplier Excellence from Delphi Automotive. The award recognized Oerlikon Balzers for its ability to focus creative resources and help Delphi deliver globally relevant solutions that capitalize on the megatrends of safe, green and connected.

In recent years, Oerlikon Balzers has developed customized tribological coating solutions for and in close cooperation with Delphi. Coatings such as BALINIT DLC STAR have been adapted to meet Delphi's needs over several years of development focused on reducing friction and wear.

"Oerlikon Balzers continues to develop projects to push the technical frontiers for future innovation," says Loïc Cheynet, Head of Business Line ThinFilm Automotive at Oerlikon Balzers. "We made tremendous advancements in order to design products that allow even higher fuel efficiency, including work on component such as plungers, needles, pins, piston guides, pintles, sleeves, armatures, and rocker arms."

Oerlikon Balzer's leading position in carbon thin film coatings for automotive components is not only based on their expertise in plasma and vacuum technology, but also on their superior mass-production concept. Oerlikon Balzers offers a very efficient and cost-effective process which includes state-of-the-art automation and enables extremely high quality and reliability due to 100% inspection procedures realized by advanced measurement equipment. Consequently, BALINIT coatings are present today in the passenger cars of most leading brands worldwide. "Our R&D team members have profound knowledge of tribology and automotive applications that allows them to support car manufacturers and their suppliers in developing optimized systems. The solutions being developed by our experts enable our customers to further reduce fuel consumption and emissions through innovative designs," says Wolfgang Konrad, Head of Business Unit Automotive at Oerlikon Balzers.

"Suppliers like Oerlikon Balzers play a significant role in Delphi's success," said Sidney Johnson, senior vice president, Delphi supply chain management. "They help us provide our customers with globally relevant solutions that capitalize on the megatrends of safe, green and connected. We appreciate Oerlikon Balzers' outstanding performance and understanding that excellence is simply how we operate."

Delphi recognized 32 suppliers from 13 countries with its 2015 Pinnacle Award and five suppliers with its 2015 Technology award.



from left to right:  
Ms. Nichole Felton, Category Director, Mechanical Value Stream, and Ms. Lucie Navarre, Global Purchasing Director Diesel and Powertrain EMEA, both from Delphi Automotive, hand over the two Pinnacle Awards to Mr. Bernd Moll, Global Key Account Manager, and Dr Joerg Jorzick, Head of Global Sales Automotive, from Oerlikon Balzers.

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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. Under the technology brand ePD, the company develops integrated services and solutions for the metallization of plastic parts with chrome effects. Worldwide, more than 1'100 coating systems are in operation at Oerlikon Balzers facilities and its customers. Equipment engineering and assembly of Balzers' machines are headquartered in Liechtenstein. Oerlikon Balzers operates a dynamically growing network of currently 108 coating centres in 35 countries in Europe, the Americas and Asia. Oerlikon Balzers is – together with Oerlikon Metco - part of the Surface Solutions Segment of the Switzerland-based Oerlikon Group (SIX: OERL).

**About the Surface Solutions Segment**

The Surface Solutions Segment of the Oerlikon Group includes the two brands Oerlikon Balzers and Oerlikon Metco. **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. Under the technology brand ePD, the company develops integrated services and solutions for the metallization of plastic parts with chrome effects. Worldwide, more than 1'100 coating systems are in operation at Oerlikon Balzers facilities and its customers. Equipment engineering and assembly of Balzers' machines are headquartered in Liechtenstein. **Oerlikon Metco** enhances surfaces with coating solutions and equipment. Customers benefit from a uniquely broad range of surface technologies, coating solutions, equipment, materials, services, and specialized machining services and components. The innovative solutions improve performance and increase efficiency and reliability. As innovation leader, Oerlikon Metco is forging new paths with materials for additive manufacturing (AM). Oerlikon Metco serves industries such as power generation, aviation, automotive, and other specialized markets. The **Surface Solutions Segment**

operates a dynamically growing network of currently more than 145 facilities with over 140 coating centres in 37 countries in Europe, the Americas, Asia and Australia, employing more than 6 000 people. The Surface Solutions Segment is part of the Switzerland-based Oerlikon Group (SIX: OERL).