

**Media Release****Airbus qualifies Oerlikon Balzers' high-end coating system for REACH-compliant component coatings using BALINIT C**

Balzers, Liechtenstein, 23 April 2020 – **Oerlikon Balzers, a leading provider of surface solutions, has received qualification from Airbus for its RS 50 coating system, which uses the latest carbon coating technology. The RS 50 is located in Ferrières-en-Brie near Paris, a major Aerospace certified production facility of Oerlikon Balzers. The coating system has been selected and approved by Airbus to secure REACH-compliant PVD coatings with BALINIT C.**

The RS 50 coating system is capable of producing BALINIT C coatings according to AIPS 02-04-007 Airbus specification. BALINIT C, a non-hazardous and REACH-compliant alternative to hard chrome plating, is a coating applied to aerospace components made of steel, titanium and various alloys that helps reduce surface fatigue, withstand wear, and high loads, whilst being lightweight and exhibiting low-friction.

“We are very pleased that Oerlikon Balzers' RS 50 coating system meets the Airbus technical and industrial requirements and has been qualified to secure the supply chain for REACH-compliant PVD coatings of the company's aerospace coatings,” says Toby Middlemiss, Global Aerospace & Defence Segment Manager at Oerlikon Balzers. “We greatly appreciate the trust Airbus has placed in us over the years and we will continue to offer state-of-the-art coating services based on the latest coating technologies and equipment, such as the RS 50, for decades to come.”

**Long-standing partnership with Airbus**

In 2018, Oerlikon Balzers received the Qualified Supplier status from Airbus for its two customer centres in Great Britain and France for copper alloy substrate coatings using BALINIT C (**WC/C:H tungsten carbide / carbon coating**). Oerlikon Balzers has been successfully supplying surface coatings for Airbus since 2012.

**Four Nadcap certified competence centres**

Oerlikon Balzers' customers centres Milton Keynes (Great Britain), Ferrière-en-Brie (France), Guelph (Canada) and Niedercorn (Luxembourg) are all Nadcap-accredited and provide world-class coating solutions and services to the aerospace industry. Nadcap, National Aerospace and Defence Contractors Accreditation Program, is a worldwide industry-controlled global cooperation program, designed to achieve a cost-effective consensus approach to special processes and products and to provide continuous improvement within the aerospace industry.

For more information about the RS 50 high-end coating system visit:

<https://www.oerlikon.com/balzers/com/en/portfolio/equipment/rs-50-coating-system-for-highly-loaded-precision-components>



Airbus has qualified Oerlikon Balzers' RS 50 coating system for REACH-compliant component coatings using BALINIT C. (Image: Shutterstock)



The RS 50 is located in Ferrières-en-Brie near Paris, a major Aerospace certified production facility of Oerlikon Balzers.

#### For further information please contact:

Alessandra Doëll  
Head of Communications Oerlikon Balzers  
T +423 388 7500  
[alessandra.doell@oerlikon.com](mailto:alessandra.doell@oerlikon.com)  
[www.oerlikon.com/balzers](http://www.oerlikon.com/balzers)

#### 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).

#### About Oerlikon

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) engineers materials, equipment and surfaces and provides expert services to enable customers to have high-performance products and systems with extended lifespans. Drawing on its key technological competencies and strong financial foundation, the Group is sustaining mid-term growth by executing three strategic drivers: addressing attractive growth markets, securing structural growth, and expanding through targeted mergers and acquisitions. A leading global technology and engineering Group, Oerlikon operates its business in two Segments – Surface Solutions and Manmade Fibers – and has a global footprint of more than 11'100 employees at 182 locations in 37 countries. In 2019, Oerlikon generated CHF 2.6 billion in sales and invested around CHF 120 million in R&D.