

Media Release

Oerlikon Balzers opens its 88th global coating center in Malaysia

Balzers, Liechtenstein, August 8, 2012 – Oerlikon Balzers today announced the opening of its new coating center in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. At the same time, Oerlikon Balzers has also opened two new sales representative offices in Penang and Johor Bahru. This expansion will enable the Coating Segment to meet an increasing demand for its coating solutions, especially in the emerging markets. Today, Oerlikon Balzers runs 88 coating centers in 33 countries worldwide.

Commenting on the opening of the new center, Hans Brändle, CEO Oerlikon Coating said "The opening of the new center in Kuala Lumpur marks an important milestone for us in our global coverage of high-performance coating solutions from Oerlikon Balzers. The focus in emerging markets is also turning increasingly towards the productivity of production processes. We are everywhere, where our customers are. In line with this principle, our unique network of 88 coating centers enables us to offer performance and productivity-enhancing coating solutions around the world."

The new Oerlikon Balzers center will focus on coating metalworking tools, such as those employed in the global automotive and mechanical engineering industries in general. There is also high demand for Oerlikon Balzers solutions in the field of electronics, where coated tools are needed to produce computer hard drives for instance.

In order to increase productivity, all modern production plants use coated tools. They are more wear-resistant, which means that they last longer: two qualities that impact positively on production costs. Statistics show that productivity in the manufacturing sector in Malaysia increased by 4.9 % year-on-year between 2011 and 2012 alone. This is not least among the factors driving the growing demand for Oerlikon Balzers high-performance coating solutions.

Oerlikon Balzers had operated a sales representative office in Malaysia since 2004, with orders being processed and delivered from nearby Singapore. The opening of the new center will improve service times considerably. The new location eliminates the previous time-consuming border formalities and allows Oerlikon Balzers to offer its Malaysian customers faster delivery times.

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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 textile manufacturing, drive, vacuum, thin film, coating, and advanced nanotechnology. A Swiss company with a tradition going back over 100 years, Oerlikon is a global player with more than 17 000 employees at over 150 locations in 38 countries and sales of CHF 4.2 billion in 2011. The Company invested in 2011 CHF 213 million in R&D, with over 1 200 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 world's leading supplier 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 nearly 90 coating centers in Europe, the Americas and Asia. Moreover, under the technology brand ePDTM, the company develops integrated services and solutions for the metallisation of plastic parts. Oerlikon Balzers is a Business Unit of the Swiss Oerlikon Group (SIX: OERL). Oerlikon 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 textile manufacturing, thin-film coating, drive, vacuum, solar energy systems and advanced nanotechnology.