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## PRESS RELEASE

### Wittmann Battenfeld Richtfest in Meinerzhagen



Construction status of the sales and service center in Meinerzhagen on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Wittmann Battenfeld has entered a new era in Germany with a traditional Richtfest on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 celebrating the completion of the roof of their new 4,600 m<sup>2</sup> building in Meinerzhagen, Germany. Not unlike a Topping Off Ceremony for the last steel girders on a building, a Richtfest brings together all those involved in building a new facility and those that will benefit from it. Officials from the city of Meinerzhagen, other officials and invited guests, the building contractors, Wittmann Battenfeld personnel and Dr. Werner Wittmann were on hand to mark this very important event.

Given the fact that Meinerzhagen in Nordrhein-Westfalen is the birthplace of Battenfeld injection molding machines and that Germany has over 4,000 companies

in the plastics field, Wittmann Battenfeld has a lot to celebrate about. Germany is clearly without doubt one of the most important markets for injection molding machines, auxiliary equipment and fully automated systems.

Occurring simultaneously with the Richtfest celebration was the official naming of “Werner Battenfeld Street”, the street leading to the new facility named in recognition of the achievements as a pioneer in the then fledgling plastics technology and a highly respected citizen in the city of Meinerzhagen. The event was attended by Mrs. Margarethe Battenfeld, the widow of the late Werner Battenfeld who passed way in 1972, and their son Heinz Werner Battenfeld.



Inauguration of Werner Battenfeld Street (from left to right): Zoning Planner Gerhard Schriever, Heinz Werner Battenfeld, Mayor Pierlings, Margarethe Battenfeld, Dr. Werner Wittmann and Klaus Ehlig, Managing Director of Wittmann Battenfeld GmbH & Co KG.

Dr. Werner Wittmann remarked, “I have the highest respect for the lifetime achievements of this man. Werner Battenfeld was a technical genius and a dynamic entrepreneur. I am very proud that we can carry on our stationery the address of Werner Battenfeld Street.”

Wittmann Battenfeld GmbH & Co. KG, who joined the Wittmann Group in April 2008, serves as a sales and service organization not only for the German market but also

worldwide for the machinery previously manufactured in Meinerzhagen. Currently, they are located in rented offices of the former Battenfeld large tonnage production facility and will move in a couple of months a short distance to their own halls and office space in the new facility.



The Wittmann Battenfeld service team.

The new building for the sales and service subsidiary will include 2,600 m<sup>2</sup> for spare parts inventory, assembly and production of Airmould<sup>®</sup>, in addition to a 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> Technical Center and approximately 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> of office space. Completion is expected in stages with move-in to the production hall beginning the end of May followed by the Technical Center in August and the offices and all customer services by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Moving forward, Wittmann Battenfeld in Meinerzhagen is the central contact for customers and prospects in the German market for sales, customer service and technical support.

The new location will be responsible for the service and technical support of the larger tonnage machine range, formerly built in Meinerzhagen - both locally and internationally. This is enabled by the worldwide network of Wittmann companies, representatives and customers and through well trained service engineers with in-depth knowledge of the control technology, hydraulics and mechanics of the larger tonnage machines. A technical hotline is available to provide customers with immediate advice and support. Web-service and web-training are also available to ensure maximum machine uptime for customers.



Member of the hotline in conversation with customer.

Meinerzhagen has experienced engineers to review everything from design applications and retrofits to complete injection units for multi-component technology along with the associated modification and development of new controls technology. The implementation of the new B6 control for the locally manufactured Airmould® and Aquamould® has recently been completed. In addition, a team of engineers with many years of field experience in all areas of production are available to support customers locally and to provide machine and systems demonstrations.

A spare parts inventory for the larger tonnage machines is stocked according to worldwide demand and a well trained team is available to customers, Wittmann subsidiaries and representatives in the local markets. On average, more than 90% of the orders received in 2008 were shipped within 24 hours from time of order receipt. With the organization fully optimized for part procurement, inventory management and service requirements as well as subassembly, the new location is expected to produce even better results.



The spare parts team.

Separate to the above company, Wittmann Robot Systeme GmbH located in Schwaig and Groß-Umstadt, will continue its successful sales and service activities supplying robot systems, temperature controllers, material handling and central systems, as well as granulators, IML systems and complete automation work cells to the German plastics industry. Regional service technicians and sales engineers, familiar with the specific production of requirements of their customers, are located across Germany to provide complete product support.

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