

September 18, 2015

STIHL celebrates topping out of extension to engineering center

STIHL celebrated a milestone in the expansion of its engineering center at Plant 2, Waiblingen-Neustadt, with a topping out ceremony on September 18. The new building will add a floor area of 12,600 square meters to the existing facility. The total investment in the extension amounts to about EUR 30 million. The new building creates space for new development projects – including the development of environment-friendly corded and cordless electric products.

“The new engineering center provides an excellent basis for ensuring the continuing development of premium-quality STIHL products,” said Wolfgang Zahn, STIHL executive board member responsible for product development. The five-story building will accommodate new equipment rooms, laboratories, electric test bays and workshops for research and development. In addition, there will be conference rooms, offices and a new staff dining hall. In the course of the building works some 45,000 cubic meters of earth were excavated, 9,500 cubic meters of concrete poured and 850 metric tons of reinforcement steel installed. Advisory and supervisory board chairman Dr. Nikolas Stihl said: “This investment further strengthens our founding company. The heart of our research and development work will continue to beat here in Waiblingen.”

The groundbreaking ceremony for the extension building took place on May 20, 2014. Construction work started in November 2014. It is planned to have the building completed and opened in mid-May 2016. In spite of some extreme weather conditions the construction work has gone smoothly. STIHL executive board member Wolfgang Zahn thanked all those involved in the project: “It is thanks to your commitment that we are able to celebrate the topping out ceremony today and on schedule.”

Company Portrait

The STIHL Group develops, manufactures and distributes power tools for professional forestry and agriculture as well as for garden and landscape maintenance, the construction sector and the demanding private user. The range of garden power tools from VIKING complements the product line. Products are distributed exclusively through authorized dealers, including 36 sales and marketing subsidiaries, about 120 importers and more than 40,000 servicing dealers in over 160 countries. STIHL has been the world's top-selling chain saw brand since 1971. The company was founded in 1926 and is based in Waiblingen near Stuttgart. In 2014, STIHL achieved a worldwide sales volume of 2.98 billion euros with a workforce of 14,297.

This press release and pictures are available for downloading from the STIHL website at <http://www.stihl.de/tages-wirtschaftspresse.aspx>

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