

Waiblingen, October 12, 2015

### **STIHL factory in Qingdao, China, celebrates 10th anniversary**

The STIHL factory in Qingdao, China, celebrated its 10th anniversary on October 12, 2015. Dr. Nikolas Stihl, chairman of STIHL's advisory and supervisory boards, underscored the significance of the factory for the STIHL Group: "Our factory in Qingdao is an important member of our international manufacturing network. And it goes without saying that it also guarantees our time-proven premium quality *Made by STIHL*." The anniversary celebration was attended by about 150 guests, including representatives of the local government.

Dr. Bertram Kandziora, STIHL executive board chairman, praised the development of the factory since it was opened: "We started off with the production of models for the entry-level market. Since then the product line has been substantially broadened. Two years ago we were already able to celebrate the inauguration of the extension building together. That is a clear indication of STIHL Qingdao's success."

General manager Winfried Michels thanked the STIHL partners for their continued support and his staff for their great commitment since the factory was opened. The entire workforce of STIHL Qindao will celebrate the factory's anniversary at a staff party on October 13.

STIHL Qingdao employs 660 men and women and manufactures chain saws, trimmers, clearing saws and hedge trimmers for the world market. Coverage of the Chinese market is coordinated by the STIHL sales company in Taicang.

**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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