

Waiblingen, May 16, 2014

### **STIHL magnesium die casting facility opens extension in Prüm-Weinsheim**

STIHL's magnesium die casting plant opened a new production shop in Prüm-Weinsheim, Rhineland-Palatinate, on May 16, 2014. The extension represents a total investment of €4.9 million and provides 2,430 square meters of additional floor space for production and a warehouse for tools, jigs and molds. STIHL's advisory and supervisory board chairman, Dr. Nikolas Stihl, sees the new building as a further improvement in the efficiency of the plant: "Our magnesium die casting facility will continue to make a significant contribution to the success of the STIHL Group."

Expansion of capacities in production and warehouse space became necessary due to the company's positive growth. The new two-storey building was completed within only eleven months of the groundbreaking ceremony in July 2013 and offers 2,430 square meters of floor space, split into production, warehouse and office areas. This means that processes in Prüm-Weinsheim can now be further optimized. The building has been designed in such a way that parts of it can be converted into a foundry in the medium term should the need arise. At the inauguration ceremony, managing director Gerhard Eder thanked all those involved in the project and said: "Enlarging the warehouse and production areas is a clear sign of the Group's faith in Prüm-Weinsheim." A representative of the state government also attended the inauguration. "The new building is a symbol of STIHL's success story: In my function as secretary of state for economic affairs I am pleased about STIHL's investment, which is true business promotion for our state," said Uwe Hüser, secretary of state in the ministry for economic affairs, environmental protection, energy and planning in the state of Rhineland-Palatinate.

STIHL established its own foundry in Prüm-Weinsheim in 1971. Today, the company is regarded as a technology leader in the industry and is one of the biggest and most modern magnesium die casting plants in Europe. The 24,000 square meter plant with some 600 employees produces high quality magnesium components, not only for STIHL's own products but also for many renowned companies in the automobile, engineering and electrical industries.



STIHL is Germany's most attractive employer in the consumer durables sector. This was confirmed in the "Germany's Best Employer" survey performed by the Focus news magazine. STIHL came 37th in the overall rankings and was ranked number two in the engineering industry. STIHL is heavily committed to supporting young staff during their training and also in universities. The opportunity to be creative and having the freedom to develop one's own ideas are typical hallmarks of careers at STIHL.

### 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 34 marketing subsidiaries, about 120 importers and more than 40,000 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 2013, STIHL achieved a worldwide sales volume of 2.81 billion euros with a workforce of 13,844.

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

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