

Press release

21 September 2011

Second Cluster Meeting at Sumitomo (SHI) Demag's factory in Wiehe/Germany focuses on competence in precision injection moulding

## **Precision – The basis for zero-defect production**

**Sumitomo (SHI) Demag Plastics Machinery GmbH, a Japanese-German manufacturer of injection moulding machines with headquarters in Schwaig near Nuremberg, has invited customers, prospective customers and partner companies to a “Precision” Cluster Meeting at its Wiehe location on 22 September 2011. The European centre of competence for electric injection moulding machines is the ideal setting for exploring this complex topic. The event will highlight current developments for increasing productivity in injection moulding, as well as the electric machine IntElect series. Sumitomo (SHI) Demag expects to welcome 150 visitors.**

The Cluster Meeting will feature renowned speakers and sophisticated exhibits – all participants will have ample opportunities to gather information. Along with presenters from Sumitomo (SHI) Demag, speakers from Tyco and Forteq will report on precision and zero-defect production from a processor's viewpoint. Presentations by KuZ Leipzig (on precision injection moulding) and by Prof. Dr. Michael Koch from Ilmenau University of Technology (on future trends) round out the lecture programme.

“Precision is the absolute basis for zero-defect production,” Bernd Tröger, head of Marketing at Sumitomo (SHI) Demag since 1 August 2011, sums up the event. He also emphasises: “With our technologies, we are setting new standards in high-end precision manufacturing. This offers our customers a high level of process reliability. Any fluctuations in the production environment are compensated efficiently and dependably. No other machines on the market are as precise and simultaneously equipped with so many functionalities.”

Demag was always known for its high-precision machines. Today, the machine manufacturer additionally benefits from the advantages of Japanese drive technology. Since the merger of Sumitomo und Demag, four generations of all-electric IntElect machines have been developed. The fourth generation features excellent reproducibility and outstanding process capability values, the basis for zero-defect production. Extremely short sampling times of the axis controllers, thanks to “activeDynamics”, as well as the switchable “activeLock” non-return valve, boost process consistency further and perfect the provider’s injection moulding systems in terms of precision and repeat accuracy. This also holds true if multi-cavity moulds are used with “activeFlowBalance”, the screw is actively blocked for a defined time during the transition from injection to holding pressure. The melt expands in the cavities, ensuring balanced filling throughout.

**Cell for zero-defect production is the star of the all-electric exhibits**

Visitors can examine this level of perfection in five exhibits showcasing the electric IntElect series. Applications include medical engineering, automotive and electronics industries, as well as consumer goods. As a highlight, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag will present a fully automated cell using an IntElect 100 (1000 kN) for plug production, including a quality checking sequence for implementing zero-defect production. The four other exhibits will demonstrate micro injection moulding, optics, flexible automation, and cleanroom production. The smallest model in the IntElect series, an IntElect 50-45 with 500 kN clamping force, will be seen making control knobs for hearing aids (diameter 3.5 mm) in a cycle time of 10 seconds.

An IntElect 350-1700 (3500 kN) will produce light covers made of PMMA. Another 1000-kN version of the all-electric series will manufacture business card cases in a mini suitcase shape. In this flexible automation solution, a six-axis Kawasaki robot will also fill the cases with giveaways.

Last, but not least, visitors can watch an IntElect 160 (1600 kN) equipped with a laminar flow unit produce syringe cylinders weighing 1.25 g (shot weight 60.2 g) with a 48-cavity hot-runner mould.

Sumitomo (SHI) Demag implemented in five exhibits the production monitoring system from T.I.G. Technische Informationssysteme GmbH via Virtual Network Computing (VNC), directly in the injection moulding machine's control system. The T.I.G. master computer receives all of the machine's production and process data, making it possible to monitor and document every single production phase in detail.

**Sumitomo (SHI) Demag Plastics Machinery GmbH:  
company profile**

Sumitomo (SHI) Demag Plastics Machinery GmbH, Schwaig/Germany, is one of the world's largest manufacturers of injection moulding machines for the processing of plastics. The Japanese-German company was formed in the spring of 2008 by merging the injection moulding activities of Sumitomo Heavy Industries (SHI) and those of Demag Plastics Group.

The global development and production network of Sumitomo Heavy Industries and Sumitomo (SHI) Demag consists of four plants in Japan, Germany and China with more than 3,000 employees. The product portfolio encompasses all-electric, hydraulic and hybrid injection moulding machines with clamping forces of between 180 and 20,000 kN. With almost 100,000 machines installed, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag is present in all important markets throughout the world.

With more than 4,200 machines sold each year, Sumitomo Heavy Industries counts as Japan's largest manufacturer of injection moulding machines. The main Sumitomo plant in Chiba produces machines with low and medium clamping forces. Around 95 % of all machines supplied by Sumitomo Heavy Industries have an all-electric drive.

The main Demag facility in Schwaig/Germany focuses on the hydraulic Systec and the hybrid high performance, high-speed EI-Exis machines. Recognising the increasing importance of electric drive technology for injection moulding machines, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag has expanded the former Demag factory

in Wiehe/Germany into an international centre of competence for electric machines. Thanks to the new production capacities, Wiehe now supplies all electric injection moulding machines for the European and American market with its IntElect and SE series and also the hydraulic Systec series with clamping forces of up to 1,200 kN.

Sumitomo (SHI) Demag continues to operate the former Demag plant in Ningbo/China which has been active since 1999. Since 2007 the subsidiary located there, Demag Plastics Machinery (Ningbo) Co., Ltd, had its own, newly built plant and after reaching full capacity, moved to a larger factory with a production area of 11,000 sqm. Injection moulding machines from the Dragon and Systec C product lines with clamping forces of between 500 and 8,000 kN are produced here for Asian markets.

In addition to injection moulding machines, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag offers customised and standardised systems for the automated handling of moulded parts, technical solutions for special applications in process engineering, tailor-made service concepts and various forms of financing for investments in injection moulding machines.

With its seamless sales and service network of subsidiaries and representations, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag is present in all major industrial markets.

[www.sumitomo-shi-demag.eu](http://www.sumitomo-shi-demag.eu)

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<Technikum\_Wiehe>



*The upcoming "Precision" Cluster Meeting at the European centre of competence for electric injection moulding machines in Wiehe/Germany will focus on the IntElect series of electric machines.*

*Photo: Sumitomo (SHI) Demag*

<Bernd\_Tröger>



*Bernd Tröger, head of Marketing at Sumitomo (SHI) Demag since 1 August 2011: "Precision is the absolute basis for zero-defect production."  
Photo: Sumitomo (SHI) Demag*