

Press release

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Sumitomo (SHI) takes on the market crisis with 50 million Euro investment in injection moulding

Sumitomo to rearrange production: Wiehe to become a center of excellence for all-electric injection moulding machines

The Wiehe, Germany, based production facility of Sumitomo (SHI) Demag Plastics Machinery GmbH will be turned into a major manufacturing base for all-electric injection moulding machines within Sumitomo Heavy Industries. Besides the new all-electric *IntElect* for the European market, the Japanese-German IMM-manufacturer, with European headquarters in Schwaig near Nuremberg, will produce the Japanese *SE- machine range* as well.

The new designation of the Wiehe plant, that formerly produced hydraulic and all-electric machines up to clamping forces of 210 tons, falls in line with the global strategic reorganisation of production tasks within the Sumitomo Heavy Industries group.

“Focusing our traditional manufacturing base at Wiehe on all-electric injection moulding machines will help us be prepared for the revival of demand that will follow the current market crisis. There will be a strong and early demand for smaller all-electric injection moulding machines globally once the markets will recover.“, says Dr. Tetsuya Okamura, spokesperson for the management: „The benefits of the precision, productivity and energy efficiency of electric injection moulding machines appeal to our customers and the polymer processing community more than ever.“

To achieve the company's strategic and long –term goals of maintaining and strengthening the technological leadership Japanese parent company, Sumitomo Heavy Industries, has

decided to invest 50 million Euro into Sumitomo (SHI) Demag Plastics Machinery GmbH in Germany. „The objective of this strategic decision, which we have taken against the background of the current market crisis, is to maintain and to strengthen both Demag plants in Schwaig and Wiehe.“, Dr. Okamura explained.

Within the scope of the allocation of responsibilities in its new global production strategy, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag Plastics recently ended its joint venture agreement established with Larsen & Toubro in 1999, viz. L&T-Demag Plastics Machinery Ltd. of Chennai, India. As already announced in March 2008 Sumitomo Heavy Industries is proceeding to establish a subsidiary in India.

Company profile

Sumitomo-Demag has lastingly shaped the development of the plastics sector from the very beginning. As a specialist for injection moulding machines for polymer processing, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag and its Japanese parent company clearly rank among the leading firms of this sector.

At local bases in Germany, the USA, Japan and China, a workforce of more than 3,000 produces, serves and sells a wide range of all-electric, hybrid and hydraulic injection moulding machines with clamping forces from 180 kN through 20,000 kN. Sumitomo (SHI) Demag is represented globally in all industrialized regions by an extensive distribution and after-sales network.

In addition to injection moulding machines proper, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag offers its international customers sophisticated solutions for their specific requirements. This includes financing, technology and process design, complete automation systems and custom-made service philosophies.

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