

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Schlemmer Group acquires majority stake in injection molding specialist HOPPE**Global Player from Bavaria Extends Product Portfolio by Additional High-Precision Components**

Poing, April 03, 2014: On acquiring a 75-percent stake as of April 2014, the Schlemmer Group will become the majority partner of HOPPE Kunststoffspritzerei und Formenbau GmbH & Co. KG in Mahlow near Berlin. The agreement was signed in Menden on March 25.

HOPPE was founded in 1968 and currently employs 60 people. The company produces high-precision thermoplastic injection-molded parts – including multi-component products – as well as plastic-metal hybrids with inserts. As a supplier to the automotive and electrical industries with sales of €8.2 million (2013), HOPPE sells its products both in Germany and internationally. Production operations have so far exclusively been located at the Mahlow plant. On acquiring the stake in HOPPE, the Schlemmer Group has grown, now comprising 20 companies and 23 manufacturing sites.

In the course of the majority stake acquisition, the Schlemmer Group will be integrating HOPPE's entire product segment into its portfolio, leveraging the previously existing common ground in both companies' product offering, as a large number of HOPPE components already fit the corresponding Schlemmer air & fluid systems. Furthermore, the worldwide prestige of the "Made in Germany" quality tag is to underscore the value-added resulting from the amalgamation in the future global marketing activities of the innovative specialty components.

For Schlemmer Group's CEO Josef Minster, the acquisition of the interest in HOPPE constitutes an important expansion of the group's global product portfolio. "The integration of HOPPE into our Schlemmer Group is a win-win situation for all the stakeholders – particularly our customers. Merging the two product portfolios makes our global offering even more comprehensive than before. This means we are jointly making further strides towards value-added partnerships for our customers," Minster said.

Martin Liefländer, Managing Shareholder of HOPPE, emphasizes the high strategic benefit of the amalgamation. "The global presence of the Schlemmer Group will allow us to jointly benefit from existing national customer relationships with system suppliers in the automotive industry and other industrial segments also on an international scale. This makes the acquisition of the stake an important step towards securing existing and creating new jobs at HOPPE," Liefländer said.

Dipl.-Ing- Martin Liefländer, who has been the company's CEO since 2001, will continue to run the business at HOPPE. Future strategic goals will be defined and put into action together with the Schlemmer Group's management in a spirit of partnership.

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About Schlemmer

The Schlemmer Group employs more than 2,000 people in 37 countries worldwide and in 2013 generated sales of more than €240 million. At 23 stationary manufacturing sites and one mobile production facility, the company develops, produces and sells its traditional range of cable protection systems for automotive and industrial applications, consisting of corrugated, smooth and protective tubes, manifolds and end caps, as well as customized cable ducts and cable conduits. Connection systems with gland technology, mechatronic systems with probes and sensors, air and fluid systems with conveying lines, as well as electrical installation systems with connector sockets and junction boxes are additional business segments. Schlemmer ecotech with solar absorbers and energy fence solutions is fully focused on environmental technology.

Additional information: www.schlemmer.com and www.schlemmer-ecotech.com

Schlemmer Group on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/schlemmer.group>

About HOPPE

HOPPE produces high-precision plastic injection-molded parts from all types of engineering plastics – including multi-component products – as well as plastic-metal hybrids with inserts. The molds required for manufacturing the parts are developed and made in-house. The company focused on serving the automotive industry was founded in Berlin in 1968 and acquired by the current management as part of a succession arrangement. At its location in Mahlow near Berlin, HOPPE generated sales of €8.2 million in 2013.

Additional information: www.hoppe-berlin.com