

## Press release

### **BENTELER opens its new production hall at Schwandorf location**

- **BENTELER expands its production area in Schwandorf by approximately 50 percent to expand the growth field of electro-mobility in Germany.**
- **BENTELER uses the lightweight expertise in the Schwandorf plant and produces battery trays in Germany for the first time.**
- **BENTELER is further expanding its competence as a full-service provider of system solutions for electro-mobility and is using important new market opportunities.**

**Schwandorf/Paderborn, October 13, 2018.** On October 13, 2018, BENTELER opened its new production hall in Schwandorf. BENTELER Automotive is expanding its production and site area at the Schwandorf location by approximately 50 percent. We employ more than 600 colleagues at the site: The plant in Schwandorf is one of the largest employers in the area. The expansion is set to be completed by the end of 2018, production is expected to begin in 2019.

Around 650 employees and their relatives were invited to the opening. In addition, representatives of the district, the city of Schwandorf and partner companies and neighbors of the plant participated in the celebrations.

"We are proud to produce the battery tray for the new generation of electric vehicles from a well-known OEM here in Schwandorf," says plant manager Helmut Ascher. "Aluminum is a lightweight metal and therefore plays an important role in the manufacture of battery trays. Especially in the processing of this material, our team has a high level of expertise. "

The plant proves two things at once: BENTELER's competence in the segment of complex light-weight solutions. And its innovative ability with regard to electro-mobility: For BENTELER, the contract marks the entry into the production of battery trays in Germany. Globally, we are the manufacturer of every tenth battery tray. In Europe even every second.

As part of the opening program, the guests were able to take a look behind the scenes of modern production with the help of established stations and demo companies: The new machine outfit uses Industry 4.0 solutions. Among other things, the company's teams will be able to read out machine data in real time (Conditioned Monitoring) to remain aware of a

machine's condition at all times. This will permit early detection of malfunctions, allowing the teams to take preventative measures accordingly. The required IT structure for using solutions such as these was included in the plan from the very start of construction.

Photos and image captions:

group.jpg

f. l.: Thomas Ebeling, County Council district Schwandorf; Markus Zapf, Works Council Chairman Schwandorf, Helmut Ascher, Plant Manager Schwandorf, both BENTELER Automotive; Andreas Feller, Mayor Schwandorf; Martin Weidlich, Executive Vice President Region Western Europe, BENTELER Automotive.

battery-tray-detailed-view-close-up

Aluminum as a lightweight metal plays a major role in the production of battery trays.

battery-tray-blue-collars.jpg

The battery tray for the new generation of electric vehicles from a well-known OEM will be produced in Schwandorf from 2019.

erweiterung\_schwandorf.JPG

In Schwandorf, BENTELER Automotive is expanding its production area by around 50 percent with the new hall.

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## **About BENTELER**

BENTELER is a leading global company that develops, produces and sells products, systems and services for the automotive, energy and engineering sectors. We are a family-owned firm now in the fourth generation. Our 30,000 employees at 153 locations in 40 countries are passionate about excellence in manufacturing and distribution - in close proximity and collaboration with our customers. Sales in 2016 amounted to 7,423 Million Euros.

The three Business Divisions BENTELER Automotive, BENTELER Steel/Tube and BENTELER Distribution are organized under the strategic management holding company BENTELER International AG in Salzburg, Austria. With our technological expertise and strong focus on successful implementation, we develop solutions that make the difference – for customers, employees and society.

And we make them happen.

[www.benteler.com](http://www.benteler.com)  

## **About BENTELER Automotive**

BENTELER Automotive is the strategic development partner for automotive manufacturers with a high level of innovation skills and problem-solving expertise. With about 24,000 employees and 72 plants in 25 countries, we develop tailored solutions for our customers: Our products include automotive system solutions and modules for chassis, body, engine and exhaust systems as well as systems for electric vehicles.