

## Press Release

### **BENTELER opens fifth plant in the Czech Republic**

- **On April 12, local government representatives, customers and suppliers celebrated the official opening in Klášterec nad Ohří together with BENTELER Management and plant employees.**
- **New Automotive plant perfectly matches the growth strategy for Eastern Europe.**
- **Production in Klášterec is focused on hot-forming, blanking, welding and laser-cutting solutions for key customers Volvo, BMW, Škoda Auto, and Daimler.**

Paderborn/Klášterec nad Ohří, April 12, 2018: On April 12, BENTELER Automotive opened a new component plant in Klášterec nad Ohří, Czech Republic. Representatives of the local government, customers and suppliers attended the opening ceremony together with the BENTELER Management and local employees. Stefan Drozd, Mayor of Klášterec nad Ohří, also joined the celebration on site.

With this new plant in Klášterec, the Company is further strengthening its customer proximity and optimally matching customers' demands in the region. The fifth plant in the Czech Republic was first put into operation at the end of 2017. Production is focused on hot-forming of steel parts, blanking, welding and laser-cutting for the key customers Volvo, BMW, Škoda Auto and Daimler. The site covers an area of 130,000 square meters, of which 23,000 square meters will be used as the shop floor for the first production phase. The new plant has created an additional 300 jobs so far, increasing to 400 by the end of 2018.

“The district of Klášterec is known for its mechanical engineering industry and is located in the immediate vicinity of our target customers. We are looking forward to intensifying our collaboration with them and developing solutions which we will implement locally in accordance with their needs,” says Petr Marijczuk, Executive Vice President for the Region North/Eastern Europe BENTELER Automotive.

BENTELER Automotive has been in business in the Czech Republic for more than 20 years. Besides the site in Klášterec, the Company already operates four plants in the Czech Republic, at Liberec, Chrastava, Rumburk, and Jablonec. In the entire Region North/Eastern Europe BENTELER employs more than 5,000 people, with 2,200 working in the Czech Republic.

Photos and captions:

Strategic\_Development\_Partner.jpg:

BENTELER Automotive is the strategic development partner for car manufacturers with a high level of innovation and problem-solving skills.

Hotformingline.jpg:

Looking at a hot forming line: BENTELER Automotive mainly produces components made of hot-formed steel and aluminum.

Digitalization.jpg:

BENTELER has been investing in innovation management for years and is driving forward digitalization.

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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 144 locations in 39 countries are passionate about excellence in manufacturing and distribution - in close proximity and collaboration with our customers. Sales in 2017 amounted to 7,856 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.

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**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 26,000 employees and 75 plants in 24 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.