

## Press release

### **Benteler Automotive opens new production plant in Jiading (Shanghai) and relocates Asia Pacific Headquarter**

*Jiading/Paderborn/Salzburg, April 2013.* – By mid-April Benteler Automotive hosted a grand opening ceremony for its new production plant and Asia Pacific Headquarter, located in Jiading (Shanghai), at the presence of the Chairman of the Executive Board of Benteler International AG, Hubertus Benteler, the Secretary of the Jiading Industrial Committee, Yu Jian Hua, and other important authorities.

In an area of approx. 45.000 m<sup>2</sup>, the new site hosts a press shop, equipped with a decoiling press line and transfer presses for the production of high complex automotive steel stampings, and a welding shop dedicated to the production of chassis parts for local and international OEMs in the automotive business. The site hosts as well a five stores office facility, new home of Benteler Automotive Asia Pacific HQ, including engineering, development and commercial teams. More than 500 employees will work at the site.

The 35 million Euro investment represents an important milestone in Benteler Automotive's development in China and in the Asia Pacific Region. "This strategic plant in Jiading adds another important dimension to Benteler Automotive's supply portfolio, improving the vertical integration of our product families to our local customers supplying lightweight, high strength steel stampings to our assembly and welding plants throughout China. This investment will support the further growth of Benteler Automotive in China which mirrors the rapid growth in China and its automotive market" said Hubertus Benteler, Chairman of the Executive Board of Benteler Internation AG.

"The choice of Jiading as location of this important investment is based on some key advantages this location can bring to our business. Including excellent infrastructures and investment conditions, its focus on the automotive sector, the multiple logistic networks to our customers and our plants in China and the continuous support received ensured by Jiading development zone group", added Mr. Yee Hee Koh, Executive Vice President Asia Pacific.

### **About Benteler**

The Benteler Group is a global enterprise. Under the strategic management holding Benteler International AG the operative business is organized in three legally independent division – Benteler Automotive, Benteler Stahl/Rohr and Benteler Distribution. The Company can look back to more than 130 years of success since its beginnings in Bielefeld, Germany in 1876. Owned by the fourth generation of its founding family, the Benteler Group currently employs a total workforce of about 30.000 people at 170 sites in 38 countries.

Benteler activities in China began almost ten years ago in the form of a joint venture with Shanghai Huizhong Automotive Company, a business partnership that still successfully continues to expand to this day. In 2005 a second successful joint venture has been established in Changchun, with Changchun Changrui Auto Press Parts Company. The first wholly owned foreign entity, Benteler Automotive Shanghai started its activities in Qingpu (Shanghai) in 2007. In recent years, Benteler Automotive expanded rapidly to serve multiple customers across China, setting up new facilities in Fuzhou (2008), Chongqing (2011), Wuhu (2012), and Changshu starting operations this year.

Further information at [www.benteler.com](http://www.benteler.com)

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