

Press release

BENTELER further expands growth field of electro-mobility in Germany

- **BENTELER Automotive expands production area in Schwandorf by approximately 50 percent.**
- **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, March 02, 2018. The groundbreaking ceremony for the expansion was held on March 02, 2018. 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.

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 the company, 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.

Ralf Göttel, CEO BENTELER Group, explains: "We are systematically implementing our Group Strategy 2022. Here we have defined three priorities: the further development of the core business, targeted growth and a performance-oriented corporate culture. In a saturated market such as Germany, we are investing primarily in innovative technologies, such as the expansion of our electro-mobility business."

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 is included in the plan from the very start of construction.

Photos and image captions:

Visualization_Schwandorf.jpg:

BENTELER is further expanding the growth field of electro-mobility in Germany and is expanding its production and site area at the Schwandorf location by approximately 50 percent.

Groundbreaking_Schwandorf.jpg:

Together started the groundbreaking ceremony for the location expansion in Schwandorf (f.l.): Max Licha, Ewald Liebl, both Goldbeck Ost GmbH; Helmut Ascher, Plant Manager Schwandorf BENTELER Automotive; Andreas Feller, Mayor Schwandorf; Thomas Ebeling, County Council district Schwandorf; Ralf Hoffmann, Customer Line Director BENTELER Automotive

Contact:

BENTELER International AG

Birgit Held

Vice President Corporate Communications/Marketing

Salzburg, Austria

Phone: +43 662 2283-101040 / Mobile: +43 664 88361890

Email: public.relations@benteler.com

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.

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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 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.