

Car crisis reaches ebm-papst location in St. Georgen

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Mulfingen/St. Georgen

The massive sales crisis on the car markets has reached the St. Georgen subsidiary of the world's leading manufacturer of fans and motors, ebm-papst.

Owing to the significant slump in orders, Management and the Works Council have agreed to introduce short-time working from 01 March 2009. This measure will affect employees at the two locations of St. Georgen and Herbolzheim.

"We are using the instrument of short-time working to safeguard existing jobs", explained Dirk Schallock, Managing Director of ebm-papst St. Georgen GmbH & Co.KG. Nevertheless, the existing employment contracts of limited duration will be allowed to run their term, Schallock continued.

In the last fiscal year, the ebm-papst subsidiary achieved a turnover of 264 million Euro. Production is mainly of fans and drive motors for the automotive and IT/telecommunication sectors. At the St. Georgen and Herbolzheim locations, the technology company currently employs 1,566 people.

Despite decreasing incoming orders, the locations of Mulfingen and Landshut, which are part of the ebm-papst Group (1.076 billion EUR turnover / approx. 10,000 employees (fiscal year 07/08)), are currently not affected by short-time working. In contrast to the car industry, demand in the environmental and heating technology sector is still sufficient.

"How the world-wide economic crisis will affect ebm-papst is at the moment hardly foreseeable", said Hans-Jochen Beilke, Chairman of the Board of Management of the ebm-papst Group. "At present, our commitment in the area of especially low-energy fans and our broad market base are having a positive effect", Beilke continued.

The duration of short-time working at ebm-papst St. Georgen is initially set for 6 months.

About ebm-papst

The ebm-papst Group is the world's leading manufacturer of fans and motors, and is a pacemaker for the ultra-efficient EC technology. In the last fiscal year, 2007/2008, the company achieved a turnover of 1,076 billion Euro. ebm-papst employs nearly 10,000 employees at 17 production facilities (including those in Germany, China and the USA) and 57 sales offices world-wide. Products of the global market leader are represented in many industries, including ventilation, air-conditioning and refrigeration technology, household appliances, heating engineering, in IT/telecommunications applications as well as those in automotive and commercial vehicle engineering.

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