

German Federal Minister of Economics visits ebm-papst's stand at the IAA trade fair

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Today, German Federal Minister for Economics and Technology Dr Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg visited the world market leader in efficient fans and motors while touring the IAA automotive trade fair. He learned that for the medium-sized company, technical progress and environmental protection have been an inseparable whole for years.

Dirk Schallock, Managing Director of ebm-papst St. Georgen, the company's location responsible for automotive, presented new developments and concepts for issues relevant to the industry's future, such as hybrid technology, emission reduction and decreasing CO2 emissions, to the German Federal Minister of Economics. Schallock presented products such as an innovative hybrid battery ventilation system, a fuel cell fan, cooling systems for LED headlights and newly developed pump drives for exhaust gas treatment.

Dr zu Guttenberg expressed his enthusiasm for ebm-papst's tremendous innovative strength in the areas of energy efficiency, safety, comfort and convenience. Schallock told the Minister that from ebm-papst's viewpoint, in the medium term, money could only be made with "green" energy saving products. This has led to a single objective for his some 500 engineers and technicians at the German Research and Development locations in Mulfingen, St. Georgen and Landshut: every new product has to be more efficient than the model that precedes it.

Using an EC HyBlade fan as an example, he demonstrated the sustainability shown by ebm-papst in the area of environmental management. "About three out of ten power plants could be shut down with immediate effect if all motors and fans, without exception, were to be replaced with energy saving EC motors and EC fans", stated the Managing Director of the St. Georgen-based subsidiary. Not only that, but these electronically controlled products also lower clients' operating costs considerably, and they are easier to control, considerably quieter and clearly more reliable than conventional motors and fans. Even today, EC products represent over 50% of the ebm-papst group's turnover, which corresponds to some half a billion EUR.

The company, which won the 2008 Environmental Prize of the State of Baden-Wuerttemberg and, in addition to its products, also practices consistent, sustainable environmental protection management in its plants and processes, had been selected for the Minister's visit thanks to the initiative of Member of the Bundestag Siegfried Kauder (CDU).

Pictured (from left to right): German Federal Minister for Economics and Technology Dr Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg, Member of the Bundestag Siegfried Kauder (CDU), Dirk Schallock, Managing Director of ebm-papst St. Georgen

About the ebm-papst group

The ebm-papst Group is the world's leading manufacturer of fans and motors and is a pioneer and a pacesetter for ultra-efficient EC technology. In the fiscal year 08/09, the company achieved a turnover of 1.056 billion EUR. ebm-papst employs nearly 9,500 employees at 17 production sites (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.

About ebm-papst St. Georgen

ebm-papst St. Georgen GmbH & Co. KG is renowned as a pioneer and trend-setter in the world of fans and specialises in intelligent solutions in the area of small drives. In the last fiscal year 08/09, the company, which belongs to the ebm-papst group, attained a turnover of 233 million EUR. The St. Georgen and Herbolzheim locations in Germany's Black Forest region employ some 1,500 people. The primary industries include automotive, mechanical engineering and IT/telecommunications.