

Frech Strengthens World-Market Position by Acquiring MW Die Casting Technology

Schorndorf, 08.11.2007 – Oskar Frech GmbH + Co. KG, the global market leader in the production of hot chamber die casting machines, has taken over the die casting business of Mueller Weingarten AG.

Frech has developed continuously since it was founded by Oskar Frech in 1949 and in recent years has been established by Wolfgang Frech as a well-known supplier of die casting technology throughout the world, with a network of subsidiaries in Europe, Asia and America.

The acquisition contributes to Frech's planned strategy for the growth of the family-owned company. Until now its cold chamber department has built machines up to a locking force of 23.000kN, but the integration of Mueller Weingarten's product range extends its capability up to 52.000kN. It will also provide important synergies, especially with respect to process technology. All parties concerned agreed to observe secrecy about the purchase amount.

The company's new portfolio offers Zinc, Magnesium and Aluminium die casters solutions for die castings from the smallest to the largest, such as engine blocks and car body components. Engineering, prototyping, fully automated casting cells, die casting dies for each machine type, customer-oriented training programmes and a world-wide service network complete the profile.

The acquisition strengthens Frech's position in the world market, equipping it to meet the demands of the die casting industry with innovative and patented products in the hot as well as the cold chamber field, an improved presence in growth markets like Brazil, Russia, India and China, and an extension of its world-wide service network. "The amalgamation of these two companies ensures the production in Germany for many years to come," said Dr. Ioannis Ioannidis, President and CEO of Oskar Frech GmbH + Co. KG.

Contact Details:

*Oskar Frech GmbH + Co. KG, Schorndorfer Straße 32, D-73614 Schorndorf-Weiler
Kathrin Doster, Tel: (07181) 702-256, Fax: (07181) 75430, e-mail: doster.kathrin@frech.com*