P R E S S R E L E A S E

A Complete In-House Value Added Chain

Oskar Lehmann GmbH, the injection moulding and metal engineering company, is a finalist in the "Großer Preis des Mittelstandes", a German competition for medium-sized companies which rewards outstanding work in the field of innovations, a company's role as an employer as well as social commitment.

The participants in the "Großer Preis des Mittelstandes" competition represent the best parts of what makes the social market economy what it is. They are also regarded as the dynamic, productive and essential heart of the German economy. Oskar Lehmann GmbH & Co. KG is one of the 2017 finalists. The injection moulding and metal engineering company based in North-Rhine Westphalia, Germany was selected by the jury and now receives an "award with first class honours" as Barbara Stamm, President of the Bavarian State Parliament, calls it

Healthy medium-sized companies, a strong economy, more jobs. This is the motto that the Oskar Patzelt Foundation uses each year when it looks for outstanding medium-sized companies from the fields of industry, service provision, trade, manual skills and trade. This is because companies are frequently only known on a regional basis or in niche markets. They are "hidden champions" who have earned far more recognition. The "Große Preis des Mittelstandes" award gives such unique companies more attention – under this year's motto of "Respect and Attention" within the context of the 23rd edition of the competition.

A greater level of awareness for hidden champions

The competition finalists represent corporate dedication within Germany. The fact that Oskar Lehmann GmbH & Co. KG is now one of the finalists can be attributed to many factors: For over 55 years, the company has offered a comprehensive standard range of technical plastic parts for the furniture segment. Not only that, the company also offers customer-specific products for the automotive sector, the field of measurement and control technology as well as the electrical industry and medical engineering segment. From an idea to the delivery of the finished article: The complete value added chain is processed in-house.

Securing the company's innovative strength

The company based in Donop, close to Blomberg, processes over 2,000 tonnes of thermoplastics every year. Boasting over 25,000 various articles in twelve product groups, the company is undisputedly one of the leading manufacturers of technical plastic parts. An in-house Development and Design Department ensures the innovative strength of the company.

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

"We could have never imagined winning an award the very first time. To begin with, we were completely surprised, speechless and emotionally moved", said Managing Director, Melanie Lehmann, who accepted the award as part of the celebrations at the Oskar Patzelt award ceremony in Düsseldorf. She went on to emphasise how the award is a great honour and how it confirms the passionate dedication and loyalty of the entire team.

As the only economic award in Germany, it is not only business management, innovations or jobs that have been evaluated; companies as a whole and in their complex role in society have been assessed since 1994. The award winners and finalists are selected by twelve regional juries and a final jury. "The whole team is responsible for this success. Our employees have not just been working for us for a long time, they also greatly identify with the company", said Ms Lehmann. She also explained how it is primarily the people that have sustainably influenced the success of the company and have significantly characterised positive developments.

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Company information

Oskar Lehmann founded the company in 1961 in order to manufacture injection moulding machines himself. The production of in-house plastic parts was initially a side business.
The surprisingly high demand from the furniture industry led to the company switching its focus to the production of plastic parts.

With its 187 employees, Oskar Lehmann GmbH & Co. KG is today the leading plastic supplier to the furniture industry with a primary focus on office and property furniture. On 98 machines, the company produces various technical plastic products on a 3-shift basis. Alongside the classic injection moulding technology, the company also utilises special processes (2K-technology, metal overmoulding, GID). In order to do so, the company utilises injection moulding tools that are developed and built in the in-house Tool Construction Department. Metallisation, printing, painting and a comprehensive assembly service rounds off the range of services offered by the company. The market-oriented logistics enable the company to quickly and flexibly react to the market requirements.

The company has registered 18 patents and 36 registered designs. Close cooperations with the Ostwestfalen-Lippe University of Applied Sciences, the University of Kassel, Hanover IfBB – Institute for Bioplastics and Biocomposites and the WBA Tooling Academy Aachen ensure technical exchanges of expertise and joint research projects.

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20 apprentices in seven disciplines are currently training at the company. The company is also involved in the Lippe Chamber of Commerce and Industry location campaign in order to improve the industrial image and strengthen the home region. The Oskar Lehmann GmbH & Co. KG supports the "Fruchtalarm" children's cancer project and the "Storchennest" children's nursery with donations and also makes regular donations to the German Children's Fund.

Whether offering flexitime, home-office options or family support, uniting family and work is extremely important to the company. Therefore, the individual situations of the employees are taken into account and various support measures and offers are established.

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