

Press Release

E-Mobility and digitalization - Minister President Stephan Weil visits STÜKEN



Rinteln, April 14th, 2021 - As a partner for new developments in e-mobility and as a driver of digitalization with its Production System 4.0, deep drawing specialist STÜKEN has its finger on the pulse. Lower Saxony's Minister President Stephan Weil wanted to get an idea of this on site. During a tour of the production facilities at the headquarters of the globally positioned company, he learned about the innovative products STÜKEN is currently working on and the challenges that must be overcome together.

The German Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) supports nine regions in Germany to become leaders in the production and use of hydrogen as an environmentally friendly energy carrier. The district of Schaumburg is the only region in Lower Saxony included in this program. The results of the "HyStarter" project were now presented by District Administrator Jörg Farr in the presence of the Minister President. A first local project was also presented.

The delegation then moved from Stadthagen to Rinteln, from theory to practice. At the STÜKEN Group's headquarters, the delegation was welcomed by Managing Directors Dr. Hubert Schmidt and Dr. Uwe Krismann and Works Council Chairman Peter Mrasek. STÜKEN employs 1250 people worldwide at five locations in Europe, Asia and America. "Most of our products are used in motor vehicles. As a development partner, we are involved in new technologies at a very early stage," explains Dr. Hubert Schmidt. "It was more than ten years ago that we developed first components for electromobility with our customers. In the meantime, we have become a strategic supplier for these customers." And demand is growing, for example for deep-drawn copper alloy components with functional surface coatings. Shielding to improve functional safety and to increase efficiency are currently key factors for electromobility. Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) must be incorporated into product development and design at an early stage. "We offer solutions that always focus on the customer's requirements. If desired, we also take care of module assembly."

At the end of the company tour, Dr. Uwe Krismann explained the status of the transformation in-house: "We are working at full speed on the implementation of our STÜKEN Production System 4.0. It is about the design of a state-of-the-art production with the best ergonomics, lean intralogistics, high productivity and zero-defect quality. We create a smart factory with a high degree of automation and digitalization." With these and other measures, STÜKEN pursues one major goal: "We want to make the Rinteln site fit for the future, secure jobs – long term - and create new ones if possible." However, the economic-political framework conditions in Germany and the region also play a role in this. In his conversation with the Minister President, Dr. Hubert Schmidt also addressed the challenges that can only be overcome by working together. "Industrial companies in Germany are facing ever greater special burdens, be it the immense increase in electricity costs or the new CO₂ tax. Bureaucratic requirements are also increasing unceasingly. The planned Supply Chain Act has great potential for creating new bureaucratic burdens. If we want to secure Germany as a business location, we must not overburden medium-sized companies like STÜKEN. Politicians must set the course carefully."

About STÜKEN

Founded in 1931, STÜKEN is today considered the world's leading supplier of precision deep-drawn metal parts. The product range also includes stamped and formed parts, plastic injection molded components, and sophisticated assemblies. The products can be found in a wide range of applications from household appliances to fittings, in computers, cell phones, medical devices and motor vehicles. Statistically, every car sold worldwide contains around 40 STÜKEN components. The family-owned company, headquartered in Rinteln, Germany, and with subsidiaries in the USA, the Czech Republic and China, employs around 1,250 people and generated sales of 178 million euros in 2020.

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