

## PRESS RELEASE

---

### **Witzenmann Benelux grows**

**Witzenmann Benelux formally celebrates its expansion with a two-day event. The production area could be expanded significantly by purchasing the developed bordering property. A newly created building extension incorporates the logistics department and connects the original and new building section. In the course of the expansion, the entire production layout was rearranged and the processes were adapted to the latest requirements and designed even more efficiently.**

Witzenmann Benelux is a subsidiary of the internationally established Witzenmann Group with its headquarters in Pforzheim, Germany. 24 subsidiaries in 19 countries in Europe, America and Asia develop and produce flexible metallic elements for vehicle construction, industry and aerospace. With the invention of the flexible metal hose, the company founder, Heinrich Witzenmann, 1885 provided the decisive boost for founding a completely new industrial sector for flexible metal elements. Even today, the company is in the fifth generation under the management of the founding family and is rated as the global market leader in the sector and preferred development partner of its customers.

### **Long-standing partnership with Witzenmann**

Founded under the name of Vadeb in 1969, the Belgian company already took over the representation and sales of Witzenmann products in 1970 and from 1977 it also took over the assembling of flexible metal hoses supplied by Witzenmann.

From the very beginning, service orientation, closeness to customers in the engineering and construction industry, heavy industry as well as ship building and port engineering were paramount. Apart from distributing the entire product range of the German global market leader for flexible metallic elements, Vadeb distinguished itself with further manufacturing and services. Thus, since the beginning of the 1990s the company has been able to build up solidly-based expertise in hose bending and the connection of flexible and rigid pipeline sections. Today, Witzenmann Benelux is now among the most sought-after providers in this field.

### **Continuous further development**

When the company founder André Van den Bogaert died in 1989, his son Lucas as well as Luc Van Vossolle took over the management.

The following years were characterized by sustained growth in business activity. This went hand in hand with new inspirations, innovations, service and product ideas as well as an urgent need for new, larger premises. In 1999, the company moved to its present location in Ter Stratenweg in Oelegem-Ranst.

## PRESS RELEASE

---

The Witzenmann Group had previously held a participating interest in the company that now operated under the name of Vadeb-Witzenmann. In 2002, there was a change in management for reasons of age. Luc Van Vossole retired from the executive management. He was succeeded by Wilfried Van Esbroeck. The company has operated under the name of Witzenmann Benelux since 2011 and became a 100 % subsidiary of the Witzenmann Group in 2017.

### **Production expanded and optimized**

The Witzenmann Group is following an ambitious growth strategy by setting ambitious targets, to which Witzenmann Benelux has made a significant contribution.

At the now expanded location, Witzenmann Benelux created the manufacturing and organizational basis for its ambitious further development within the global group of companies.

In the field of welding, the Witzenmann Group in general and the Belgian subsidiary in particular have distinctive expertise. In the course of expanding the site, the classic, semi-automatic TIG process was extended to include an orbital welding unit. In addition, a fully automated welding robot was installed (MAG welding process)

Through the establishment of installations for dry tests and helium leak tests Witzenmann Benelux can now offer the entire package necessary for test and inspection requirements.

By extending and optimizing the cleaning systems and processes Witzenmann Benelux will be able to meet the growing demands for the technical cleanliness of parts and components.

### **Great team spirit**

Witzenmann Benelux can also take credit for growth in relation to the workforce. In the last 5 years alone, the number has increased by around 50% in the meantime to 200 employees.

The Managing Director, Wilfried Van Esbroeck is looking towards the future with great expectations and confidence: "Through the expansion of the site and substantial investments we are ideally prepared to meet future challenges. In the future, too, we will continue to focus on our service orientation and closeness to customers. Our success is due largely to our motivated workforce and outstanding team spirit, which we are all rightly proud of."

### **Media contact:**

Witzenmann GmbH  
Jochen Geiger  
Östliche Karl-Friedrich-Str. 134  
75175 Pforzheim

## PRESS RELEASE

---

Germany

Tel. +49 (0) 72 31 - 581 - 745

Fax +49 (0) 72 31 - 581 - 820

E-Mail: [jochen.geiger@witzenmann.com](mailto:jochen.geiger@witzenmann.com)

### **The Witzenmann Group**

The Witzenmann Group is the world's leading manufacturer of flexible metal hoses, expansion joints, metal bellows and automotive components. Around 4,300 employees at 24 companies in 19 different countries develop and produce tailor-made solutions for customers from all branches of industry. Witzenmann is a global technological leader within its sector and offers both an extensive product range and broad expertise in the field of flexible metallic pipeline elements.