

Remscheid, October 2009

## **150 Years of Innovation and Ambitious Goals: August Blecher KG Celebrates its Anniversary**

Dear ladies and gentlemen,

Industrial mid-sized companies just as well have not been accustomed to too many good news during the current time of economic crisis. All the more we are pleased being able to report about an anniversary that is a foremost proof for chances arising from high quality goals, corporate accountability and motivated and qualified employees: on October 1st August Blecher KG, experts for premium saw blades and circular knives located in Remscheid, Germany looks back to 150 years company history.

As a family owned and managed business in the 5th generation now, August Blecher KG has demonstrated successful endeavor of each owner generation to jointly grow the company together with its staff members.

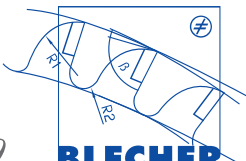
The progression of the past 25 years alone has been an obvious example for that: having joined the company in 1986, I could accomplish together with my brother Hermann Blecher the relocation to its current location in 1990, a site well prepared for dynamic growth because of its size and constitution. Prior to Hermann quitting August Blecher KG for health reasons and in the course of the German re-unification, my brother and I founded the company "BE-Maschinenmesser Ost-Berlin" in 1991. Already in 2000 when "BST Blecher Sägeblatt-Technologie" was established, the built up and expansion of Tungsten Carbide Tipped circular saw blades production was added. Also in 2000 Messrs. Carl Rudolf Berger (CARUBE) were acquired by 100% to absorb laser cutting technology which has been further developed continuously since then. The shares of BE-Maschinenmesser GmbH & Co. KG were disassociated from Blecher KG, however.

The acquisition of the renowned company "Dortmunder Industriesägen (DIS)" in 2005 completed our range significantly: the manufacturing of hot and cold cutting circular saw blades particularly with diameters up to 2500 mm has perfectly matched with our program. And last year 2008 not only brought a change of the legal form from August Blecher GmbH & Co. KG to August Blecher KG but also represented the absolute record year of 150 years company history: thousands of tons of material were converted to an all time unsurpassed number of saw blades.

In addition to 5 owner generations having acted along business lines, particularly staff members contributed to that success. Management and staff have co-operated with confidence and efficiency, today as in the past. One of our major objectives has always been to gain qualified employees - or better collaborators - with a high degree of motivation to fill their task.

This very moment of a proud jubilee makes us aware how much even today entrepreneurial middle class and its values are concurrently driving and assuring consistency within a modern economic system characterized by change and ever shorter planning periods. Above all, however, our anniversary is an important reason to say thank you so much to all of our esteemed business partners for your high degree of loyalty and the always good co-operation. We are pleased to see that in particular mid-sized businesses continue to request good quality product and that an enjoyable business co-operation still represents a true value.





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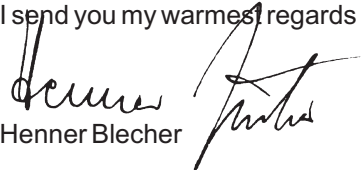
*150 Jahre Blecher*

For all of us, staff and myself, that implies the motivation to keep on with our ambitious objectives and quality consciousness as the most important criteria. To face your challenges and requirements are natural definition of our job.

We may certainly take a proud look back on such an occasion. But particularly during a difficult business year like 2009 we don't want to detain with this, but confidently work for the future development of the company. A glittering celebration, therefore, doesn't appear to be adequate, instead we prefer to share our pleasure about the successful company history with those, who badly lack our help and support: with an appropriate donation to a welfare organization.

The entire Blecher team and I are looking forward to a continuously successful and future-oriented co-operation. For all of us we are hoping for the same kind of confidence, energy and corporate courage that has helped the mid-sized economy to significantly contribute to the success of our region and our country.

I send you my warmest regards



Henner Blecher