



Press release

AFG invests CHF 30 million in expansion of RWD Schlatter AG

A r b o n, 5 January 2012 - Over the next five years AFG Arbonia-Forster-Holding AG is to invest CHF 30 million in the expansion of RWD Schlatter AG, based at Roggwil/Thurgau, which will also result in the creation of 40 new jobs. This investment is a clear recognition of the importance to AFG of its subsidiary RWD Schlatter AG and of Switzerland as a production location.

With a production output of around 70,000 door elements per year, RWD Schlatter AG has been working at full three-shift capacity for a number of years. The production plant at Roggwil is therefore to be expanded during 2012 and 2013 at a cost of around CHF 10 million. A further CHF 20 million will be invested in machine technology, infrastructure and other equipment. The decision to choose Switzerland as the location for production expansion was based on detailed analyses and consideration of all possible options.

With its headquarters in Roggwil and branches in Dietikon, Vevey and Lamone, RWD Schlatter AG is the leading manufacturer of high-quality doors in Switzerland. The company specialises in technologically sophisticated security doors for fire safety, sound insulation, burglary protection and ballistic protection. Its core competences also include the development and construction of automated doors in combination with access control systems. This multiple award-winning company has a history as a trendsetter in the door sector and today boasts annual sales of around CHF 70 million. With the planned investment, RWD Schlatter AG sales will exceed CHF 100 million in the not-too-distant future.

Thanks to an innovative R&D strategy and its officially accredited in-house test stands for sound measurement and durability testing as well as a smoke protection furnace, RWD Schlatter AG has the capacity to respond extremely rapidly to changing customer requirements. The company recently made a name for itself in the summer of 2011 as the first and only company in Europe to be awarded the natureplus label for sustainable products.



At the present time – and in view of the latest economic forecasts – this type of investment in Switzerland represents a bold undertaking and a sign of new beginnings. The expansion plans are based on detailed market and customer analyses and confidence that the management and workforce at RWD Schlatter AG will realise the defined growth strategy within the specified timeframe. With this financial commitment and the associated creation of 40 new jobs, AFG is setting a clear and positive signal in difficult times in favour of Switzerland as a business location.

On 5 January 2012 at 11:00 AFG Arbonia-Forster-Holding AG and RWD Schlatter AG will be holding a press conference detailing the expansion of the production facilities of the AFG subsidiary. The press conference will be held at the premises of RWD Schlatter AG in Roggwil, St.Gallerstrasse 21.

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This press release and further information on AFG Arbonia-Forster-Holding AG can also be found on our website at www.afg.ch.



About AFG

AFG is a leading technology-driven, internationally active construction materials and machinery group which is renowned for its innovative solutions and services. The company has its head office in Arbon, in the canton of Thurgau (Switzerland), and is quoted on the Swiss Stock Exchange (SIX). It has about 50 production and distribution companies and is active worldwide, with offices and partners in over 70 countries.

The five divisions making up AFG reflect the Group's activities: Heating Technology and Sanitary Equipment, Kitchens and Refrigeration, Windows and Doors, Steel Technology and Surface Technology. Production facilities are located in Switzerland, Germany, the Czech Republic, England, France, the USA and Slovakia. In its domestic markets, Switzerland and Germany, AFG holds a leading market position; the Group is aiming at opening up new markets and expanding its international activities.