

## Sumitomo (SHI) Demag reports machine order increase during corona crisis

**Schwaig, August 12, 2020 – Compared with the first half of 2019, injection moulding machine manufacturer Sumitomo (SHI) Demag is ending the first half of 2020 with a healthy order book. During the first six months, the value of incoming orders for machines produced in Germany rose by almost 25 percent.**

Cautiously optimistic for the future, CEO Gerd Liebig provides some context behind the healthy growth curve, which he predominantly attributes to orders placed by the packaging and medical technology sectors. *"Our intentional strategic focus on these two growth markets over the past few years has placed us in a stronger position, helping us to survive during these difficult times with a strong order increase".*

As with the entire plastics industry, demand from the automotive industry has slumped sharply for the Japanese-German manufacturer of injection moulding machines. The Group's forecast for the consumer segment is also rather cautious: Due to the tense situation on the labour market and the declining propensity of consumers to buy, the company anticipates a lower inclination among moulders to invest. In contrast, the packaging and medical segments are developing very positively this year, and demand for all-electric machines is also rising sharply. *"To cope with the increase in orders, we are utilising all available resources and increasing production capacities in our IntElect series considerably."* Liebig continues.

As a result of stable sales, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag expects to report a year-on-year 17 percent increase in overall incoming orders for 2020. *"Our plant in Wiehe is operating at full capacity and from November 2020 we will be producing the all-electric small machines at the historic high cycle. The strategic focus on this series is now paying off in full: By the second half of 2020, we will double our production capacity once again in order to meet demand,"* says Gerd Liebig.

As a result of this increase, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag is pushing ahead with the planned cooperation with its Japanese parent company, with Japan commencing production of IntElect machines later in 2020.

## Image



**Image:** The face of Sumitomo (SHI) Demag: Henrik Langwald, Paolo Zironoli, Anatol Sattel, Jürgen Schulze, Arnaud Nomblot, Gerd Liebig, Siegfried Köhler, Thorsten Thümen (left to right)

## Notes to the editor

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## Sumitomo (SHI) Demag Plastics Machinery GmbH

Sumitomo (SHI) Demag has had a strong influence on the development of the plastics industry from its very beginnings. As specialists in injection moulding machines for plastics processes, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag, together with its Japanese parent company, Sumitomo Heavy Industries, is one of the world's leading companies in the industry.

The global development and production network of Sumitomo Heavy Industries and Sumitomo (SHI) Demag consists of four facilities in Japan, Germany and China with more than 3,000 employees. The product portfolio includes all-electric, hydraulic and hybrid-driven injection moulding machines with clamping forces of between 180 and 15.000 kN. With over 145,000 installed machines, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag is present in important markets worldwide and is one of the largest manufacturers of injection moulding machines.

The parent company plant in Chiba, Japan, manufactures machines with small and medium clamping forces. Approximately 95 % of all delivered machines have an all-electric drive concept. The German Sumitomo (SHI) Demag's locations in Schwaig and Wiehe use hybrid drive concepts to manufacture the Systec Servo series, as well as the high-performance and high-speed EI-Exis SP and Systec SP machines. The IntElect series with all-electric drive technology is also manufactured in Germany for the international market.

Sumitomo (SHI) Demag has had a production facility in Ningbo, China, since 1998. The Systec C series with clamping forces of 500 to 10,000 kN has been manufactured for Asian markets in a new factory (13,000 m<sup>2</sup> floor space) of this subsidiary, Demag Plastics Machinery (Ningbo) Co., Ltd., since mid-2015.

In addition to injection moulding machines, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag provides standard and customised systems for parts handling automation, process engineering and solutions for special applications, and customised services, as well as machine financing options.

With its seamless sales and service network of subsidiaries and agencies, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag supports all major industrial markets.