PRESS RELEASE

October 31st, 2019

**50 years of Getzner Werkstoffe**

**Vibration protection experts celebrate anniversary**

**Buers (AT). Getzner Werkstoffe was founded 50 years ago and is today the world leader in vibration isolation and protection in the railway, construction and industry sectors. To mark the occasion, Getzner is taking a look back at a successful half-century and making ambitious plans for the future.**

Getzner Werkstoffe GmbH was founded as Getzner Chemie GesmbH & Co. in Buers back in 1969. As a subsidiary of Getzner, Mutter & Cie., the company was initially responsible for the production of artificial leather and complemented the Holding’s textile business. While carrying out development work on artificial leather, Getzner also experimented with polyurethane foams. The results were so promising that Getzner completely turned its business model on its head. With the introduction of the material Sylomer®, which has been trademarked for years, the company finally turned to the development of vibration protection solutions in 1976/77. “Elastic bearings made of our materials protect tracks, trains, buildings and machines from shocks and vibrations. We’re proud that our high-tech solutions help to improve working conditions, travel experiences and overall quality of life,” summarises Jürgen Rainalter, Chief Executive Officer at Getzner.

Although Getzner no longer manufactures artificial leather, the company maintains strong links with the family company, via Getzner Holding, and they continue to work closely together. The innovative product range means that now even plots of land subjected to heavy vibrations can be developed and vibration solutions from Getzner have a positive effect on a building’s value. Trains can also travel along high-speed lines with lower maintenance costs while machines and industrial plants can operate without vibration.

**Long-lasting solutions in use for forty years**

“Right from the start, we had great success with our innovations and this still drives us today,” says Jürgen Rainalter. Getzner’s USP lies in its many long-term references. “As we have been in business for many years, we can point to projects where our solutions have been successful for forty years and more.” Half a century after it was founded, Getzner is still investing heavily in research and development. The company recently launched its g-fit range, which provides effective protection against noise and vibrations for fitness studios and gyms. The first projects are already underway, including in a crossfit studio in Zürich.

**Quieter and better quality of life**

In addition to the trademarked Sylomer®, Getzner also offers the materials Sylodyn®, Sylodamp® and the Isotop® product range, all developed at Getzner’s own facility. Applications have been optimised over the years, and these resistant and, in some cases, fire-retardant materials can be adapted for a wide range of customer requirements.

**From Buers to the whole world**

The company’s international success also began with Sylomer®. In 1983, Getzner Werkstoffe Deutschland GmbH was founded in Grünwald, Germany. An office was established in Jordan and another in Germany in 1994 and 1996 respectively. In the meantime, Getzner also opened further locations in Japan, India, China, the USA and France. Most recently, a production site was opened in Decatur (USA) in 2018.

**Renowned references**

A project is currently underway to provide vibration protection on the railway line from Sivas to Ankara in Turkey – Getzner was also recently awarded the contract for the second construction phase. Construction of this high-speed line, which will be bedded on Getzner materials, will reduce the journey time from twelve hours to two. Getzner is also involved in another impressive project at the Grandberry Mall in Tokyo: when the shopping centre was demolished, the elastic point bearings made from Sylodyn® that had been installed 14 years prior were also removed. As these still met the vibration protection requirements after such a long period of time, Getzner was awarded the contract to supply the new bearings when the shopping centre was rebuilt.

**Ongoing optimisation work**

Getzner invests not only in products and services, but also in optimising its own corporate structures. As part of the Operational Excellence (OPEX) project launched in 2018, interdisciplinary teams are continually identifying potential for increasing efficiency. Digitalisation plays a decisive role here. “We see this as not just an opportunity to increase efficiency, but also to optimise processes: from sales and production right down to the individual divisions. We are continually testing technological developments and exploiting the benefits they offer. This allows us to guarantee quality in the long term,” explains Jürgen Rainalter. The OPEX project encompasses all of Getzner's global locations.

**Historical summary of “50 years of Getzner Werkstoffe”**

1969 Founding of Getzner Chemie Ges.m.b.H. & Co in Buers (Austria) as a subsidiary of Getzner, Mutter & Cie. The company focused on the production of artificial leather

1976/77 Getzner-Chemie commences production of polyurethane foam; Sylomer® is registered as a trademark.

1983 Founding of Getzner Werkstoffe Deutschland GmbH in Grünwald, Germany

Launch of the material Sylodyn®

1994 Opening of Getzner Werkstoffe office in Amman (Jordan)

1996 Opening of Getzner Werkstoffe office in Berlin (Germany); Sylodyn® registered as a trademark

2002 Founding of Nihon Getzner K.K. in Tokyo (Japan)

2004 Acquisition of Reinicke GmbH (Germany)

2007 Founding of Byrel Fastening Systems in Kunshan (China)

2009 Founding of Getzner India Pvt. Ltd. in Pune (India)

2010 Founding of Beijing Getzner Trading Co. Ltd. in Beijing (China)

2013 Founding of Getzner USA, Inc. in Charlotte (USA)

2015 Founding of Getzner France SAS in Lyon (France)

Integration of Reinicke GmbH with the Isotop® product range;  
rebranded Getzner Spring Solutions GmbH (GSS)

2016 Getzner launches a new material called Sylodamp®

2017 Market launch of the Sylodyn® HRB HS series

2018 Getzner opens its own production facility in Decatur (USA). The material Sylomer® Marine is launched for ships

Getzner, Mutter & Cie., Getzner Werkstoffe and Getzner Textil celebrate 200 years of existence; g-fit is launched for fitness centres and gyms

**Getzner Werkstoffe’s reference projects** (extract)**:**

**Stations, offices and residential buildings:**

* The Rushmore Building, New York (USA)
* The Touraine, New York (USA)
* Hampton by Hilton Berlin Alexanderplatz (Germany)
* Vienna main station (Austria)

**Buildings with special requirements:**

* Auditorium at the Palace of Versailles (France)
* Music studio of the Red Bull Music Academy in Tokyo (Japan)
* Elbe Philharmonic Hall Hamburg (Germany)
* Seine Musicale in Paris (France)
* Also theatres, such as in St. Petersburg, cinemas, power plants, listed buildings, fitness centres, hotels

**Railway/public transport:**

* Underground lines in New York, Buenos Aires and London
* High-speed lines Bologna – Florence, Madrid – Barcelona, Ankara – Sivas
* Heavy freight lines
* Tracks around and in railway tunnels such as in the Gotthard Base Tunnel, the Brenner Base Tunnel or the Channel Tunnel Rail Link.

**Vibration protection for vehicles:**

* Floating floors for rolling stock, such as for Hitachi as part of the “InterCity Express Programme” (Great Britain), for a luxury train by Kawasaki (Japan)
* Vibration protection for ships and yachts

**Elastic bearing for special constructions, machines and mechanical units:**

* Helicopter landing pads
* Pools
* Wind turbines (e.g. on the Eiffel Tower)
* HVAC
* Machines such as pumps and printing presses

**Image 1:** Getzner Werkstoffe Headquarters Buers  
**Image caption**: Getzner Werkstoffe has been providing vibration protection for the railway, construction and industry sectors for 50 years.

**Image source**: Getzner Werkstoffe, may be published free of charge

**Image 2:** Long Term Reference Music Hall Helsinki 2009  
**Image caption**: The many years of experience of Getzner is a unique selling point in the industry.   
(Pictured: Musiikkitalo Concert Hall in Helsinki).  
**Image source**: Getzner Werkstoffe, may be published free of charge  
  
**Image 3:** Ankara Sivas Sleeper Pads  
**Image caption**: The high-speed line Sivas – Ankara will be bedded on Getzner materials.  
(pictured: The lowest, elastic layer is the vibration protection)

**Image source**: Getzner Werkstoffe, may be published free of charge

**Image 4:** g-fit Floating Floors  
**Image caption**: With g-fit Getzner has brought effective protection against noise and vibration for gyms on the market.  
**Image source**: Getzner Werkstoffe, may be published free of charge

**Getzner Werkstoffe GmbH**

[Getzner Werkstoffe](https://www.getzner.com/de) is the leading specialist in the field of [vibration isolation and protection](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iogTUmxLcl4). Its solutions are based on the products [Sylomer®](https://www.getzner.com/de/produkte/sylomer), [Sylodyn®](https://www.getzner.com/de/produkte/sylodyn), [Sylodamp®](https://www.getzner.com/de/produkte/sylodamp) and [Isotop®](https://www.getzner.com/de/produkte/isotop), all of which were developed and manufactured at Getzner’s own facility. They are used in the railway, construction and industry sectors to reduce vibrations and noise, improve the service life of bedded components and thereby minimise the need for maintenance and repairs on tracks, vehicles, structures and machines. The company was founded in 1969 as a subsidiary of Getzner, Mutter & Cie.

Getzner markets its vibration protection solutions around the world. Alongside its locations in Buers and in Germany, Getzner also has offices in China, France, India, Japan, Jordan and the USA. Its tightly-knit distribution network in Europe is complemented by its distribution partners in the USA, South America and the Far East. Partners in a total of 40 countries around the world distribute Getzner products to every location. By reducing noise and vibrations, Getzner is making a valuable contribution towards enhancing quality of life in both the home and work environment.

**Facts and figures – Getzner Werkstoffe GmbH**

Founded: 1969 (as a subsidiary of Getzner, Mutter & Cie.)

Chief Executive Officer: Juergen Rainalter

Employees: 490 (360 in Buers)

Turnover in 2018: 100.3 million euros

Business areas: Railway, construction, industry

Headquarters: Buers (AT)  
Locations: Beijing, Kunshan (CN), Munich, Berlin, Stuttgart (DE), Lyon (FR),   
 Pune (IN), Amman (JO), Tokyo (JP), Charlotte, Decatur (US)

Ratio of exports: 93%

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Further information:**  Getzner Werkstoffe GmbH  Markus Büchele  T +43 5552 201 1861  markus.buechele@getzner.com | Press contact:  ikp Vorarlberg GmbH  Wanda Mikulec-Schwarz  T +43 5572 398811  wanda.schwarz@ikp.at |