

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Laying the foundations for a new dimension in float glass manufacture

Following the start of production in August 2009 f | glass will be producing 220.000 tonnes of float glass (flat glass) a year at Sülzetal / Osterweddingen. In addition to basic (float) glass production, the factory will focus specifically on the manufacture of extra clear glass, which because of its higher light transmission factor can be used for solar modules. On the 3rd July, 2008 the foundation stone for the new production facility was laid in Sülzetal / Osterweddingen.

The float glass plant at Sülzetal / Osterweddingen represents an investment in both the future and the Sachsen-Anhalt region. For this reason Economic Affairs Minister Dr Reiner Haseloff is insisting to personally supervise the laying of the foundation stone on 3rd July, 2008 in the presence of Transport Minister Dr. Karl-Heinz Daehre, the Lord Mayor of Magdeburg, Dr. Lutz Trümper, District Administrator Thomas Webel and, of course, the Mayor of the successful industrial community of Sülzetal / Osterweddingen, Erich Wasserthal.

f | glass GmbH will be producing 700 tonnes of float glass a day at Osterweddingen and processing toughened safety and laminated sheet glass. Coating of float glass for tinted and solar control glass is also planned. "Our sales area is the whole of the European market", says Herbert Köhler, Manager of the company. "We have opted for Sachsen-Anhalt since everything here is quite simply right – from raw material supplies to logistical link-up. Ultimately, however, on-site conditions and remarkably good support from all sides were the deciding factors. For that we have to thank particularly the Ministry for Economic Affairs, the IMG, the Sülzetal authorities, Erich Wasserthal, the city of Magdeburg and all other persons involved."

The success of the new industrial plant is very close to the heart of Economic Affairs Minister Haseloff: "I am very pleased that industry in Sachsen-Anhalt – including both suppliers and service providers - is receiving a further major shot in the arm, with hundreds of new jobs due to be created."

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f | glass is a joint venture between Scheuten and Interpane. Both parties bring with them long years of experience of glass manufacture and processing and have committed in equal measure to both innovation and sustainability.

Scheuten is a leading and fast growing international high volume manufacturer of total solutions in glass and solar energy systems with its head office in Venlo. Scheuten employs a staff of 1,500 and has a turnover of 360 million euros.

Scheuten continually invests in new developments. New innovative glass products are developed by combining knowledge from all its production facilities. Cooperation with leading universities and research institutes leads to sustainable, functional solutions in the fields of glass and solar technology.

The Interpane group is one of Europe's major processors of float glass and manufactures top quality glazing products at 11 plants Europe-wide. Interpane also manufactures float glass at Seinghouse in France.

The head offices are situated in Lauenförde (Lower Saxony, Germany), where the internationally active group was founded in 1971 by Georg F. Hesselbach. Innovation potential is based particularly on know-how in the field of coating. Interpane is thus the „inventor“ of iplus neutral, the neutral-coloured tinted glass the principle of which has meanwhile achieved standard acceptance in the field of heat-absorbing glass applications. Today Interpane is developing highly functional glazing systems for every architectural application, witnessed by the various prestigious projects which it has completed on every continent.

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