

SWISSMETAL Media release

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Move in Reconvilier almost complete

The industrial relocation of Swissmetal, which began in November 2007 and which sees works moving from Factory 2 to Factory 1 at the heart of the village of Reconvilier just a few hundred meters away, is progressing according to plan. The main components of the project, and in particular the shifting of the production plant, are now complete. Over 24 machines have been optimised and relocated within the scope of the move and they are now located at their new operational sites in Factory 1. With the exception of the foundry units and the warehouse for shipping 2, Factory 2 no longer contains any machinery for production at the Reconvilier site.

A fundamental element at the start of the project was the disassembly of the two thermal extrusion presses. The work of the major participants (maintenance, production, infrastructure and subcontractors) was intensive and highly coordinated, resulting in the relocation of every single system running perfectly. Thanks to good project planning, excellent teamwork between those involved and the flexibility of staff members, who were sometimes forced to work under very difficult conditions, the production capacity at the Reconvilier site was at no time affected. This new configuration will facilitate a reduction in both fixed and variable costs for offices and materials transportation, whilst also improving the material flow within the production process. Today, it only remains to relocate the administration building and to service the production halls.

The cooperation of all those employees involved, from the various departments affected at the sites, was exemplary and ensured that the move ran without a hitch. CHF 4.6 million was spent on this project, which has resulted in an even more efficient production site at Reconvilier.

Swissmetal produces and sells worldwide high-quality special products made of copper and copper alloys which are mainly used in the electronics, telecommunications, air travel, petroleum, automobile, stationery and watch/clock industries and in the architectural sector. In financial year 2007, Swissmetal achieved turnover of CHF 407.0 million. As at end of May 2008, the company had 646 full time-employees. Swissmetal, with its registered office in Dornach (Switzerland) is quoted on the SWX Swiss Exchange as Swissmetal Holding Ltd.

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