

PRESSEMITTEILUNG

Witzenmann: Reliable partner in difficult times

Pforzheim, April 2, 2020

Witzenmann is economically resilient. The supplies to customers are ensured even in the current situation. Witzenmann reacts with great flexibility to the dynamic developments at its customers:

- The group of companies is responding to the plant closures of automotive customers with temporary interruptions in the affected production areas.
- The supply of our customers in the fields of industry, commercial vehicles and aerospace is assured. This applies to both the serial business and new projects.
- The flexible production organization compensates for fluctuations in the order situation.

In the course of the Corona crisis, some customers of the Witzenmann Group have closed their plants. The Witzenmann Group has so far been particularly affected by this in the area of vehicle components and is reacting with temporary interruptions of work in the affected production areas in April.

"In this situation, we keep a close eye on our cost structure and look at how things are going with our customers on a daily basis. In order to compensate for the strong fluctuations in demand from our customers, we have taken work interruptions in production in parts of the company. Since 1st April, we have also registered short-time working, which is currently increasingly used in the administrations," says Heiko Pott, CFO of the Witzenmann Group. Overall, Witzenmann has a very solid and stable economic position and will withstand the crisis well, even if it lasts for a longer period, Heiko Pott continued.

Broad range of industries is paying off

"Even in this crisis, it helps us that we are positioned across a wide range of industries," says Dr. Andreas Kämpfe, CEO of the Witzenmann Group, analysing the current situation.

While Witzenmann recorded a noticeable decline in order intake in the Automotive division, production continues unchanged for industrial customers (metal hoses, metal bellows and expansion joints), in the Commercial Vehicles & Engines division, and in the Aerospace division. The Industrial and Commercial Vehicles divisions are expected to be fully utilized until June, and the Aerospace division by the end of the year. In the Aerospace division, Witzenmann continues to realize high supply orders and the ramp-up of new programs this year. An adjustment of capacity or short-time work is not planned here in 2020.

Focus on employee healthcare

Health care is a high priority for employees, both in manufacturing and in administration. Here, the existing hygiene measures were intensified at an early stage and the processes and shift divisions were organized in such a way that contacts and thus also the risk of infection are reduced in the best possible way.

Flexible and crisis-proof

"Basically, we are flexible. This enables us to operate "on sight" in the current situation. This means that we can also bring the currently idle production in the automotive sector back on stream in a reasonable time", Dr. Kämpfe can reassure the Witzenmann customers.

Automotive customers in particular fear supply bottlenecks if the large-scale shut-downs are ended. Even in this crisis, we remain the reliable partner you are used to, says Dr. Andreas Kämpfe.

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The Witzenmann Group

The Witzenmann Group is the world's leading manufacturer of metal hoses, compensators, metal bellows and vehicle parts. More than 4,700 employees in 24 companies in 19 countries develop and produce tailor-made solutions for customers from all industries. Witzenmann is a technological leader within his industry and, in addition to its extensive product range, has a wide range of expertise in the field of flexible metallic elements.

Photo 1: Wide product range of the Witzenmann Group