

Media Release

Oerlikon Balzers wins design award for INGENIA coating system

Balzers, Liechtenstein, January 21, 2013 – The INGENIA coating system made by Oerlikon Balzers has won the iF Design Award 2013 in the industry/skilled trades category. The jury recognized that Balzers, the technology leader in the area of high-quality coatings, was also a pacesetter in system construction and design.

The award-winning INGENIA system, which made its world premiere in September 2011 at the EMO fair in Hannover, Germany, combines state-of-the-art coating technology and simple operation with eye-catching design. With INGENIA, Balzers' engineers and physicists succeeded in extending the company's technological lead by developing a coating system that has the highest level of power densities and takes up a minimal amount of space.

Helmut Rudigier, Head of Research and Development at Oerlikon Balzers, lauds the performance of the INGENIA system: "We were able to cut the cycle times in half and thus significantly increase productivity. And we accomplished this while doubling the precision of the coating thickness." In addition, the system can be equipped with the new, unique S3p™ technology, a system developed by Oerlikon Balzers that produces uncommonly smooth, thick coatings that are both extremely hard and wear-resistant. The award-winning system has already been successfully implemented in its first coating centers and by third-party customers. The network is being constantly expanded.

In addition to the system's high performance, INGENIA is a pacesetter in operation and design. Peter Klien, owner of the company Design' Form Technik and the head of the INGENIA product-design team, said: "We made a conscious decision to be very conservative in the design elements we used. The result is a straightforward, self-contained product with a clear, intuitive design that is optimally tailored to the user's needs." As a complete unit, INGENIA won over the international jury at the highly regarded German iF International Forum Design Organization based in Hannover. The jury selected INGENIA in the award category of industry/skilled trades. The award will be presented in February 2013.

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About Oerlikon

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) is a leading high-tech industrial group specializing in machine and plant engineering. The Company is a provider of innovative industrial solutions and cutting-edge technologies for textile manufacturing, drive, vacuum, coating, and advanced nanotechnology. A Swiss company with a tradition going back over 100 years, Oerlikon is a global player with nearly 17 000 employees at over 150 locations in 38 countries and reported sales of CHF 4.2 billion in 2011. The Company invested in 2011 CHF 213 million (reported) in R&D, with over 1 200 specialists working on future products and services. In most areas, the operative businesses rank either first or second in their respective global markets.

About Oerlikon Balzers

Oerlikon Balzers is the world's leading supplier of surface technologies, which significantly improve the performance and durability of precision components as well as tools for the metal and plastics processing industries. These coatings, marketed under the BALINIT® brand name, are extremely thin and exceptionally hard. They significantly reduce friction and wear. Oerlikon Balzers also develops processes, manufactures and sells systems and production facilities, and offers contract coating services through a dynamically growing network of nearly 90 coating centers in Europe, the Americas and Asia. Moreover, under the technology brand ePD™, the company develops integrated services and solutions for the metallisation of plastic parts. Oerlikon Balzers is a Business Unit of the Swiss Oerlikon Group.



Oerlikon Balzers' INGENIA sets the pace with its clear design on the outside and high-tech on the inside.