
BITO continues to invest into headquarters located at Meisenheim in Germany:

“The knowhow of our staff members is one of the keys to our success“

- **Expansion of production capacities at BITO’s plant located at Lauterecken**
- **Number of employees is increasing**
- **Lack of skilled labour makes itself felt**
- **Funds donated to a welfare organisation in Lauterecken**

Lauterecken, 26 February 2008. – BITO-Lagertechnik Bittmann GmbH, headquartered at Meisenheim in Germany, continues to invest into plant expansion. In a meeting at the company’s production plant at Lauterecken with some 40 local politicians, BITO’s managing director Detlef Ganz pointed out that BITO’s committed and well qualified staff is one important factor contributing to the company’s success.

In Meisenheim where BITO’s shelving and racking production is located, BITO invested some 16 million EUR during the past 18 months into Europe’s most modern pallet racking plant. In the Lauterecken plant, plastic bins and containers are produced by some 100 operators. Investments into new machines and production lines have already been budgeted to meet growing customer demands. The specialist supplier of storage and warehouse equipment, order picking systems and plastic bins and containers provided 60 new jobs during the year and presently employs 700 people in two plants in Germany and in 14 subsidiaries in Western and Eastern Europe. In the last year, BITO continued to grow substantially. Compared to 2006, the company turnover increased by 25 % and reached 125 million EUR. The export share is more than 50 %.

From the point of view of Detlef Ganz the lack of skilled labour could slow down company growth. At present, there a lot of job vacancies in the plants at Meisenheim and at Lauterecken. "Particularly in the technical job segment, we lack qualified staff", explains Ganz. However, BITO belongs to those companies which do not join in the general moaning. „We offer our staff above-average benefits such as a profit sharing plan, a pension fund and a large package of voluntary payments.“ Moreover, the family-owned company places special emphasis on further qualification of their employees and on vocational qualification of young people. "The company provides professional qualification courses to 6 % of their staff and presently employs 34 apprentices and trainees who are trained in 13 professions", Ganz continues. Among the range of training options are three academic degrees which can be obtained in a dual system of practical work at BITO and academic studies within a "co-op program" at Mannheim University. To widen its trainee education, BITO regularly offers exchange stays at their foreign subsidiaries. "In order to ensure that there is no cut-off in the line of new apprentices and trainees, we regularly have open house days in cooperation with schools in our region, we organise visits to trade fairs and also offer taster days or weeks." Last year, BITO received an award for human resources development from the Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

During the meeting with representatives of local politics, Ganz confirmed the company's intention to continue to support non-profit associations and welfare committees in Meisenheim and Lauterecken. At the occasion, personnel manager Bernd Jung handed a donation raised by the BITO staff to the amount of 600 EUR to a welfare organisation at Lauterecken.



Some 40 local politicians from the Lauterecken region gained an impression of the latest developments at BITO during an on-site visit.



Bernd Jung (personnel manager and member of the broad board of management, left-hand side) is presenting a donation to Angelika Göttel and Hans Habermann from the welfare organisation "Lautereckener Tafel".

Photos: BITO-Lagertechnik

Press information



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