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Autoneum opens two new production sites in China

Autoneum continues its growth course in China by opening two new plants in addition to the eight existing ones. The ninth Autoneum production facility was officially opened in Pinghu (Zhejiang Province) yesterday in the presence of CEO Martin Hirzel. A further plant in the northeastern city of Shenyang Tiexi (Liaoning Province) is already in the ramp-up phase. The series production of lightweight multifunctional components for noise and heat protection will start at both plants in a few days' time.

The continued strong customer demand for lightweight components for acoustic and thermal management made it necessary to further expand Autoneum's production capacities in China, the world's largest automotive market. The Company's Asian production network has been enhanced with a 9000 square meter-plant in the city of Pinghu, located around 100 kilometers southwest of Shanghai, and a production facility in Shenyang Tiexi in the northeast of the country.

Using state-of-the-art production processes, Autoneum Pinghu will manufacture underbody systems made of Ultra-Silent for European, US-American and Chinese customers. These textile underbodies will be installed, among others, in various hybrid models and a fully electric vehicle of a new Chinese car manufacturer. When operating at full capacity, around 5.5 million underbody components made of Ultra-Silent will be produced in Pinghu each year and delivered just-in-time to the local production facilities of customers. With Ultra-Silent, Autoneum offers the lightest underbody systems for vehicles available on the market: Compared with equivalent components made of plastic they are up to 50 percent lighter, fully recyclable, reduce noise and thanks to improved aerodynamics help to reduce a vehicle's fuel consumption and emissions.

On the occasion of the Pinghu plant opening, Autoneum CEO Martin Hirzel stated: "With our two new plants in China we are continuing our strategy-driven expansion course in this important growth market. In order to be able to offer our customers industry-leading components, we are investing heavily in sustainable production processes as well as in innovative technologies and materials. At the same time we are supporting the expansion of electromobility in China with the regional market launch of multifunctional components for a diverse range of drive systems."

Pre-production has already started in Shenyang Tiexi, Autoneum's second production facility in Liaoning Province, and series production is to start in a few days' time. Around 7.5 million carpet systems, inner dashes, floor insulators and heatshields will be produced there annually for German and Swedish vehicle manufacturers on a site measuring 23000 square meters.

In addition to the fully-owned plants in Chongqing (2006), Taicang (Jiangsu Province; 2010), Shenyang (Liaoning; 2011), Yantai (Shandong; 2017) and Changsha (Hunan; 2017) and a development center in Shanghai, Autoneum jointly operates Chinese production locations with the Japanese automotive supplier Nittoku in Guangzhou (Guangdong; 2003), Tianjin

(2004) and Wuhan (Hubei; 2013). Autoneum's customers in China include numerous European and US-American as well as several Chinese vehicle manufacturers.

Photos:

Pictures of the plant opening in Pinghu are available for download at www.autoneum.com/2018/09/13/autoneum-opens-two-new-production-sites-in-china.

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About Autoneum

Autoneum is globally leading in acoustic and thermal management for vehicles. The Company develops and produces multifunctional, lightweight components and systems for interior floor and engine bay as well as the underbody. Customers include almost all automobile manufacturers in Europe, North & South America, Asia and Africa. Autoneum operates 55 production facilities and employs more than 12000 people in 25 countries. The Company with its headquarters in Winterthur, Switzerland, is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (ticker symbol AUTN).

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