

PRESS RELEASE

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Ansbach University invests in MicroPower injection molding machine

## **New micro capacity for research, teaching and industry partnerships**

**Ansbach University has extended its technical lab by adding a MicroPower from the WITTMANN Group. The new injection molding machine for micro technology is now available for teaching and research and also being used primarily for further extension of its cooperation network with industrial partners.**

“We offer very well equipped labs to plastics processing companies and provide more or less ‘neutral ground’ for sampling and development projects“, emphasizes Professor Dr.-Ing. Thomas Müller-Lenhardt, Head of the part-time degree program Applied Polymer Technology at the University of Ansbach. The WITTMANN Group, too, will use this facility jointly with customers, since after all, the knowledge transfer with university researchers yields considerable benefits. “The cooperation is a win-win situation. Micro injection molding is developing very dynamically. Important steps for further development have been taken in recent years, for example in the direction of nanostructures. By a joint effort, we will be able to put new findings into practice more quickly”, says Andreas Schramm, Managing Director of WITTMANN BATTENFELD Deutschland, the German subsidiary of the Austrian WITTMANN Group.

### **Practice-oriented education and training**

In research, the high-precision injection molding machine – acquired with funds from the High-Tech Agenda Bavaria – is being used to develop new materials and products for applications in areas such as medical technology, mechanical engineering and electronics. Under the direction of Professor Dr.-Ing. Alexandru Sover, research for doctorate theses is carried out, cooperations are supervised and projects in the area of micropart development and production are implemented. In this way, the Ansbach University’s expertise in the field of application-oriented micro part manufacturing is continuously broadened and consolidated.

For the students, the new machine extends the portfolio of internships and student projects. “It is important to understand things not only with your head, but also with your hands. And that is only possible directly on the machine”, says Müller-Lenhardt. Students of several different degree programs will work with the new MicroPower. In addition to Applied Polymer Technology, these include Sustainable Engineering and Engineering & Management. “I am very pleased with the machine concept of the MicroPower from WITTMANN”, says Müller-Lenhardt. “Thanks to the Euromap 77 interface included in the delivery, we will also be able to use the machine for digitalization projects. By using the MicroPower, we can demonstrate very clearly how injection molding processes can be intelligently monitored and controlled.”

### **Students praise the equipment**

Ansbach University ranks among the top ten German universities according to the current rating of the StudyCheck evaluation portal, and in Bavaria it takes even second place. Special points of particularly positive feedback from students are the university’s courses and lectures, as well as its range of equipment, to which now an additional attraction has been added in the form of the new WITTMANN machine.



The technical faculties are delighted with the new MicroPower: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Thomas Müller-Lenhardt, Markus Bittrich, Georg Fischer and Prof. Dr.-Ing. Alexandru Sover (from left to right).

Photo: Ansbach University

## The WITTMANN Group

The WITTMANN Group is a globally leading manufacturer of injection molding machines, robots and auxiliary equipment for processing a great variety of plasticizable materials – both plastic and non-plastic. The group of companies has its headquarters in Vienna, Austria and consists of two main divisions: WITTMANN BATTENFELD and WITTMANN. Following the principles of environmental protection, conservation of resources and circular economy, the WITTMANN Group engages in state-of-the-art process technology for maximum energy efficiency in injection molding, and in processing standard materials and materials with a high content of recyclates and renewable raw materials. The products of the WITTMANN Group are designed for horizontal and vertical integration into a Smart Factory and can be interlinked to form an intelligent production cell.

The companies of the group jointly operate ten production plants in six countries, and the additional sales companies at their 36 different locations are present in all major industrial markets around the world.

WITTMANN BATTENFELD pursues the continued strengthening of its market position as a manufacturer of injection molding machines and supplier of comprehensive modern machine technology in modular design. The product range of WITTMANN includes robots and automation systems, material handling systems, dryers, gravimetric and volumetric blenders, granulators, temperature controllers and chillers. The combination of the individual areas under the umbrella of the WITTMANN Group enables perfect integration – to the advantage of injection molding processors with an increasing demand for seamless interlocking of processing machines, automation and auxiliaries.

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