

7th April 2011

Press Release

Schmid Group delivers 1000th wet processing system made in China

Schmid - technological world market leader and supplier of system and process solutions for printed circuit boards and the photovoltaic sector - delivers the 1000th wet processing system from their production plant in China.

Innovation has a long tradition at Schmid - who have adopted a process and future-oriented way of thinking for over 140 years already. With solutions individually adapted to their customers' requirements, new standards have been set involving technological innovations and highest quality. With their revolutionary innovations, Schmid have gained an international position over the past 140 years as the expertise leader in the PCB, flat panel display and photovoltaic industry. The first steps towards wet processing technology were taken as early as the 1960's at the parent company in Freudenstadt. In the following years the technologies and processes underwent continual further development.

The foundation of their subsidiary Schmid Shenzhen Ltd (SSL) in August 2003, marked the start of their production of wet processing systems in Shenzhen near Hong Kong in China. The first machine was delivered at the end of 2003 already. In the following year wet processing systems found a high rate of acceptance, which was reflected in their sales of approx. 50 machine deliveries per year. Due to the excellent order situation, the production facilities were expanded soon afterwards, in 2008, to the town of Zhuhai, 160 kilometers away. In April 2008 the first system to be equipped according to the very latest technological aspects and featuring optimal working conditions left the factory which with only minimal fluctuation has been confirmed every year since.

The main concern for outsourcing to China was that the high quality standards could be transferred from Germany. Parallel to this the capacities at the Germany locations have also been continually expanded. The foundation for this was and still is the further and new developments which are continually conducted at the parent company in Freudenstadt.

Today Schmid produces innovative complete solutions for the entire wet processing sector. To date, up to 40 machines for the PCB and photovoltaic industry leave the Chinese plant every month - not only for China and Asia but also for customers in Germany and America. With around 450 employees in Zhuhai, Schmid is today one of the largest employers in the free trade zone of Zhuhai, less than 90 minutes away from Hong Kong. Due to the further expected growth in the coming years, the Chinese workforce will be increased to over 600 employees. Also planned is an expansion of the factory facilities to accommodate double the present capacity in the not too distant future.





<u>Picture caption</u>: Schmid_Zhuhai_China.jpg "Schmid Zhuhai Ltd. (SZL) in Zhuhai, China."



<u>Picture caption</u>: Schmid_Zhuhai_China_production.jpg "Production Schmid Zhuhai Ltd. (SZL) in Zhuhai, China."

Press Contact: Gebr. SCHMID GmbH + Co. Magdalena Gagat Robert-Bosch-Str. 32-34 72250 Freudenstadt, Germany www.schmid-group.com press@schmid-group.com +49 7441 538 0

Follow us on **Luitter**