

# Press information

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StrikoWestofen Group (Gummersbach)

## StrikoWestofen expands its portfolio

New business unit for the heat treatment of cast aluminium parts with an experienced team

**Gummersbach/Rheda-Wiedenbrück – New business unit:**  
as of immediately, the StrikoWestofen Group (Gummersbach, Germany) also offers its customers systems and product carriers for the heat treatment of cast aluminium parts – in particular cast structural parts. This is made possible by the recent takeover of the employees of BPR-Engineering GmbH from Rheda-Wiedenbrück. The 20 years of expertise of company founder Frank Herkenräder and his team form the basis of the new StrikoWestofen business unit “Heat Treatment”. This is how the global market leader in the field of dosing and melting furnaces for the light metal industry is reacting to the growing trend towards optimizing mechanical properties using heat treatment.

As of immediately, the heat treatment of cast aluminium parts is one of the core competencies of StrikoWestofen, the manufacturer of industrial furnaces. The takeover of the employees of the Westphalian company BPR-Engineering in May meant that 20 years of know-how in this field were acquired all at once. “The agreement with the employees was less a takeover in the classical sense and more a buying-in of

know-how,” explains Rudi Riedel, CEO of the StrikoWestofen Group. With their know-how, the 18 new employees in this business unit cover the entire range from the development and projecting of hardware and software to the commissioning and approval of the systems.

### **Tailor-made to meet customer needs**

The new Heat Treatment business unit pursues a holistic approach: furnaces, quenching systems and product carriers are not seen as individual components of a system but as an overall concept. This allows enormous cost savings due to the better coordination of processes. Also, the components are less susceptible to deformation, which reduces the necessary alignment work. “That saves hard cash too,” points out Frank Herkenröder, head of the new Heat Treatment business unit. “For one of our customers, the optimized concept made over 80 percent of the alignment work become unnecessary. This means savings of approx. 3 million euros in two years.”

The available systems cover all phases of the heat treatment process. In four-storey continuous furnace systems, up to three different types of cast parts can be heat-treated at the same time. The modular system also allows flexible adaptation to the customer needs in each case. The same is true for the chamber furnace systems, which are especially suitable for the heat treatment of smaller numbers of pieces or of frequently changing ranges of parts. They consist of four to 22 furnaces, each of which can run a recipe of its own in parallel. In addition, StrikoWestofen is the technology trailblazer with regard to combined air-water quenching systems for especially high-quality cast parts. Product carriers adapted to the components and made of a particularly heat-resistant stainless steel alloy complete the portfolio. Here’s how Riedel sums up the situation:

“It was a logical step for us to expand our core competencies by adding the Heat Treatment business unit. By taking over Frank Herkenröder and his team, we have found a company which shares our philosophy. In the future, too, our mission will be to offer the technically most perfect, most sustainable and most economical furnaces on the market”.

More information on the new Heat Treatment business unit is available directly from StrikoWestofen in Gummersbach via e-mail (**[sales@strikowestofen.com](mailto:sales@strikowestofen.com)**) or by telephone (**+49 2261-70910**).

This text can also be accessed online under **[www.strikowestofen.com](http://www.strikowestofen.com)** (under “News and Press”) or **[www.dako-pr.de](http://www.dako-pr.de)** (under “Service”).

### **Captions**

#### **[16-08 New site]**

*Expanded core competencies: StrikoWestofen (Gummersbach, Germany), the manufacturer of industrial furnaces, opens a new business unit for the heat treatment of cast aluminium parts at the Rheda-Wiedenbrück (Germany) site.*

Image: StrikoWestofen.

#### **[16-08 Continuous furnace system]**

*Continuous furnace system for the heat treatment of cast aluminium parts.*

Image: StrikoWestofen.

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