

Press Release 09-2014

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## **Congratulations**

### **Rock on! Schönenberger celebrates its 50th anniversary**

**Half a century is truly a reason to rock and roll: The H. Schönenberger GmbH success story in the production of high-quality industrial knives has been non-stop since September 1964. Today – with some 60 employees and distribution partners worldwide – the company is one of the leading specialist manufacturers of special cutting tools for the international paper, printing, and plastics industries.**

50 years ago, Hermann Schönenberger started in Stuttgart with a small grinding and service operation for machine knives of all types. This was at the same time as the Rolling Stones had their first hit in the German charts, with the Economic Miracle still in progress. For Schönenberger, everything pointed to growth. Thanks to huge demand, the first company-owned factory building in Stuttgart was followed by several relocations over the next few years. Finally, in 1984, the company moved into its current premises in Deizisau, just under 17 kilometres from Stuttgart. The company has always remained faithful to its roots and maintained its "Made in Germany" production quality. In keeping with this philosophy, the company manufactured its own tungsten carbide knives – initially only for the paper manufacturing and processing industry, and later for other industries such as the sheet metal processing and recycling. In 1997 Schönenberger invested in the construction of a new production facility of more than 5000 square metres, and in 2002 in a new administration building with state-of-the-art technology, organisation and infrastructure.

## **Time Is On My Side**

Further expansion manifested itself in 2003 in the integration of the paper knife division of Widia, a company based in Hardenberg/NL, and, most recently, in March 2014 in the acquisition of Anhold Industry GmbH, thus consolidating Anhold and Schönenberger plastics expertise. The timing was perfect, as plastic producers worldwide are facing ever-greater challenges as the result of increasingly complex and high-quality combinations of materials – because there's literally more to compounds with a high proportion of additives or glass – as well as masterbatches – than meets the eye. And industry constantly comes knocking with new functional requirements.

## **You Can Always Get What You Want**

This slightly modified Stones song title is probably the best expression of Schönenberger customer focus and satisfaction. New requirements lead to innovative solutions for industrial knives with steel bodies and tungsten carbide inserts, in keeping with current market demand. Some aspects always remain unchanged, however: high-precision cutting results and extremely long service life – about six to ten times that of a conventional steel knife.

## **Play With Fire**

Tungsten carbide is produced at temperatures of up to 1600 °C and pressures up to 2000 bar. This material is harder than any steel, and extremely thermally stable and wear-resistant. That is why tungsten carbide knives achieve such outstanding service life. Customers benefit from longer grinding cycles, a sophisticated Schönenberger blade geometry and clean cuts over a long period. Of course, Schönenberger is also open to other tasks and develops customized inserts featuring perfect tungsten carbide knives of ideal hardness – complete with quality guarantee.

### *About Schönenberger:*

*Schönenberger is a successful family-operated business headquartered in Deizisau, near Stuttgart. For over 50 years the company with its 60 highly qualified employees has been a global technology leader in the production of cutting tools for the paper, printing and plastics industries. The family name is closely associated with customer focus, quality and*

*innovation. These qualities guarantee a successful, growing enterprise. Competent sales partners around the world ensure the appropriate customer proximity.*

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