

KraussMaffei and Leibniz University Hanover intensify cooperation

- KraussMaffei delivers multivariable extrusion and recycling system to the Institute of Plastics and Circular Economy of University Hanover
- Cooperation prepares students for practical applications

(Hanover, August 3, 2021) KraussMaffei and the IKK - Institute of Plastics and Circular Economy of Leibniz University Hanover - intensify the cooperation for the research and development in the recycling of plastics. Dr. Michael Ruf, CEO of the KraussMaffei Group, Dr. Volker Nilles, Executive Vice President for New Machines Business at KraussMaffei, and Prof. Hans-Josef Endres, Head of the IKK, confirmed this during a visit to the campus in Garbsen near Hanover. There is an optimal interplay of the respective competencies of the partners: The IKK focuses on the analytical and application-oriented research as well as process and material development and the manufacturer of plastics machines KraussMaffei will ensure the implementation of the research results in sustainable industrial recycling, extrusion and injection molding machinery.

Plastics that have already been used can no longer be considered waste, but a recyclable material. New processes and technologies must make it possible for the plastics industry to achieve marketable recycling of post-production and also contaminated post-consumer plastic waste. The researchers and students at the IKK examine the entire value chain of plastic recycling from sorting, shredding, washing, melting, mechanical recycling and compounding through to the optimization of the resulting recycled materials and their further processing into a new component.

KraussMaffei delivers multivariable extrusion and recycling system to the IKK

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With a clear focus on extrusion, a tandem EdelweissCompounding line for basic tests is to be installed in spring 2022. By means of a newly created doctoral position, the cooperation will focus on the development of premium quality recycling processes in order to remove odors or contamination as efficiently as possible and to optimize the resulting properties of the recycled materials.

KraussMaffei has been assisting the first practical tests in the TechCenter of the IKK in Garbsen with comprehensive machine technology since the move to the new location in September 2019. The initial joint research work in the area of mechanical plastic recycling has already been conducted and at the same time the students at the institute can be offered highly qualified and practical education.

Cooperation prepares students for practical applications

"Through the cooperation with the IKK we can acquire young talent and accompany them in the training and education process. The students who work in our company, e.g., in the course of their bachelor or masters, are fully integrated in the processes from the start. This practical experience prepares them for the requirements of their future career. Ideally we can offer the students prospects in our company following the completion of their studies", says Michael Ruf, CEO of the KraussMaffei Group.

Photo captions:

Photo1_20210803_PM_EXT_Besuch_IKK: Claas Uphoff (Head of Expert Sales Compounding & Recycling at KraussMaffei), Dr. Georg Holzinger (Vice President Global Application & Product Owner at KraussMaffei), Franz-Xaver Keilbach (Global Application & Product Owner Circular Economy / Recycling at KraussMaffei), Dr. Michael Ruf (CEO of the KraussMaffei Group), Prof. Dr.-Ing. Hans-Josef Endres (Head of the Institute of Plastics and Circular Economy) and Dr. Volker Nilles (Executive Vice President for New Machines Business at KraussMaffei) (f.l.t.r.) met in the IKK - Institute of Plastics and Circular Economy of Leibniz University Hanover - to coordinate the further cooperation.

For further information and printing-quality photos, please visit:

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(Wordcount: 568 / characters 3,754)

KraussMaffei – Pioneering Plastics

KraussMaffei is among the world's leading manufacturers of machinery and systems for the production and processing of plastics and rubber. Our brand has been synonymous with cutting-edge technology for over 180 years. Our range of services cover all areas of injection molding machinery, extrusion technology and reaction process machinery. This gives KraussMaffei a unique selling point in the industry. With the high innovative power of our standardized and individual product, process, digital and service solutions, we can guarantee customers sustained added value over the entire value-adding chain. Our range of products and services allow us to serve customers in many sectors including the automotive, packaging, and medical and construction industries, as well as manufacturers of electrical and electronic products and household appliances. KraussMaffei employs around 4700 people all over the world. With more than 30 subsidiaries and over 10 production plants, as well as about 570 commercial and service partners, we are represented internationally close to our customers. The company headquarters has been in Munich since 1838. In April 2016, the Chinese state-owned company China National Chemical Corp. Ltd. ("ChemChina"), one of the leading chemical companies in China, became majority shareholder of KraussMaffei Group. At the end of 2018, ChemChina listed the KraussMaffei Group as KraussMaffei Company Ltd. in Shanghai. This listing opened up access to the Chinese capital market and local investors.

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