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5th Alternative Fuels Symposium with attendees from 32 countries



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Customer centricity is our perspective

KIRCHDORFER ZEMENTWERK HOFMANN GESELLSCHAFT M.B.H.

Kirchdorfer Zementwerk celebrates 130th founding anniversary



Photos: Kirchdorfer Gruppe (l.), K. Mitterhauser (r.)



1 and 2 Then & now – the evolution of Kirchdorfer Zementwerk

One hundred years ago, Emil Dierzer Ritter von Traunthal and Adolf Hofmann founded a cement plant in Kirchdorf an der Krems/Austria. Since then, that very traditioned, family-owned company has developed not only into a pioneer in terms of sustainable, ecofriendly cement production, but has also become the core component of a now internationally successful building materials group with more than 1800 employees at a total of 83 production sites.

At the end of September, Kirchdorfer employees and shareholders, plus representatives of local authorities, came together to celebrate the company's 130th founding anniversary. Eva Hofmann, majority shareholder and great-great-granddaughter of founding father Adolf Hofmann, gave a speech extolling both the generations of outstanding rapport between the two founding families and, not least, the outstanding performance of the company's employees. Managing

Director Mag. Erich Frommwald took the opportunity to thank his colleagues as well as the entire Kirchdorfer staff.

Tradition and Innovation since 1888

Actually, the cement plant's history extends all the way back to the early 1880s, when the two founders happened upon some promising limestone deposits during construction of the Kremstal railway. Not least in order to make good use of the new railway's capacity, they applied for permission to build a cement plant directly adjacent to the Kirchdorf railway station, and the plan was approved within a very short time. On 24.07.1888, the "Portland-Cementwerk Kirchdorf, Hofmann & Comp." was entered in the commercial register, and production commenced with a workforce of 244 employees. Since then, the pioneering spirit and sense of local responsibility of the legendary founding fathers Hofmann and Dierzer have run like a red thread through the company's entire history.



Photo: Kirchdorfer Zementwerk

3 The new façade concept combines established and new options



Photo: Christoph Rieger

4 Employees, plant management and shareholders celebrated the 130th founding anniversary together



Photo: Christoph Rieger

5 DI Matthias Pfützner (COO, second from left) and Mag. Erich Frommwald (CEO, third from left) among the Kirchdorfer Group shareholders – all of whom are descendants of the company's founders Hofmann and Dierzer

From the region's electrification with the Steyr-durchbruch power station more than a century ago to the more recent construction of a district heating system for local households, the company has always stayed ahead of the times: As early as 1958, the plant's dust emissions had already been almost completely eliminated by electrostatic precipitators. Instead of coal, the plant used gas as fuel and was able to supply Kirchdorf with district heating. Then, in 1997, the world's first pilot catalytic converter for the cement industry went into operation. Continuing on in the years to follow, a further number of special, logically consequential measures were instituted, particularly with regard to pollutant emissions and air pollution control.

The cement plant made history again in 2016 by setting new standards in cement production with a DeCONO_x plant for industrial exhaust air purification & heat recovery. The entire waste-heat energy yield is now fed into the local district heating network that serves more than 800 households all year round.

To date, more than 20 million t of cement has been produced at this very traditional plant. The Kirchdorf-based company also set some new records in 2018: Averaging some 1100 t of clinker per day, the company achieved its highest kiln output ever – and did so with an alternative fuel share of more than 90 %. To this day, environment-friendly production and the development of ecologically sound products continues to play a crucial role at Kirchdorfer Zementwerk – a plant that turns out numerous special products that set sustainability standards for the industry while conserving environmental resources to the greatest possible extent.

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