



Press Communication

Tristone Group adds new US plant in North Carolina

Tristone Flowtech Group located in Frankfurt/M. holds the opening ceremony for its new US plant in Mooresville, State of North Carolina on Wednesday April 17, 2019.

Present at the opening ceremony were representatives of the State of North Carolina, the Iredell County as well as of the town Mooresville and many representatives of Tristone's automotive customers.

In 2017, the Group started with the preparation and pre-selection of a new US plant located in North Carolina to support its growing business in the NAFTA region and especially in the US and Canada. In January 2018, the Group announced plans to invest \$23.6 million together with the investments in the building by the landlord to launch its first manufacturing plant in the United States. On May 16, 2018, the groundbreaking ceremony took place. The Group plans to create more than 300 jobs over the next three years. In December 2018, Tristone occupied the building and is now preparing start of operations by May 2019 for the first automotive customer in US.

'We are very satisfied to now have a production plant in the US in addition to our production plant in Mexico and our Sales & Engineering center in Detroit to service the NAFTA market. Exactly 11 months after the groundbreaking, a production plant with 16.500 square meters for manufacturing and logistics could be realized and is now ready for serial production' said Guenter Froelich, President & CEO, Tristone Group 'With our new plant in the US we can provide additional benefits to our automotive customers located in the US and Canada. The new Mooresville plant brings us much closer to our customers automotive plants and brings benefits to the local community through local employment'.

The new US plant will be the eleventh production plant of Tristone Group, in addition to the existing production plants in Mexico, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Italy, France, Spain, Turkey, India and China. It will host hose production as well as, in a next step, plastic pipe and plastic surge tank production for engine and battery cooling applications for major OEMs.

The Group is expecting to grow 11 % in 2019 to 321 Mio Euro and a further 24 % in 2020 to close to 400 Mio Euro, based on booked business with the global OEMs in Europe, NAFTA, China and India despite the weaker automotive business in some markets.

In October 2018, the new production plant in Pune, India started successfully with the production of plastic surge tanks for a leading Indian automotive customer and is preparing further start-ups for plastic surge tanks and engine cooling hose production for automotive customers in India.

In April 2017, the Group finalized a manufacturing transfer from its initial facility in Delicias, State of Chihuahua, Mexico to a new, expanded plant in the same city, which has more than doubled the available manufacturing space to 16.500 square meters. The new plant in Mexico is now delivering in serial production to major OEMS including Ford, General Motors, FiatChrysler, VW, BMW as well as some Tier I customers in Mexico, the US and Canada.

Tristone Flowtech Group is highly specialized on fluid applications in the areas of motor and battery cooling as well as air charge systems. The Group is benefiting from the trend towards a reduction of space and fuel consumption with the introduction of polyamide materials as well as the introduction of new powertrain concepts with hybrid and electrical cars and the integration of fluid motor and battery cooling systems.

Frankfurt/ Germany: TRISTONE Flowtech Group has reached 2018 an annual turnover of 291 M€ with 3.444 employees and is one of the leading automotive supplier groups worldwide for fluid applications in the area of engine cooling, battery cooling as well as turbochargers with manufacturing and development locations in Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Turkey, Spain, France, Italy, Mexico, USA, India and China.

The Group was established based on a spin-off of the former Fluid Automotive Business Unit of Trelleborg AB in July 2010 and is supplying to the automotive customers Renault with Dacia, Nissan, PSA with Peugeot, Citroen, Opel and Vauxhall, FiatChrysler, Ford, Changan Ford, Volvo, General Motors, VW Group with Audi, Seat, Skoda, Porsche, Bentley and Bugatti, BMW Group with Mini, Rolls-Royce, Daimler with Mercedes, Smart, JaguarLandrover, Suzuki, Mahindra-Mahindra, Hyundai Kia, Bosch as well as further Tier I suppliers.

Effective February 22, 2017, the Group was purchased by the Chinese Zhongding Group, Ningguo and is continuing to be managed under the same name and corporate structure.

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