

UNI WHEELS – a leading European manufacturer of alloy wheels - plans to expand production in Poland

- **UNI WHEELS plans to build third production plant in Stalowa Wola**
- **The investment plan will increase the production capacity by approx. 2 million wheels**
- **New plant will generate more than 250 new jobs in Stalowa Wola**

Bad Dürkheim, February 24th 2015: Germany-based alloy wheels manufacturer UNI WHEELS plans to expand its operations in Poland, which will increase the capacity of Polish factories by approx. 2 million wheels.

The UNI WHEELS Group is the leading European manufacturer of aftermarket alloy wheels (with brands ATS, RIAL, ALUTEC and ANZIO) and one of Europe's largest wheel suppliers to the automotive industry. Currently, the Group has three major production plants, two of them based in Stalowa Wola, and one in Germany (Werdohl).

Two factories in Stalowa Wola produced over 6 mln wheels last year. UNI WHEELS Group supplied 75% of them to renowned car manufacturers like Audi, BMW/MINI, Mercedes, Jaguar/Land Rover, PSA and Volvo as OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) and the remaining volume was sold to the accessory market under the globally-recognized brands: ATS, RIAL, ALUTEC and ANZIO.

“In response to positive market conditions and consistently increasing demand from our customers – both existing, and new ones gained in the process of broadening of our customers base, UNI WHEELS intends to expand its operations in Poland and increase production capacity in the near future” – says Ralf Schmid, CEO of UNI WHEELS AG.

The first stage of development will include the construction of several new buildings and the installation of an additional fully automatic painting line that will supplement the existing production capacities. Further stages will include setting up the new foundry with an array of new casting machines and melting ovens as well as robotic machinery cells for the automatic machining process. At the first stage, a capacity of 1.2 million wheels per year will be reached by the end of 2016, extending to full capacity of approx. 2 million wheels by the end of 2017.

“Benefits of the new painting line, in addition to the capacity increase are an improved flexibility of the entire production process especially within silver and clear coat finishing and the manufacturing of very large wheel sizes of up to 24”.” – says Mr. Schmid.

“The Group expects that the ramp-up process in the new plant will start in 2016 and the envisaged total capacity of approximately 2 million wheels per year will be achieved in 2018” - he adds.

PRESS RELEASE

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UNI WHEELS Group is one of the largest employers in Stalowa Wola region. As at the end of 2014 it employed over 1800 people in two factories – the number of employees increased by over 15% compared to the previous year. Polish employees constitute approx. 78% of UNI WHEELS Group staff complement. The new plant will generate at least 250 additional jobs in Stalowa Wola.

“We continuously increase effectiveness in our factories, which means that the Group will continue looking for any room for improvement to increase the productivity, quality and production capacity and for the upkeep of the state-of-the-art level of its manufacturing process as to remain the technology partner of choice for its most demanding automotive customers” – summarizes Mr. Schmid.



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About us:

UNI WHEELS Group is **the leading manufacturer of alloy wheels** in the European aftermarket (Accessory Division) and one of Europe's largest wheel suppliers to the automotive industry (Automotive Division). UNI WHEELS Group also equips professional motorsport racing vehicle series with high-tech wheels. For more than **40 years**, the Group has been producing **high-quality aluminium wheels mainly using the low-pressure casting technique**. Further manufacturing techniques used are flow forming, Lightforming® (advanced pressure rolling) and forging for ultra-light high-tech wheels.

With the **global brands of ATS, RIAL, ALUTEC and ANZIO**, **UNI WHEELS** possesses comprehensive knowledge in the accessories market and technical expertise as an original equipment manufacturer in the automotive industry. Furthermore, with its wide range of brands, the UNI WHEELS Group offers **wheels for all target groups**, from premium to economy.

Highly efficient production locations in Poland and Germany, as well as the **pooled technological expertise** of the group, form a secure base for further development of the brands and growth of the UNI WHEELS Group associated with this.

Two UNI WHEELS factories based in Stalowa Wola are responsible for approx. **83% of total Group production**. In 2014 over **6 million wheels** were sold from Poland-based factories. UNI WHEELS employs over **1800 employees** in Poland. The Group's **German plant in Werdohl** has approx. 370 employees and had an output of approx. 1.2 million **high-end wheels** sold in 2014.

In 2013 the UNI WHEELS Group had revenues of EUR 337.2 m, EBITDA of EUR 38.2 m and net income of EUR 13.2 m.

More information: www.uniwheels.com



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