Press Release

Continental invests in technology for 3D blow molded hoses used in high performance turbochargers

- **Investment of approximately 10 million Euros in Changshu, China**
- **New plant will start series production in the third quarter of 2018**

Changshu, August 2018. Technology company Continental invested approximately 10 million Euros (about 70 million RMB) in a new 3D blow molding plant in Changshu, China. The plant has officially opened now. In the future, 3D blow molded hoses used in high performance turbochargers for automotive OEMs will be produced there. Thus, Continental meets growing technology demand within China's manufacturing sectors. "The investment into the new plant underlines our focus on and commitment to the Chinese domestic market, especially the automotive market," Thomas Reichenbach emphasized, manager of the 3D Blow Molding Project. The new plant will rely on Continental's global hose and duct expertise and adopt internationally advanced 3D blow molding technology to provide Chinese automakers with high performance turbocharger ducts.

The 3D blow molding plant in Changshu is Continental's fourth production site featuring the 3D blow molding technology across the world, following Waltershausen in Germany, Somersworth in the United States and San Luis Potosi in Mexico. Its production workshop is equipped with multiple state of the art production lines for highly automated and intelligent production. The new plant will start series production in the third quarter of 2018.

High-quality automotive plastic products can effectively increase performance and reduce the overall vehicle weight, thereby optimizing the body structure and improving fuel efficiency. With the adoption of the blow molding technology, recovery and recycling can be realized, thus reducing pollution emissions during production, meeting the requirements for sustainable liquidity in the industrial production process. What is offering additional value to the customers is that, by relying on the 3D blow molding technology, auto parts manufacturers will eliminate the cumbersome production and assembly of intermediate parts in the production process, greatly shortening the supply chain, improving the production efficiency of the automotive industry.

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Captions

Continental_pp_3D Blow Molding Plant.jpg

Continental's 3D blow molding plant mainly produces 3D blow molded hoses used in high performance turbochargers for automotive OEMs.

Photo: Continental

Continental_pp_Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.jpg

Ribbon cutting ceremony of the new plant.

Photo: Continental

Continental develops pioneering technologies and services for sustainable and connected mobility of people and their goods. Founded in 1871, the technology company offers safe, efficient, intelligent, and affordable solutions for vehicles, machines, traffic, and transportation. In 2017, Continental generated sales of €44 billion and currently employs more than 243,000 people in 60 countries.

ContiTech is one of the world's leading industry specialists. The Continental division offers its customers connected, environment-friendly, safe and convenient industry and service solutions using a range of materials for off-highway applications, on rails and roads, in the air, under and above the ground, in industrial environments, for the food sector and the furniture industry. With around 47,000 employees in 42 countries and sales of some 6.2 billion euros (2017), the global industrial partner is active with core branches in Asia, Europe and North and South America.

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