



PRESS RELEASE

Arntz Optibelt achieves a turnover of around €282.8 million in 2018

- **New mixing room at Höxter site**
- **Optibelt focuses on own training**

Höxter, 3 September 2019. In 2018, the Arntz Optibelt Group increased its year-on-year turnover by +3.1% to €282.8 million.

The first seven months of the current year are marked by a weaker economic environment. Turnover reached the previous year's level. 'The outlook remains cautious, so that we expect a flat development by the end of the year', says Reinhold Mühlbeyer, Chairman of the Management Board. 'After a substantial investment in capacity expansion over the last 1.5 years, production capacity had to be adjusted accordingly.' Controlling and adjusting costs are the focus of further activities. However, the company is still investing in its future. This includes a new mixing room at the Höxter site and investments in personnel by expanding the range of training opportunities.

New mixing room at Höxter site

The 'new mixing room' project represents a multi-million investment and constitutes a milestone for the future direction of the Höxter site. As a result of this investment, the Group is increasing its competitiveness with regard to future market and product requirements and the associated technical quality demands on the compounds.

Optibelt focuses on its own training

At a time when there is a shortage of skilled workers and the challenges of digitalisation are increasing, Optibelt is focusing on its own training. In the 2019 training year, the Group is putting special emphasis on engineering and IT. The number of study places has almost doubled to seven sandwich students compared to the previous year (four first semester students in 2018). The fields of specialisation have also been expanded. Apprenticeship and study courses such as Digital Logistics combine knowledge from the fields of engineering,

information technology, business administration and logistics. Candidates must submit their applications one year in advance of the start of training in August 2020.

About Optibelt

The Arntz Optibelt Group is one of the world's leading manufacturers of high-performance drive belts and develops sophisticated drive solutions for use in mechanical engineering, the automotive industry, the agricultural machinery sector, the household appliance industry and the medical sector. The family-run company controls eight production sites in six countries from its headquarters in Höxter and maintains its own logistics and sales centres in Europe, North and South America, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. Worldwide more than 2400 employees provide the best possible service, excellent customer proximity and the highest quality and safety standards.

www.optibelt.com

Press contact

Arntz Optibelt Group

Press and public relations work

Viviane Geisler

Tel: +49 5271 62-694

E-mail: v.geisler@optibelt.com

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Reinhold Mühlbeyer and Konrad Ummen, Arntz Optibelt Group Management