Leoni expands capacities in Mexico

Third wiring systems plant inaugurated in Merida – Supply of US and Asian customers – Creation of 2,600 jobs ahead

Merida (Mexico) / Nuremberg (Germany), 30 November 2017 – Leoni, the leading European provider of cables and cable systems to the automotive sector and other industries, further expands its capacities in the Americas. Today, the company has officially opened a new, environmentally friendly Mexican wiring systems plant in the city of Merida, which will serve customers headquartered in Asia and the US. Leoni is recruiting about 2,600 people for the new location.

“The new plant in Merida is a clear sign of our dynamic growth in the Americas”, states Martin Stüttem, Member of the Board of Directors of Leoni AG with responsibility for the Wiring Systems Division (WSD). “We are the first foreign investor to build up a production facility involving such a high number of industrial jobs in the Yucatan region.”

The now inaugurated plant in Merida is Leoni’s third site for wiring systems in Mexico. The company already operates locations in Hermosillo and Durango, which produce wiring harnesses for commercial vehicles and passenger cars. The production scope in Merida comprises harnesses for a series of passenger car models from a US based customer and a manufacturer from Asia. Today, Leoni employs about 500 people in the new facility. In 2018, when the plant will run at full capacity, the company expects to count up to 2,600 staff. The new location has a total production area of approximately 25,000 m².

Focus on environmental responsibility

Until end of 2017, the plant will be equipped with more than 1,500 solar panels, which will provide approximately one third of the total energy required. Moreover, the location in Merida uses a water recycling system, resulting in a daily reduction of needed fresh water of almost 100,000 litres. Currently, Leoni is going through the BREEAM certification process, one of the world’s leading sustainability assessment methods for masterplanning projects, infrastructure and buildings.

Wanted: Operators, engineers and specialists

During 2018, the Merida plant expects to contract not only a large number of employees with an operational profile, but also industrial, logistics and quality engineers, technical specialists as well as administrative support personnel. Moreover, Leoni will establish a shared services centre for the human resources department in Merida, which will support all the plants in the Americas.

With regard to the whole Leoni Group, the Merida plant is the Company’s fifth location in Mexico, since the Wire & Cable Solutions Division is also operating two sites in the country, which are specialised in automotive cables. Moreover, the company is present in other North and South American countries operating production facilities as well as offices for research & development and sales in Canada, the US, Brazil and Paraguay.

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☞ *Related illustration material can be downloaded next to this release at* [*www.leoni.com/en/press/releases/details/leoni-expands-capacities-in-mexico/*](http://www.leoni.com/en/press/releases/details/leoni-expands-capacities-in-mexico/)

About the Leoni Group and its activities in Mexico

Leoni is a global supplier of wires, optical fibers, cables and cable systems as well as related services for the automotive sector and further industries. Leoni develops and produces technically sophisticated products from single-core automotive cables through to complete wiring systems. Leoni’s product range also comprises wires and strands, standardized cables, special cables and cable system assemblies for various industrial markets. The group of companies, which is listed on the German MDAX, employs about 84,000 people in 31 countries and generated consolidated sales of EUR 4.4 billion in 2016. In 2017 Leoni celebrates its 100 years anniversary.

In Mexico, Leoni is present since 1997 and manufactures bulk cables and wiring systems for the motor vehicle industry. Products are mainly delivered to customer plants in Mexico and the United States. Groupwide, the company currently employs about 8,000 staff in the country.

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