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# Additive manufacturing: STIWA brings tomorrow's production to Gampern

In order to expand its product and production portfolio, STIWA Advanced Products is investing in the future technology of additive manufacturing. Up to 20% of STIWA's machining capacity could be replaced by additive manufacturing in the future. A high-calibre event - organized by STIWA together with the higher technical college Vöcklabruck and the Mechatronics Cluster - attracted more than 50 people to the STIWA production site in Gampern, where STIWA provided numerous industry experts as well as representatives from industry, research and education with exciting insights into additive manufacturing at STIWA.

Additive manufacturing - i.e. the 3D printing of plastic and metal components - is gaining ground worldwide as a technology of the future. The great advantage of industrial 3D printing is that components can be completely rethought - with geometries that were previously unthinkable, while at the same time reducing material and energy consumption. This is made possible by so-called flexible lattice structures, which are reminiscent of organically grown shapes and exhibit high strength despite their low weight.

#### STIWA Advanced Products as a competence centre for additives

This innovative production technology is currently being expanded at the STIWA site in Gampern. With the new technology, material and weight reductions of up to 80% are possible, and geometries and parts can be produced that were previously unthinkable. "Our goal is to become a complete supplier of production solutions, from development to innovative series production. We want to be 'best in class' between Vienna and Munich - in other words, we want to be an additive competence centre that no one will be able to bypass in the future," says Josef Brandmayr, Managing Director of STIWA Advanced Products GmbH. Several 3D printers are already in use in Gampern, and in addition to traditional materials such as plastic, the company is already working intensively on product solutions made of metal. In the future, around 30 to 40 3D printers could be in use in Gampern. "Additive manufacturing is the ideal complement to the STIWA Advanced Products portfolio and a further step towards differentiating ourselves from the competition in the future," says Brandmayr.

## Successful technical lecture at the Additive Campus in Gampern

In recent months, an "Additive Campus" has been established in Gampern, Austria, with the aim of further increasing expertise in this field. This centre of excellence will host lectures by exciting industry experts, product demonstrations, as well as events for schools and further education. In cooperation with the Mechatronics Cluster and the higher technical college Vöcklabruck, a top-class event took place in Gampern. STIWA presented the latest technologies to more than 50 representatives from industry, research and education and gave practical insights into how the future technology of additive manufacturing is already being used successfully in industrial production. The morning before, Dr. Tina Schlingmann (EOS Munich), Univ. Prof. Dr. Franz Haas (TU Graz) and Martin Reiter (Johannes Kepler University Linz) gave inspiring keynotes at the higher technical college Vöcklabruck.

#### Many thanks for the cooperation

"We are pleased that our event met with such great interest and would like to thank principal Gernot Weissensteiner of the higher technical college Vöcklabruck and the Mechatronics Cluster for their cooperation. We want to use this joint exchange to further deepen our expertise in this area and are already looking forward to the next events that are already being planned," says Brandmayr.

## About STIWA

As the world's leading specialist in product and high performance automation with more than 2,300 employees on three continents and its headquarters in Austria / Europe, STIWA has been convincing customers with innovative automation, production and software solutions for more than 50 years. STIWA combines state-of-the-art mechanical engineering with efficient, high-performance production technologies and comprehensive software tools, thus setting new standards for its customers in the field of digital, fully automated production.