

PRESS RELEASE

Award-winning Weinmann honored anew

Date: 9 September 2008

Hamburg *Gründerpreis* 2008 for smooth transition in family-owned company

Hamburg – Weinmann, the Hamburg-based medical technology company, was awarded the Hamburg *Gründerpreis* yesterday in the "rising star" category for its successful transfer of power and dynamic financial growth. During a gala event in the historic *Fischauktionshalle* Dr. Harald Vogelsang of the *Hamburger Sparkasse* presented the award to the two managing partners, Dr. Karl-Andreas Feldhahn and Marc Griefahn.

"We're very pleased about receiving this award," said Mr. Griefahn, management spokesman. "It's an impressive way to confirm that we are on the right track." In recent years the family-controlled company has grown steadily and has created many new jobs in Hamburg. The number of employees was about 300 in 2002 and by 2007 had increased to more than 500.

Successful strategy for the future

After the smooth managerial transition from father Dr. Joachim Griefahn to his son Marc in 2004, the strategy for the company's future was developed and implemented. "Our 'InnoChamp' concept stands for growth through internationalization and innovation," said Marc Griefahn. "In the fast-moving medical technology market you have to keep bringing new developments and devices to the market to remain competitive. It quickly became clear to us that significant growth was feasible only if we turned our attention to the international market." This strategy has already paid off, he added.

Award for above-average corporate achievement

This year marks the seventh time the Hamburg *Gründerpreis* (entrepreneur award) has been awarded. Sponsors are the Hamburg *Handelskammer* (chamber of commerce), the *Handwerkskammer* (chamber of handicrafts), the *Hamburger Sparkasse* (savings bank), the *Hamburger Abendblatt* (local daily newspaper), the television broadcaster Hamburg 1 and Studio Hamburg. Former award winners in the "rising star" category include such well-known Hamburg entrepreneurial businesses as Lunge Lauf- und Sportschuhe, EAST Hotel, BALZAC Coffee GmbH and Globetrotter *Ausrüstungen*. In bestowing the award, sponsors want to pay tribute to above-average corporate achievement, to encourage entrepreneurs to take the step into self-employment and to promote the entrepreneurial spirit in Hamburg.

"We are very proud of this award," Mr. Griefahn said. "We are happy to accept it on behalf of our employees, without whom it would not have been possible to earn it. The *Gründerpreis* motivates us to stay the course and continue in future to develop innovative life-saving and therapeutic medical technology."

In the past few years Weinmann has received several noteworthy prizes and awards:

2004	Deutschlands Beste Arbeitgeber (Germany's best employers)
2007	Fair Company
2007	Ausgewählter Ort 2007 - Deutschland Land der Ideen Landmark 2007 – Germany Land of Ideas
2008	Hamburger Familiensiegel (Hamburg family seal)
2008	Beste Fabrik (General Excellence Award)
2008	Hamburger Gründerpreis (Hamburg entrepreneur award)

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Background: Weinmann

Weinmann Geräte für Medizin GmbH + Co. KG concentrates on its product lines Homecare, Emergency and Diagnostics. In these areas the Hamburg-based family business offers diagnostic, therapeutic and also life-saving devices and system solutions of the highest quality. Today it is in the hands of the Griefahn and Feldhahn families and its headquarters have been located in Hamburg-Stellingen since 1977.

Today the company has about 500 employees. With more than 100 patent families and 90 trademarks, Weinmann is among the leading providers of medical devices for home care, diagnostics and emergency medicine in Germany. Sales in 2007 were 65.5 million Euros. Weinmann does business in more than 50 countries and operates branch offices in France, Switzerland, Thailand, China, Russia, Australia and New Zealand.

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