

PRESS RELEASE

Numerous Awards for Weinmann

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Hamburg medical technology company receives awards for innovation, corporate performance and business model

Düsseldorf – The Hamburg-based medical technology company Weinmann has received many distinguished business awards in recent years. This past September the firm was awarded the Hamburg *Gründerpreis* in recognition of its outstanding corporate performance. The award is intended to encourage a culture of business creation and self-employment in the Hanseatic city.

The *Gründerpreis*, now in its seventh year, is sponsored by 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. Weinmann received top honors in the "rising star" category for its successful transfer of power and dynamic financial growth.

Second place in the Industrial Excellence Award

A few months earlier the company successfully competed in the Industrial Excellence Award (*Die Beste Fabrik*) and shared second place with a Siemens production facility, just behind the winning BMW automotive factory. In the contest, which has been held 12 times in Germany, a jury evaluates all the categories that go into making a factory good, including a company's business model and its implementation in corporate strategy, customer involvement and mastery of the value-added chain. Prizes are awarded by the management school Insead in Fontainebleau and WHU Otto Beisheim School of Management in Vallendar together with *Wirtschaftswoche* and the French trade journal *L'Usine Nouvelle*.

Hamburg Family Seal for family-friendly policy

Praise of the company was not limited to financial performance and sound management. At the start of 2008 Weinmann became the 50th Hamburg business to receive the Hamburg Family Seal in recognition of its family-friendly policies. This prize honors the efforts of companies that give their employees personal responsibility for managing their work, their own health and their families. The companies' flexible approach means that employees can arrange working hours so they can better balance job responsibilities with family life.

Landmark 2007 in Land of Ideas for innovation management

At the end of 2007 Weinmann was designated a Landmark 2007 in Land of Ideas for its growth initiative known as "InnoChamp". The Weinmann strategy for growth is based on internationalization and innovation.

In making the presentation, Hamburg's then-Senator of Science, Jörg Dräger, said that Weinmann, thanks to its prize-winning innovation management, had been able to drive forward its product development and process optimization within a very short time. That achievement made Weinmann one of the most innovative places in Germany and earned it recognition in "Germany -- Land of Ideas", a cooperative business site campaign jointly sponsored by the federal government and German businesses.

Praised as employer too

As an employer, Weinmann is also among the leading companies in Germany. That award came from the "Fair Company" initiative in 2007. "Fair companies" comply with regulations for working with apprentices. They pay apprentices a salary, do not use apprentices to fill permanent positions and offer training opportunities with a professional orientation. Just four years ago Weinmann was also named as one of the 50 best employers in Germany.

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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 550 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, China, Russia, Australia and New Zealand.

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