

Press Release | April 29, 2009

B. Braun invests €82 million in new medical device production facility including training center

Melsungen. B. Braun Melsungen AG is currently constructing a new manufacturing facility for dialysis machines and infusion pumps as well as a new training center at its Melsungen site, with a total investment volume of €82 million. The current production area at the existing location is not sufficient for future demand. "In order to meet increasing demand for our products, we must invest in a new manufacturing facility," said Dr. Wolfgang Feller, member of the Management Board of B. Braun Melsungen AG, at a press conference in Melsungen on Thursday, April 29. Construction of the building began in March. The new production facility is scheduled to start operation in the third quarter of 2010, while the administrative domains and the training center will move there in summer 2011.

More than 150 new employees have been hired at the current location in Schwarzenberger Weg in the past two years alone. "The new factory will help us secure these jobs, and new jobs will be created with continued growth," explained Dr. Feller. He added that the old facility will continue to be used as a component plant and will also be modernized for this purpose.

Site designed as "Avitum Village"

Described as the "Avitum Village," the new site was designed by the Dr. Schönheit and Partners architectural and planning office in Cologne. Production director Manfred Herres explained the idea behind the term "Avitum Village": "In the region, the PfiEFFewiesen complex is often referred to as the 'B. Braun City of Industry'. 'Avitum Village' then seemed like an appropriate name for the new

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facility to be built in front of it.”

Like in a real village, marketplaces will serve as key locations at the new facility: “There will be for instance a ‘Marketplace for People,’ where all employees enter the plant and where the cafeteria is located, and a ‘Marketplace for Materials,’ where goods flow to and from the individual production halls,” added Herres. Similar to the existing Pfieffenwiesen complex, a park will be built in front of the buildings including a water lily pond which will also serve as a water reservoir for the planned fire sprinkler system.

State-of-the-art production methods

The new facility will produce dialysis machines and infusion pumps using state-of-the-art manufacturing methods and processes. Furthermore, as of 2011, the development centers for dialysis machines and infusion pumps including the corresponding application labs will move here in order to continue to provide ongoing innovation in the field of active medical devices in the future and meet the challenges of the world market.

Investment in training

A training center will also be constructed within the “Avitum Village” to keep abreast of technical advances and accommodate the growing demand for well-trained specialists. €5 million are earmarked for this project alone. “The new training center will enable us to increase the number of apprenticeship training positions in technical fields by 40% in the coming years,” commented HR head Jürgen Sauerwald.

New manufacturing facility provides job security

Works Council Chairman Peter Hohmann welcomed the investment, which will secure long-term jobs in Melsungen: “The company benefits from the highly trained specialists available locally, while the employees enjoy job guarantees and profit sharing, as specified in our new job security agreement.” The new job security agreement comes into force in October 2009, replacing the previous

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agreement. The new pact, which applies across all investment projects at the site, requires employees to provide 546 hours of overtime, to be specified by the company and remunerated through an annual profit-sharing payment. The company also agrees to forego layoffs in Melsungen through December 31, 2014 and to provide employees with a comprehensive professional development program. B. Braun also commits to the official union pay scale of the German chemical industry over the course of the new job security agreement.

Information about B. Braun is available at www.bbraun.com