

Rettig ICC takes over Hewing

Uponor has sold the plastic pipe manufacturer

Ochtrup, 24. January 2012. The Rettig ICC group has purchased the entire business shares of Hewing GmbH, Ochtrup, with reservation that the Anti-Monopoly Office is going to accept the acquisition. The corresponding contracts were signed on 24th January 2012 by the previous owner of Hewing, the Uponor Group, Finland and the Rettig Group, Finland.

„With Hewing we take over an enterprise that perfectly fits into our corporate strategy with excellent Know-how and well experienced employees“ declares Dr. Markus Lengauer, chairman of the board of Rettig ICC (Indoor Climate Comfort).

Hewing GmbH in Ochtrup was founded in 1974 and is one of the world wide leading manufacturer of PE-Xc-plastic pipes and multi layer pipes for system- and industrial customers. In the financial year 2010 the 230 employees generated a turnover of 50 million Euro.

Additional production volumes for Hewing

Rettig ICC plans to continue the present operative and strategical business of Hewing and is going to develop the enterprise further after the successfully processed transaction. As a member of the Rettig ICC Group Hewing will keep its independant structures.

Further, the main focus of Hewing remains on the requirements and demands of the system customers in the sanitary – and heating field and of course on the OEM -and industrial customers and is going to run the business self-sustainingly. As accustomed Hewing has the focus on customer benefit and the longlasting extension of innovation. Moreover it is intended that Hewing provides the entire pipe production for Rettig ICC that hence creates additional production volumes for Hewing.

„The incorporation of Hewing into an international group that as well offers the financial technological and personnel resources to support Hewing on its strategical way to future, is very significant and forward looking“, Dominik Rössler, Managing Director of Hewing points out.

Rettig will become a system manufacturer

Rettig ICC completely trusts in the competence of the Hewing staff and management and is considering the acquisition of Hewing as an important step to boost the international business of underfloor heating built up over the last years. By means of the experienced Know-how of the Hewing- staff Rettig ICC will not only develop from supplier for underfloor heating systems to a main manufacturer but as well gain innovation power and will offer high quality complete systems to the market.

In 2012 the Rettig Group has generated a sales volume of about 960 million Euro. More than 4.500 employees are working for Rettig in 20 European countries, China and the US. The top-selling business area of Rettig ICC with approx. 3.000 employees has reached a turnover of approx. 540 million Euro. Rettig ICC is the main manufacturer for panel radiators and decorative surface heatings in Europe. Moreover the division automatic control engineering and smokestack systems are part of the business field. In Germany the enterprise is wellknown because of the trademark Purmo and Vogel & Noot.

Besides the activities in building technology the Rettig Group is operating 19 cargo ships together with Bore Group and is - with Nordkalk - the leading manufacturer for chalk products in Northern Europe. The head quarter of the traditional and family run Group is located in Helsinki, Finland.

Uponor concentrates production and Sales strategy

As a result of the Uponor sales- and material strategy the business model and production processes, Hewing and Uponor have developed in different directions and as well the product portfolio.

In future the Uponor Corporation concentrates solely on the production and sales of tap water – and surface heating solutions and as well on the development of the infra-structure in Scandinavia. These will be distributed under the brand name Uponor from the whole seller to the professional tradesmen. Furthermore the company intensifies the project -orientated sales. Thus

the business model of Hewing, to deliver solely plastic- and multi layer pipes to system suppliers who offer their own system with an individual brand name, is not part of the strategy any more.

Besides that Uponor has changed the material strategy and is focused on PE-Xa-plastic pipes since 2011 – and this with self-developed machine technology for multi layer pipes. These products are manufactured at several Uponor production sites in Europe. Thus Uponor concentrates the market leading capacities in development and production. „The vending of Hewing does create new resources to continue the strategical development of Uponor consequently” , declares Jyri Luomakoski, chairman and CEO of Uponor Corporation.

About Uponor

Uponor is one of the worldwide leading supplier for solutions in the field of heating/cooling and tap water installations. With a global sales network in more than 100 countries and about 3.200 employees Uponor is the strong partner for professional tradesmen, planner, investors, general contractors and people responsible for residential and industrial buildings. The products of Uponor daily contribute an important part improving life quality and providing energy efficiency, convenience and clean tap water. The enterprise is listed on the stock-exchange in Helsinki and has generated a consolidated sales volume of 749,2 million Euro in 2010.

<http://www.uponor.com>

About Rettig ICC

With its international trademarks Purmo and Vogel & Noot Rettig ICC is the European market leader for production and sales of panel radiators and decorative heating surfaces. The Rettig ICC's product range contains as well underfloor heating, automatic control engineering systems for heating/cooling and smoke pipe systems. The group has approx.3.000 employees in 15 manufacturing plants and numerous sales offices around the world. The main customers are wholesalers in the sanitary – and heating field in Northern-, Western-, Central and Eastern Europe. Rettig ICC is a subsidiary of Rettig Group Ltd. based in Helsinki, Finland.

<http://www.rettigicc.com>

About Hewing

Founded 1974 in Ochtrup Hewing GmbH is the worldwide leading OEM-brand for cross linked polyethylene pipes and aluminum multi layer pipes in various designs. By means of these specially developed, custom-fit components Hewing does provide sanitary – and heating system suppliers worldwide and as well customers in different industrial segments. In the business year 2010 the 230 employees generated a turnover of approx. 50 millionEuro.

<http://www.hewing.com>