

PHYSICS NOBEL LAUREATE DR. GEORG BEDNORZ VISITS THEVA

Discoverer of high temperature superconductor impressed by series production

Ismaning, June 15, 2016 – 30 years ago physicists Karl Alexander Müller and Johannes Georg Bednorz discovered a new ceramic superconductor that promised resistance-free current flow at much higher temperatures than before. Just a year later they were awarded the Nobel Prize in physics. In an interview with the Süddeutsche Zeitung in 2011 Bednorz spoke of the hope that it might soon be possible to make superconductors at competitive prices, bringing new products onto the markets for energy transmission, propulsion and magnetic technologies.

Today, this wish has become reality. Bednorz saw it for himself at a visit to THEVA's production facility in Ismaning. THEVA is the only company in Germany manufacturing superconductors in series production, with the goal of bringing large quantities to market at competitive prices, i.e. comparable to copper.

Bednorz was impressed by the manufacturing technology which the company near Munich has developed over the last few years. "I'm glad to see that here, entrepreneurial courage has made it possible to overcome the technical challenges and make superconductors available for wide use. It gives me confidence that a full market breakthrough, with all its benefits to industry and society, lies just ahead."

Photo 1 caption: Dr. Johannes Georg Bednorz (second from right) viewing THEVA's production facility with his wife Dr. Mechthild Wennemer Bednorz (left), CEO Dr. Werner Prusseit (second from left) and CTO Dr. Jörg Handke (right).

Photo 2 caption: Dr. Jörg Handke shows the tape feed into the vacuum of the coating plant. Left to right: Dr. Mechthild Wennemer Bednorz, Dr. Werner Prusseit, CEO of THEVA, Nobel laureate Dr. Johannes Georg Bednorz and Dr. Jörg Handke, CTO of THEVA.

Photo 3 caption: Dr. Georg Sigl explains the simple exchange of electro polishing process return rollers for cleaning using a purpose-developed click closure. Left to right: Dr. Mechthild Wennemer Bednorz, Nobel laureate Dr. Johannes Georg Bednorz, Melania Albert and Dr. Georg Sigl, both of THEVA.

About THEVA

With 20 years' experience in coating technology and equipment engineering, THEVA today stands for a unique approach in superconductor production. In 2012, after investing over 15 years in research and testing phases, the company brought powerful partners on board: Target Partners and the Bayerische Beteiligungsgesellschaft. The new THEVA Pro-Line superconductors round out the company's comprehensive portfolio of high-end coating and systems technology solutions.

THEVA Dünnschichttechnik GmbH was founded in 1996 and today has more than 45 employees. Headquartered in Germany, and with contacts in Asia, the USA and Russia, the company has a global presence for its customers.

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