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Press Release

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DMT and Westfalen AG sign cooperation agreement on silo fire-fighting

Essen, Germany 14.10.2013. Even large professional fire brigades call in expert support when tackling silo fires. One reason is the lack of experience some fire brigades have in combatting such special fires, especially where the use of nitrogen is often involved. In many other cases, they simply don't have the required measuring equipment, such as high-resolution infrared cameras or high-precision carbon monoxide and oxygen meters.

In order to make the necessary large quantities of inert gas, e.g. nitrogen, available as quickly as possible in an emergency situation, as well as providing sophisticated technical equipment, such as evaporators and appropriate safety equipment, DMT GmbH & Co. KG, a subsidiary of TÜV NORD AG, has concluded a co-operation agreement with the energy provider Westfalen AG. The agreement consolidates a whole set of joint services associated with fire protection at silo sites. On the basis of this agreement, sufficient gas volumes plus the entire technical safety equipment can be made available in the shortest possible time in the event of a fire. The cooperation agreement was signed in Essen on 25 September by Heinz-Gerd Körner, Chairman of the DMT management board, and Bernd Balink, Head of Domestic Gas at Westfalen AG.

DMT GmbH & Co. KG

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Managing Company:
DMT Verwaltungsgesellschaft mbH
represented by its managing directors
Heinz-Gerd Körner (CEO)
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Dr. Guido Rettig

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Registration court: Amtsgericht
Essen, registration no. HRA 9091

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TÜV NORD GROUP

"We hereby offer a service that is one of a kind in Germany", explains project manager Jörg Kayser. "We can be reached quickly via an emergency number."

In addition, DMT and Westfalen AG are cooperating on services for fire prevention. "On the basis of the information from DMT, Westfalen AG is able to ensure it has sufficient emergency provisions of inert gas and associated equipment for each silo, and can deliver these to the silo operator's rapidly in a real-case scenario", explains Bernd Balink.

(1,835 characters, including spaces)

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Special-situation fire fighting at DMT:

The self-ignition of materials (such as coal, wood chips, animal feed etc.), the preventive measures to avoid such processes and the necessary action to be taken in the event of fire, have been areas of focus for DMT

for several decades. The company is particularly experienced in dealing with self-ignition fires at landfill sites, storage facilities (coal stores etc.) and silos, and draws on the specialist know-how of the company's own Expert Body for Fire Protection to assist in fire fighting measures. It offers support in evaluating the initial situation and/or fire investigation (measurements with gas detectors and thermal imaging cameras), selecting and implementing appropriate inertisation measures, protecting the surrounding area by controlling the outbreak of harmful substances, as well as final assessment measurements after suppression.

About DMT

DMT GmbH & Co. KG, headquartered in Essen, Germany, is an independent engineering and consulting company, active at international scale. The DMT Group has about 1,000 employees, most of them engineers, scientists and technicians, who provide services in the form of individualised consulting and assistance tailored specifically to the clients' needs. They also serve as impartial assessors. The firm's activities focus on the fields of natural resources exploration, mining and cokemaking technology, construction and infrastructure projects, safety in buildings, product testing and measurement instrumentation in industrial settings. DMT is a member of the TÜV NORD GROUP.
<http://www.dmt.de/en/home.html>

The Westfalen Group

The Westfalen Group is as a technology provider in the energy sector with a total of 22 subsidiaries and associated companies operating internationally. The headquarters of the family firm, founded in 1923, are in Münster, Germany, and more than 20 production sites are located in Germany, France, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the Czech Republic. The company's core business is in the fields of gas, energy supply and petrol stations. With around 1,300 employees, the Westfalen Group generated a turnover of over 1.9 billion Euros in the 2012 financial year. It produces and sells some 300 gases and gas mixtures for almost all industrial applications in areas such as handicrafts, food manufacturing, laboratories, pharmaceuticals and medical use. Among the most widely sold are the atmospheric gases nitrogen, oxygen and argon, which it produces in three air separation plants, as well as acetylene and hydrogen. Demand for carbon dioxide (CO₂) and helium is also growing. A strong focus is the development of innovative gas applications to optimise industrial processes, however, cooling and heat-transfer agents for refrigeration and air-conditioning technology also form part of the company's versatile product range.