



Institut für
Oberflächentechnik
GmbH



Planung und Beratung
Oberflächentechnik
GmbH

Press release

QUBUS and IFO expand their presence abroad

IFO Institut für Oberflächentechnik is expanding in Germany, China and the Middle East

Schwäbisch Gmünd, 6 July 2021

The IFO Institut für Oberflächentechnik (Institute for Surface Engineering) in Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany has expanded its site in Hangzhou, China and has opened a new 1,000m² laboratory there. This is an important step for the affiliated companies IFO (laboratory centre of excellence and inspections) and QUBUS (engineering service provider for surface technology) from Schwäbisch Gmünd. The construction project was launched in 2019 and the site is now in operation so that customers from China and the Asian market also have access to a local service and a unique network of experts in surface engineering.

“We follow our customers, who are represented at various locations around the world. We also want to be available locally across the globe to answer queries and to provide the same service offering everywhere”, says Michael Müller, Managing Director of the IFO Institute.

Alongside China, the Institut für Oberflächentechnik is also planning to expand further in Dubai. General Manager Marc Holz is currently in the city to expand the branch into a laboratory site. This means that the corporate group is responding to a strong increase in demand from sectors driven by structural change. Beyond the usual core business area of architecture, many requests are arriving from the alternative drive/electromobility sector, the train industry, the heavy corrosion protection sector (pipelines and water provision systems), the wet lacquer sector and the testing sector for new coating systems.

“This also means more growth for our main site in Schwäbisch Gmünd. Despite adding another extension to our laboratory just three years ago, we are already considering creating more laboratory and office capacity,” says Müller. “Colleagues in Germany, China and Dubai are also able to exchange ideas really well thanks to digital channels: our project engineers regularly contribute their expertise to dialogues during international projects and when there are tricky technical questions to answer, creating synergies between the different specialist areas. Modern methods of communication create ideal conditions for the teams to collaborate on an international scale”.

In collaboration with the affiliated company QUBUS Planung und Beratung Oberflächentechnik GmbH and the company sites in Dubai, China and the Netherlands, the IFO Institut für Oberflächentechnik offers services for surface engineering companies around the world. Over 90 qualified employees work in the Inspections, Certification, Expert Opinions, Coating Research, Laboratory Services, Plant and Factory Planning, Environmental Law and Management Systems divisions.

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'Salt spray test' laboratory division at the site in Hangzhou, China



Team from the Hangzhou IFO Quality Testing Co. Ltd

