

# Press Release

## 09/09/2009

**AT&S's new strategy for Leoben-Hinterberg facility bearing fruit.  
Strong demand from Europe means lower-than-planned capacity reduction.**

**The transition to the new strategic focus of Austrian AT&S's Leoben-Hinterberg facility on European business and away from volume production for global markets has been largely completed. Extremely successful sales and marketing activities and gains in market shares allow more capacity to be retained at the site than recently planned. Annual production capacity – in terms of circuit board surface area – will be 85,000 m<sup>2</sup> instead of 70,000 m<sup>2</sup>, and 700 people will be employed, rather than 600. This is a convincing proof of the success of the new strategic direction.**

Increased pressure on prices compelled AT&S to announce a radical downsizing of the Austrian plant in June this year and to transfer its entire volume production from Leoben-Hinterberg to the Shanghai facility. The intensive efforts of the sales and marketing organisation to best possibly compensate the loss of volume business in Leoben-Hinterberg by orders of European customers have been bearing fruit in the meantime. Not least because of the continuing market rationalisation, AT&S has been able to win additional orders so that the reduced capacities are now well-utilised. Based on current market information, AT&S's Management expects continuing lively demand for Leoben-Hinterberg's high-tech products for the European market. Production capacities – measured in terms of circuit board surface area produced – will now only be reduced to 85,000 m<sup>2</sup> annually, rather than the 70.000 m<sup>2</sup> originally planned. For this capacity, AT&S can continue to employ an additional 100 people, so that Leoben-Hinterberg will be able to retain around 700 employees. AT&S continues to be the second largest privately owned employer in the Leoben region.

"The massive adjustments required at the Leoben-Hinterberg plant initially posed considerable challenges in production, especially with regard to quality and delivery performance. The new teams have now settled in well, so that we have a respectable level of performance to report. This is an important achievement for the future success of AT&S, because what our customers value – over and above the breadth of our product portfolio, our global positioning and our stable financial position – are AT&S's outstanding technological and logistic capabilities," is how Harald Sommerer, Chairman of the AT&S Management Board, sees the current situation.

### **About AT&S**

AT&S Austria Technologie & Systemtechnik Aktiengesellschaft is European market leader and one of the world's strongest-performing printed circuit board manufacturers. AT&S is extremely well positioned in the market for high-tech HDI Microvia printed circuit boards, which are chiefly used in mobile devices. The Company is also highly successful in the automotive and industrial and medical technology sectors. As a vigorous and growing international enterprise, AT&S has a global presence with three production facilities in Austria (Leoben, Fehring, Klagenfurt) and one each in India (Nanjangud), China (Shanghai) and Korea (Ansan, near Seoul). For more information visit [www.ats.net](http://www.ats.net).

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