

## PRESS RELEASE

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## METAV 2014 again on course for success

### A cornucopia of special topics enhances its attraction

**Frankfurt am Main, 20 August 2013.** – From 11 to 15 March 2014, the METAV, the international trade fair for manufacturing technology and automation, will be opening its doors in Düsseldorf. For decades now, it's been a mandatory date in the diaries of the metalworking sector and an attractive meeting point for international exhibitors and production experts from Germany and the adjoining nations. Registration numbers at present are significantly above the level for METAV 2012, where ultimately around 700 exhibitors from 26 different countries had presented their products to over 40,000 trade visitors.

"North Rhine-Westphalia and Benelux alone offer huge potential to the METAV's exhibitors", says Dr. Wilfried Schäfer, Executive Director at the METAV's organiser VDW (German Machine Tool Builders' Association) in Frankfurt am Main. Over 11,500 firms from the user sectors of the machine tool industry are located in this direct catchment area of the METAV, accounting for 275 billion euros of turnover and more than 900,000 employees. A company's average payroll is just over 140 people. "For this target group, in particular, the METAV is the ideal platform in their direct vicinity, for showcasing innovations and competence in production technology. Because these

firms don't always have the budgets and above all the time to send their experts off for long periods to events further away", says Schäfer.

### **Competence from North Rhine-Westphalia for efficient production and efficient products**

The state of North Rhine-Westphalia aims to demonstrate competence, too, and position itself at the METAV 2014 as a leading industrial location in Germany and Europe. A shared stand will showcase small and mid-tier companies with "Efficient Production and Efficient Products". They will be demonstrating their performative and competitive capabilities in the areas of economic efficiency and mechatronic systems as efficiency-drivers, plus resource-economy and Industry 4.0.

With a multifaceted supporting programme on commercial and technical issues, the METAV 2014 complements the exhibitors' displays by offering the visitors ideas and information for optimising their own plant operations.

### **METAV Technology Forum – experts have their say**

For example, there will be a METAV Technology Forum on grinding, on surface finishing, and on functional safety. The "Grinding Technology" Day, for instance, will be showcasing developments themed around machinery design, tools and process control. The "Tools and Surface Engineering" Technology Forum will present metal-cutting processes, complemented by removal or laser machining techniques all the way through to coating technologies for producing functional surfaces on workpieces and tools. The "Functional Safety" Technology Day, finally, will paint a comprehensive picture of the new regulations, requirements and solutional approaches designed to enhance the safety of machine tools.

### **Special shows on composite machining and medical technology**

Users from the automotive industry and its component suppliers, the aerospace industry, the mechanical engineering and other sectors can bring them-

selves up to speed on modern-day production and automation solutions for machining fibre composite materials in the “MM Composites World Area”. The “Metal meets Medical” special show will be spotlighting the latest solutions in the field of dental technology, implants, surgical instruments and mould construction, linking them to the issues of process dependability, miniaturisation and accuracy.

### **Young people will be building model Formula 1 cars at the METAV 2014**

The VDW's Youth Recruiting and Training Foundation (Nachwuchsstiftung) will once again be presenting a comprehensive range of information for young people at the METAV 2014, showcasing the training and skilling options on offer in the machine tool industry.

Youngsters in their final year at school from technically oriented classes can in addition build a model Formula 1 car, and thus experience the entire production process from the drawing to the finished product.

### **Meeting visitors' high expectations**

“The exhibitors at the METAV will be showcasing the latest developments in production technology. And the interesting special topics will address the concerns of additional target groups”, is Wilfried Schäfer's verdict. With many prestigious international exhibitors and a cornucopia of topics in the supporting programme, he adds confidently, the METAV will once again be able to meet the visitors' high expectations in 2014 as well.

## **Background**

### **METAV 2014 in Düsseldorf**

The next METAV will be held in Düsseldorf from 11 to 15 March 2014. It has firmly established itself in the even-numbered years as an important technology window covering the entire gamut of production engineering for manufacturers and customers from Europe. The METAV showcases the entire spectrum of production technology, focusing principally on machine tools, production systems, high-precision tools, automated material flow, computer technology, industrial electronics and accessories. The target group for visitors to the METAV includes all major sectors of industry, particularly plant and machinery construction, the automotive industry and its component suppliers, the aerospace sector, the electrical engineering industry, energy and medical technologies, plus metalworking and crafts. At the last METAV in 2012, around 700 exhibitors from 26 different countries presented their products, their production solutions and their services. The fair attracted more than 40,000 trade visitors from 70 different countries.

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