

Bucharest, 6 June 2017

Holzindustrie Schweighofer Romania: New company headquarters in Bucharest

- **Holzindustrie Schweighofer S.R.L. strengthens its strategic focus in Romania by moving its headquarters from Sebes to Bucharest**
- **The mill in Sebes and all operations are continued as before**

To further strengthen its strategic position in the Romanian market, Holzindustrie Schweighofer S.R.L. has moved its headquarters from its site in Sebes, Alba County, to Bucharest as of May 2017. The mill in Sebes is continuing all operations as before.

“We are committed to further develop our strategy to implement a sustainable timber industry in Romania. As a major contributor to the country’s economy, establishing our headquarters in Bucharest is a natural step. The country’s economic hub is located here, hence centralizing our administration in the capital is an opportunity to become even more actively engaged in our industrial sector”, explained Dan Banacu, General Manager of Holzindustrie Schweighofer Romania.

Holzindustrie Schweighofer is an important economic player in Romania’s wood industry, which provides 3.5% of the country’s GDP when taking into consideration the indirect effects as well. Including Holzindustrie Schweighofer’s direct and indirect economic effects, the company alone accounts for 0.09% of Romania’s GDP. In its five sites, the company directly provides more than 3,000 jobs, especially in economically less developed areas such as Siret, Comanesti or Reci. Since it entered the Romanian market in 2002, it invested almost € 800 million in mills equipped with state of the art technology where timber is processed into high value-added products.

Holzindustrie Schweighofer has also taken on the responsibility of fighting illegal logging, even though the company itself does not harvest any trees. Already in January 2017, it publicly presented an action plan for a sustainable timber industry with the GPS tracking system Timflow for timber transports as one of its core measures. This ensures traceability of all saw log deliveries from the loading point to the mill gates. All of the company’s suppliers are obliged to equip their trucks with the Timflow system.

Romania’s forests are growing

During the past 15 years, Romania’s forests grew by 4,950 km², an area larger than that of all national parks put together (3,200 km²). Between the years 2000 and 2015 the country’s forested areas grew from 27.7% to 29.8%¹.

¹World Bank http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/AG.LND.FRST.K2?locations=RO&order=wbapi_data_value_2015+wbapi_data_value+wbapi_data_value-last&sort=desc (based on F.A.O. data)

Background information:

The Schweighofer Group has its roots in a traditional Austrian family company with over 400 years of experience in wood processing. Today, the Group is primarily active in the wood processing industry but also in dissolving pulp production, forest management, bioenergy production and real estate. The industry division of the Schweighofer Group operates three sawmills and two wooden panel productions in Romania, one saw mill in Germany and a dissolving pulp production in Austria. It takes a leading role in the European timber-processing industry, currently employing around 3,700 employees. Holzindustrie Schweighofer exports products to over 70 countries worldwide

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