

Bronze medal awarded to Sumitomo (SHI) Demag for sustainability achievements

Software platform EcoVadis evaluates labour and human rights, environment, sustainable procurement, carbon management and ethics.

Schwaig – November 2022. EcoVadis has awarded Sumitomo (SHI) Demag its bronze medal in recognition of its sustainability achievements. Achieving a score of 54 points, the company narrowly missed out on the silver medal, which required 56 points. Providing CEO Gerd Liebig with both confirmation that its sustainability strategy is robust, but equally giving future motivation. Mr Liebig comments: “Sustainability in our mind is a corporate strategy and lived practice - for our products, for our production, but also with regard to being a responsible employer. Achieving the EcoVadis bronze medal shows that we are on the right track, but at the same time provides an incentive to become even better in the coming year.”

EcoVadis is a software platform renowned for assessing the sustainability of companies, which includes examining the entire supply chain. Major competitors of Sumitomo (SHI) Demag are active in this ranking too. Based on questionnaires and corresponding reports, points are awarded in the categories of labour and human rights, environment, sustainable procurement, carbon management and ethics. This wider view of sustainability topics from every angle determines the overall result.

“Our customers were approached and asked to rate us. We completed this assessment for the first time in 2021, and this year improved our performance,” reports Carsten Friedemann, Compliance Officer at Sumitomo (SHI) Demag. “The bronze medal is awarded to a company receiving a rating that is better than half of the participating organisations. By reaching 64 percent, this placed us in the top 40 percent for our industry,” he explains.

In order to strengthen and further expand this high accomplishment, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag is already working on identifying and implementing further activities that will lead to achieving an even better score in 2023. Most new improvement measures will be in the areas of labour and human rights. There is also an increased need for action in carbon management, explains Friedemann. “In addition to these specific targets, we especially want to focus on environmental performance. We can gain more points here by further documenting our actions.

“The topic of sustainability is socially driven and is incorporated into companies through appropriate legislation. We expressly welcome this, as only sparing use of the planet’s limited resources will preserve

it for future generations," says Friedemann. In addition, an increasing number of customers are now demanding evidence of the efforts being taken. Last, but by no means least, young employees now call for appropriate efforts. "During these times of worker shortages, discovering if the company people are considering joining supports sustainability is an important aspect of their selection criterion," he explains.

Sumitomo (SHI) Demag remains fully committed to sustainability, underpinned by its slogan "Act! Sustainably". As part of this commitment, all future innovations must fit within this company framework and corporate social responsibility mission statement. Accordingly, this includes only manufacturing machines and equipment mindful of these ecological aspects.

Captures:

Capture 1:



EcoVadis has awarded Sumitomo (SHI) Demag its bronze medal in recognition of its sustainability achievements.

Capture 2:



Gerd Liebig, CEO of Sumitomo (SHI) Demag Plastics Machinery GmbH, world market leader in all electric injection moulding machines.

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Sumitomo (SHI) Demag Plastics Machinery GmbH

Sumitomo (SHI) Demag has shaped the development of the plastics industry from its very beginning. As a specialist for injection moulding machines for plastics processing, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag and its Japanese parent company are leading the industry.

The global development and production network of Sumitomo Heavy Industries and Sumitomo (SHI) Demag is comprised of four facilities in Japan, Germany and China with more than 3,100 employees. The product portfolio includes all-electric, hydraulic and hybrid injection moulding machines with clamping forces of between 500 and 15.000 kN. With more than 162,000 installed machines, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag is present in important global markets and ranks among the largest manufacturers of injection moulding machines in the world.

At Sumitomo's headquarters in Chiba, Japan, the company manufactures machines with clamping forces in the small to medium range. Nearly 95 % of all delivered machines are equipped with an all-electric drive concept. Sumitomo (SHI) Demag's German facilities in Schwaig and Wiehe produce the Systec Servo range with hybrid drive as well as the EI-Exis SP and Systec SP range of high-speed, high-performance machines. The all-electric IntElect range for international customers is also being produced in Germany.

As early as 1998, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag set up its first production site in Ningbo/China. In 2015, the Chinese subsidiary Demag Plastics Machinery (Ningbo) Co., Ltd. installed a new facility with a 13,000 m² floor space. It is earmarked for the production of the Systec C range with clamping forces of between 500 and 10,000 kN for the Asian market.

In addition to injection moulding machines, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag offers customised and standardised systems for the part handling automation, technical and process solutions for special applications, tailored services and service concepts as well as a range of financial options to support investment in injection moulding machines.

With its comprehensive sales and service network of subsidiaries and agencies, Sumitomo (SHI) Demag is present in all major markets.