

## Press Release

### "Energy Efficiency Award" for Viessmann, SMA and Saigon TanTec

Minister Brüderle recognises businesses for increasing in-process energy efficiency

**Hanover/Berlin, 20 April 2010.** At the WORLD ENERGY DIALOGUE, four innovative businesses today received the "Energy Efficiency Award 2010" in recognition of their exemplary energy efficiency projects. For the first time, two joint first prizes were awarded this year: German Federal Minister of Economics Rainer Brüderle handed over one of the first prizes to Viessmann Werke GmbH & Co KG for the energy optimisation of an existing production plant. SMA Solar Technology AG was delighted also to receive first prize for a new build CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral inverter plant.

The second prize was won by Saigon TanTec Limited for an energy-efficient new build leather factory in Vietnam. The Brazilian aluminium producer Alunorte won a recognition prize for reducing its energy requirements in aluminium production. The "Energy Efficiency Award 2010", with total prize money of EUR 35,000, was jointly organised as part of *Initiative EnergieEffizienz* by the Deutsche Energie-Agentur GmbH (dena) - the German Energy Agency - together with Deutsche Messe and DZ BANK AG with funding from the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology.

"The prize-winning businesses have seen the signs of the times and, by improving energy efficiency, have secured major cost reductions and a competitive edge for themselves", said Stephan Kohler, the Chief Executive Officer of dena. "Businesses wishing to beat off international competition would be well advised to take a systematic approach to minimising energy usage."

As long ago as 2005, Viessmann Werke began to optimise energy usage at their Allendorf (Eder) site by planning and implementing targeted energy efficiency measures in the context of a strategic energy management programme. On the basis of a thorough analysis of energy, resource and working efficiency, the plant, which had grown over the years, was completely reorganised. Both the industrial facilities and the building shells were modernised with regard to energy. One feature of the programme was centralising heat recovery so as to be able to utilise any waste heat streams as part of an integrated energy network. This feature alone saves the company some EUR 600,000 per year in energy costs.

SMA has implemented an energy plan for its new inverter plant which minimises manufacturing energy requirements and provides any energy which is still required from renewable energy sources. The basis for this plan is the rigorous utilisation of generated process heat and the use of energy-efficient technologies. For example, the company uses particularly efficient lighting which is controlled as a function of the available daylight. The lighting system is one of SMA's biggest energy consumers, since high lighting levels of 1,000 Lux are required in electronics manufacture. Overall, in comparison with conventional technologies, the company has been able to cut energy consumption by more than three million kilowatt-hours per year.

Saigon TanTec Ltd. decided to implement an integrated energy and environmental management system for a new production plant in Vietnam. The key element is an innovative benchmarking method which combines existing in-house and external benchmarks, for instance relating to energy input per workpiece, comparing them with the company's existing manufacturing performance: Saigon TanTec's average energy input for one square metre of leather is only 33 megajoules, compared with a leather industry standard of

## Press Release

Page 2/2

around 52 megajoules. The reduction in energy requirement was achieved, among other things, by optimising the building shell, lighting and air conditioning systems and by in-process measures.

Alunorte has optimised a production process, calcination, central to aluminium manufacture. The new process improves heat transfer and reduces the pressure drop across the system. As a result, Alunorte has been able to achieve a clear reduction in energy usage.

More details about all the prize winners can be found at [www.industrie-energieeffizienz.de](http://www.industrie-energieeffizienz.de).

### Media contact:

Deutsche Energie-Agentur GmbH (dena), Immo Zoch, Chausseestrasse 128a, 10115 Berlin

Tel: +49 (0)30 72 61 65-771, Fax: +49 (0)30 72 61 65-699, E-mail: [zoch@dena.de](mailto:zoch@dena.de), Internet: [www.dena.de](http://www.dena.de)