

NEWS RELEASE

Change of personnel in the management of WESTFALIA-Automotive

- **Jens Waldau is the new chairman of the board of directors and takes on the duties of the Head of Sales and Marketing.**
- **OEM and Aftermarket director Werner Thülig retires on 31.01.2007.**
- **Expanding the management level in Sales**

Rheda-Wiedenbrück, 27.11.2006. WESTFALIA-Automotive, one of the leading manufacturers of trailer hitches in the world, is expanding its management in the Sales division. Jens Waldau will take over the overall management for Sales and Marketing after Werner Thülig retires on 31.01.2007. In August 2006, Jens Waldau has already been voted chairman of the board of directors.

WESTFALIA-Automotive is expanding the Sales division, thanks to the high demand for trailer hitches on the European market. The previous managing director, Werner Thülig, managed both the Aftermarket and the OEM sections. Now Bodo Schmid is leading the OEM section. Schmid was previously employed by Recaro. The new director of the Aftermarket section is Oliver Brünjes, who previously worked at ZF Trading.

WESTFALIA-Automotive develops and produces 800 types of trailer hitches for nearly all automobile makes and is market leader in Germany. With a production capacity of over 800,000 trailer hitches per year, the company supplies all the leading automobile manufacturers in Europe. WESTFALIA-Automotive currently employs 570 people and reports a total annual revenue of more than 110 million in fiscal year 2005/2006.

In Germany alone, WESTFALIA-Automotive added seventy new employees to the staff within the current fiscal year. The company plans to add more new personnel in 2007.

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