

NEWS RELEASE

WESTFALIA-Automotive: Best turnover in the history of the company

- **The Westphalian manufacturer of trailer hitches achieves a record turnover of more than 110 million euro**
- **Acquisition of French company further expands Westfalia's market leadership in Europe**
- **70 new employees in Germany**

Rheda-Wiedenbrück, 30.01.2007. WESTFALIA-Automotive, one of the global leaders in the production of trailer hitches, succeeded in achieving a record turnover of 110 million euro at the Rheda-Wiedenbrück site at the end of the 2005/2006 fiscal year. Innovative product concepts and the development of customer relations helped the company to exceed an annual turnover of 100 million euro for the first time since the company has been founded. "We are happy that we, with Germany as location, once again succeeded in holding our own on the global market for trailer hitches," says Jens Waldau, the chairman of the board of directors of WESTFALIA-Automotive. "Both at the car manufacturers and on the after-sales market, we were able to expand our sales markets and significantly increase our turnover, thanks to our innovative products and the well-known WESTFALIA product and service quality," added Waldau.

In Germany alone, WESTFALIA-Automotive added seventy new employees to the staff within the current fiscal year, thanks to the high demand for trailer hitches. For 2007, it is planned to add more new personnel.

WESTFALIA-Automotive is the market leader for trailer hitches in Germany. WESTFALIA-Automotive develops and produces 1000 types of trailer hitches for nearly all makes of vehicles. With a production capacity of over 800,000 trailer hitches per year, WESTFALIA-Automotive supplies all the leading automobile manufacturers in Europe.

The acquisition of the French SIARR group (Société Industrielle des Attelages Rene Renault SAS) was another important step that was taken this year to secure future competitiveness. To further promote growth within Europe, WESTFALIA-Automotive took over the third-largest company for trailer hitches in France, based in Luneray, in November of this year. This makes WESTFALIA-



Automotive the trailer hitch manufacturer with the highest turnover in Europe.

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