Press release June 19th, 2020

Ewald Dörken honoured as innovation champion

**Überlingen** - letting go of the old and off to new ventures: innovative medium-sized companies like Ewald Dörken AG from Herdecke don’t fear change, but see it as a chance.

The company thus impressed in the 27th round of the TOP 100 innovation competition. Ewald Dörken will officially be among the TOP 100 from June 19th. In the scientific selection process, the company impressed in size class C (more than 200 employees), particularly in the category "Innovative processes and organisation". This is the seventh time Ewald Dörken has been among the top innovators.

The TOP 100 company manufactures building products such as building films and building paints, but also paste systems and micro-layer corrosion protection systems for industrial series production.

These coatings protect the safety components in a car, for example. "Innovations come about at our company without external management consultants," reports CEO Thorsten Koch. "They arise from a profound knowledge of the respective technical problems and the requirements of the market.

About 120 years ago, company founder Dr Carl Dörken recognised the opportunities offered by Chinese wood oil. He developed a process for boiling wood oil. The result was a varnish containing wood oil and the product "Eburit", became the leading material for painters for a long time.

Today the seven-time top innovator employs around 1,000 people. Ewald Dörken AG focuses on research and development in the field of sustainable products and technologies, setting standards in the application areas of paints and building coatings, pigment pastes, high-performance corrosion protection and industrial coatings.

For example, it recently developed a room-temperature-curing corrosion protection primer that cures without the use of oven technology and is technologically superior to conventional primers thanks to its cathodic corrosion protection concept.

Furthermore, with LUCITE Multi Resist, a special paint has been developed that is resistant to germs and bacteria such as MRSA, to bare viruses and to mould.

Currently, the Westphalian company is making the largest investment in its history: They are expanding their site to significantly expand their product and technology portfolio. They are doing much of the work themselves: "We organize such extraordinary changes ourselves. We have proven that we can do this in the field of construction chemistry," says Thorsten Koch.

TOP 100: the competition

Since 1993, compamedia has been awarding the TOP 100 seal for special innovative strength and above-average innovation success to medium-sized companies. Since 2002, the scientific direction has been in the hands of Prof. Dr. Nikolaus Franke. Franke is founder and chairman of the Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration. Mentor of TOP 100 is the science journalist Ranga Yogeshwar. Project partners are the Fraunhofer Society for the Promotion of Applied Research and the BVMW. As media partners, manager magazin, impulse and W&V accompany the company comparison. More information is available at www.top100.de.