

13 January 2020

## **Rainer Winter celebrates 65-year company anniversary**

**As a family entrepreneur, Rainer Winter's connection with uvex practically dates back to birth. A ceremony was recently held to officially mark his 65 years of service at uvex. Having started out as a small factory for occupational safety goggles, the former "Winter Gesellschaft für Optik und Augenschutz mbH" developed under his leadership into a corporate group operating on an international basis. Rainer Winter, who is the holder of the Golden Citizens Medal from the city of Fürth, has now received the uvex proud people Award from his team and his family in recognition of this professional commitment.**

Rainer Winter became Managing Director of the sport and sunglasses segment of his father's company in 1962, but he had already achieved the first significant milestone in his career back in 1956, when he created the brand name "uvex". To this day, high-quality products for protecting people at work, in sport and for leisure pursuits are still sold under the short form of the quality seal "UltraViolet Excluded". Further milestones followed, including the founding of the company's own production plants in Germany and across Europe, the steady expansion of the product portfolio and the establishment of numerous subsidiaries around the globe. In 1980, Rainer Winter established the Rainer Winter Foundation, which provides rapid, non-bureaucratic assistance to sick, needy and disabled children. The Foundation focuses its work on Rainer's home area of Fürth and the metropolitan region of Nuremberg, and has so far raised EUR 3 million.

In 1994, the uvex safety group, uvex sports group and Filtral group were positioned under the umbrella of uvex Winter Holding as market-orientated subgroups. The aim here was to bring this traditional, long-established company successfully into the

future. In 1999, the process of gradually transferring management responsibilities of the company to Rainer's son, Michael Winter, was initiated; in 2005, he took over full responsibility for the operating business of uvex group, becoming the third generation of Managing Partner in the process. His daughter Gabriele Grau is also a Managing Partner and Chairwoman of the Rainer Winter Foundation.

In a ceremony with long-standing colleagues and business partners, Michael Winter and Gabriele Grau, who were representing the family business, honoured Rainer Winter with the uvex proud people Award for his exceptional lifetime of service. Looking back at the past 65 years, Rainer Winter commented: "I inherited the company from my father with sales of DM 400,000. These days, the uvex group is generating sales of around EUR 475 million". Michael Winter and Gabriele Grau said: "We are delighted to be able to celebrate together today. Our father both managed and lived uvex as a 100% family business. We plan to follow his example in the future as well".

### **About Rainer Winter**

Rainer Winter is Chairman and Managing Partner of the uvex group and founder of the Rainer Winter Foundation. He has been distinguished with numerous awards, including the Gold Citizens Medal of the city of Fürth in 1991 and the Order of Merit 1st Class of the Federal Republic of Germany in 2006.

### **About the uvex group**

The uvex group brings together three globally active companies under one roof: the uvex safety group, the uvex sports group (with uvex sports and ALPINA), and the Filtral group (Filtral and Primetta). The uvex group is represented in 22 countries by 48 subsidiaries but chooses to do most of its manufacturing in Germany. Two thirds of the company's 2,700-strong workforce (as at 2018/19 financial year) are employed in Germany. uvex is a global partner to international elite sport and equips a host of

top athletes. The motto protecting people is at the heart of the company's activities. uvex develops, manufactures and distributes products and services for the safety and protection of people at work, in sport and for leisure pursuits.

**For further information  
and to download text and images, please visit:  
[uvex-group.de/presse](http://uvex-group.de/presse)**

**Media contact:**

UVEX WINTER HOLDING GMBH & Co. KG  
Dagmar Hugenroth / Sandra Bogendörfer  
Würzburger Str. 181  
90766 Fürth  
Tel.: 0911 9736 1452  
Fax: 0911 9736 1301  
[d.hugenroth@uvex.de](mailto:d.hugenroth@uvex.de)  
[s.bogendoerfer@uvex.de](mailto:s.bogendoerfer@uvex.de)  
[www.uvex.de](http://www.uvex.de)  
[www.uvex-group.de/presse](http://www.uvex-group.de/presse)