Press Information

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2nd Germany-Taiwan Smart Machinery Forum

In alignment with the theme of EMO Hannover 2017 “Connecting Systems for Intelligent Production”, the German Trade Office (GTO) and the Taiwanese Industrial Development Bureau held the 2nd Germany-Taiwan Smart Machinery Forum in Hannover today. This unique event focuses on cooperation opportunities between Taiwanese and German companies in the field of Smart Machinery and Industry 4.0, specifically covering the supply chain in the automotive and aerospace industry. Renowned experts from Germany and Taiwan shared their experience on the current state of cooperation between both sides and the growing implementation of industry 4.0. Besides, the Forum provided an important platform for companies to further develop business opportunities in international markets.

Future development of Industry 4.0 in Taiwan and Germany

Taiwan and Germany both highly innovative, export-driven economies with many world market leaders, perfectly complement each other to offer world class Industry 4.0 solutions. Taiwan currently aims to provide a new ecosystem for the smart machinery industry by building on previous successes in precision machinery, information and communications technologies. Over the course of ten years Taiwan shall become a global research and development and manufacturing base for smart machinery, as well as a total solution provider for end-use applications.

Germany has been pursuing innovation objectives related to smart machinery since the enrollment of the High-Tech Strategy 2020 Action Plan. Industry 4.0 represents a major opportunity for Germany to secure its technological leadership role and establish itself as a smart machinery lead market and provider. In Germany’s advanced manufacturing landscape Industry 4.0 could drive productivity gains of 5 to 8 percent on total manufacturing costs over ten years, totaling USD 107 billion to USD 180 billion.

State of bilateral trade relations

According to the Federal Statistical Office in Germany, the trade volume between Germany and Taiwan amounted up to a record high of 16.13 bn. EUR in 2016. With exports to Taiwan of more than 7.56 bn. EUR, this represents a rise of about 3 percent in 2016, making Taiwan Germany’s fifth largest trading partner in Asia. Germany is Taiwan’s most important trading partner in Europe. In 2016, Taiwanese exports to Germany rose by 6 percent and reached EUR 8.57 bn.
Together with its high production volume, open trade regime, lack of non-tariff barriers, and straightforward business culture Germany is a valuable trading partner for the Taiwanese economy. Today, hundreds of German companies have succeeded in Taiwan and many Taiwanese companies have successfully invested in Germany. A lot has been achieved so far and there is a very high potential for cooperation in various industries.

**German Trade Office Taipei**
The German Trade Office Taipei (GTO) was established by the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK) as the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in 1981 to promote economic relations between Taiwan and Germany and to represent the interest of German business in Taiwan. The GTO is the first point of contact in Taiwan for German companies, provides information on Taiwan and Germany, informs about investment opportunities in Germany and arranges seminars, networking events and symposia.

**DEinternational Taiwan Ltd.**
DEinternational Taiwan Ltd., the service unit of the GTO, organizes business delegations and market survey trips, represents German trade fair companies and offers bilateral market entry support as well as recruiting, training, office-in-office and other value-added services.

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