**PRESS RELEASE**

**40 years of Mehler Texnologies in Italy:**

**High-tech textiles for innovative applications**

**Milan, Italy, Febuary 17, 2022. Mehler Texnologies has been supplying technical textiles to the Italian market for four decades. What began in 1982 with sun protection products has evolved into a broad portfolio of technically coated textiles for a wide variety of innovative applications.**

In the early 1980s, the specialist for technical textiles started out by captivating the Italian camping sector: The lightweight textiles with their acrylic coating were ideal for use as awnings to protect against the sun. Even today, products from the VALMEX® and AIRTEX® ranges still rank among the trailblazers in the nautical, camping and sun protection market.

Meanwhile, textiles, tarpaulins and membranes from Mehler Texnologies are to be found in many different areas: Stadium roofs, façade cladding, yacht equipment or industrial solutions – the high-tech textiles are extremely versatile and lend themselves equally well to creative design or industrial applications. The base fabrics are produced in the company’s own weaving mills in Europe and can be individually coated to optimally suit customers’ requirements. The result: Flexible solutions that will ensure many years of use and withstand extreme conditions.

“Over the last 40 years our high-quality products have convinced many renowned customers in numerous sectors and we have made a name for ourselves as a pioneer in our industry. That is something we are very proud of,” said Vincenzo Stefanelli, Managing Director of Mehler Texnologies in Italy. “Backed by many years of experience, our 16-strong sales team finds the optimal solution for every application, from pool covers, the construction of biogas systems or large-sized printed materials through to nautical products.” For Stefanelli, one of the most challenging – and unique – projects in recent years was the 2015 World Expo in Milan, when the company was commissioned to supply the 70,000 square meters of membrane to cover the Decumano and Cardo, the two main axes of the exhibition site.

The acquisition of a 2,300 square meter warehouse near Milan in 2001 is another of Stefanelli’s highlights in the history of the Italian sales location. The building optimizes logistics, thus providing an even faster service for Italian customers.

Looking to the future, Mehler Texnologies is focusing on investments in further markets and systematic growth in Italy. Sustainability is a further focus. Mehler Texnologies is pursuing swift certification to ISO 14001, the standard that provides a systematic framework for integrating binding environmental targets and processes.

*Capture for image EXPO Milano:*

*At the WORLD EXPO Milano in 2015, the roofing of the main walkways had been made of the membrane VALMEX® FR 1200 MEHATOP® F Type III by Mehler Texnologies. (Photo: TAIYO EUROPE)*

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**About Mehler Texnologies**

Mehler Texnologies is a globally renowned specialist in coated technical textiles. The company serves many markets around the world. Mehler Texnologies has about 600 employees at its production sites in Fulda, Hückelhoven, both Germany, and Lomnice nad Popelkou, Czech Republic, and sales offices around the world. Mehler Texnologies is part of Freudenberg Performance Materials.

About Freudenberg Performance Materials

Freudenberg Performance Materials is a leading global supplier of innovative technical textiles for a broad range of markets and applications such as apparel, automotive, building interiors, building materials, healthcare, energy, filter media, shoe and leather goods as well as specialties. In 2020, the company generated sales of more than €1 billion, had 33 production sites in 14 countries around the world and had some 5.000 employees. Freudenberg Performance Materials attaches great importance to social and ecological responsibility as the basis for its business success. For more information, please visit [www.freudenberg-pm.com](http://www.freudenberg-pm.com)

The company is a Business Group of Freudenberg Group. In 2020, the Freudenberg Group employed more than 48,000 people in some 60 countries worldwide and generated sales of more than €8.8 billion. For more information, please visit [www.freudenberg.com](http://www.freudenberg.com)