



STAPPERT



**INOX INSIDER**  
**THE MAGAZINE FOR CUSTOMERS**  
**AND PARTNERS.**

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## Dear Readers,

Welcome to a new edition of the Inox Insider, which is full of good news from STAPPERT. This is especially pleasing to me because this is the last opportunity I have to contact you. After almost 40 years, I'm treating myself to a change and am withdrawing from operational activities. Nevertheless, as a member of the administrative board of Jacquet Metal Service, I will remain connected to the group.

The last year, which was also not the easiest, has shown that as the STAPPERT group, we are very well-positioned and we operate on a solid basis. Especially now, the fact that we are able to count on highly-qualified and motivated employees pays off. Looking back at the numerous young people who have completed their training at STAPPERT over the past years makes me feel confident. The presentation of the training award by IHK (chamber of commerce) Lübeck this year has shown that we are taking the right approach to the topic of training at our company. Working on the younger generation is not only important; it's also the right thing to do.

The track to future success has been laid: With the decision to expand the warehouse in Bönen, Germany, STAPPERT takes a large step into the future. The newly acquired capacities will enable us to react to changing framework conditions with speed, which is a decisive competitive advantage on the domestic market.

Our activities in South America have also borne fruit. Even after just a short acquisition time, we were able to achieve our first successes, thereby laying the foundation for permanent involvement.

As you can see, we're on a good path, which is why we look forward to the future positively.

I leave you with these parting words, and I wish all of our readers all the best in the future, both privately and professionally.

**Best regards,**

**Wolfgang Hartmann**

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#### Legal Notice

Edited by:  
STAPPERT Deutschland GmbH  
Address:  
Willstätterstraße 13  
40549 Düsseldorf  
Telephone: +49 211 5279-0  
Telefax: +49 211 5279-177  
E-mail: deutschland@stappert.biz  
Website: www.stappert.biz/deutschland

# An exciting time.

At the end of this year, Wolfgang Hartmann will retire after almost 40 years at STAPPERT. On this occasion, we talked with him about old times and new challenges.



*Mr Hartmann, you've been at home in the stainless steel industry since 1970. Do you remember how it all got started?*

Of course. Actually, I wanted to become a high-voltage electrician, but my parents were against that, they preferred to see me in an office. My training as an industrial clerk at the steel works in Ergste was a kind of compromise. By the way, Hans-Otto Stappert also started his career here.

Next, I did my A-levels and intended to study economic science. However, during my military service, a letter from ZVS (central office of admission for German universities) got stuck somewhere and this caused me to miss a term. My girlfriend at the time worked at Stappert Edelstahl. It was the Advent season, 1976, and, as was customary at that time, Hans-Otto Stappert invited his employees and a guest to his Christmas party. I met him that evening, and he spontaneously offered me a position. This was intended to hold me over until the start of my studies.

*But things turned out differently.*

Yes. I accepted my position in the sales office in Westhofen in 1977, which was still a very small company at that time with just a couple of sales locations. We even had a computer, which was uncommonly advanced for that time. Then I went to Paris, to the headquarters of Creusot-Loire, who was our main shareholder at the time. In addition to learning French, I got to know the works there and the steel products from Creusot-Loire. After I returned home, I started in the purchasing department.

*How large was the department at this time?*

(laughs) It was just me, all alone! Later on, I had help from an assistant. We grew slowly, but consistently. In 1990, I followed the instructions of our chairman and moved on to become the Director of Central Purchasing in Düsseldorf. My task was the worldwide purchase of stainless steels for the entire IMS group. In 2004, I became a member of the General Management, and a year later, I became General Manager.

*You have stayed loyal to a single company your whole professional life. This is unusual, no?*

Today, this might be different. Of course, you have to know that I managed to experience the entire development of the company up close and personal: I experienced how a small, privately managed company became an international group of companies. There was a lot of personal energy involved. I also knew the Stappert family well, personally. This company was always influenced by a high degree of initiative and commitment. In addition to the very close connection to the company and the family, a lot of responsibility was transferred to me very early on. There were no hierarchies like in a group. The company had lean and tight structures, and a lot took place on demand.

*What kind of character was Hans-Otto Stappert?*

He was a patriarch and a visionary. It was his idea to sell special grades and profiles of stainless steel in the form of unequal angles, L, U, T, I, and H profiles in addition to regular steel. In this respect, we were pioneers in Europe.

*It is true that STAPPERT stored steel in a barn in the beginning?*

That's right; that was in Ennepetal-Hasperbach. The office was located in Mr Stappert's mother-in-law's living room in Schwerte-Westhofen. Things were certainly different back then. There weren't a lot of questions, people took action directly. In the seventies, for example, it was normal that we would work together with the colleagues on the weekend to store 50 tonnes of stainless steel – for free, of course. Once, Mr Stappert decided to expand the office building in Westhofen with a second level. For this purpose, the roof needed to be removed with a heavy air hammer during working hours. On a Friday, the man with the air hammer held it at one location for too long and the hammer broke through the ceiling and into the office. Of course, you can imagine what happened: A severe storm broke on the weekend, and the whole office building filled up with water.

As a result of this, we all had to work in containers in the courtyard. The data for delivery papers and invoices were driven by

car in the morning to Düsseldorf so that the delivery notes could be printed there and then processed on time afterwards by the warehouse foreman on-site.

#### *Another world.*

Yes; of course there was no Internet yet, only telephone. And Telex, which no longer exists. Even back then, we had customer information, which we called "Edelstahl Aktuell".

#### *Today, we talk about e-commerce.*

That's right, but our business is still based on personal relationships. We certainly won't become the Amazon of stainless steel and say: "1.4301 costs 2 €, period, so buy it now, customer." Our business has always included advice and customer discussions. That has always been very important to us, and it should remain so.

#### *How do your personal plans for the future look?*

I'm really looking forward to spending more time with my wife, and I'm looking forward to taking care of our garden. But I won't be gone completely. Since May, I have been member of the administrative council of Jacquet Metal Service. This also means that I will keep in touch with STAPPERT in Germany and its employees.

#### *And now you're going on vacation?*

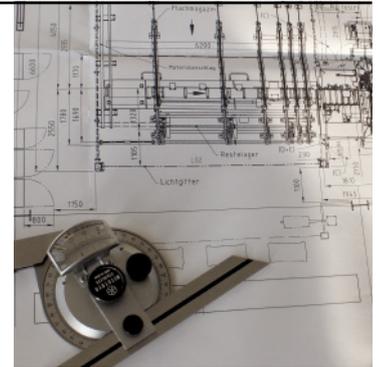
Yes. In February, my wife and I will go on a two-week cruise. My laptop will stay at home.

#### *Is it hard for you to give up the responsibility?*

No, it's not, but I'll certainly miss the personal contact with several employees whom I appreciate.

## BRAND NEWS

# Bönen grows to match its tasks.



What was originally intended when the foundation stone was laid is now a reality: The expansion of the Bönen warehouse location. This summer, the shareholders authorised the project, and at the start of 2017, the expanded warehouse should go into operation.



The success of STAPPERT is expressed in continuously growing warehouse capacity. This can also be seen at the location in Bönen. After multiple expansion stages in recent years, it was now time to take a larger step: The warehouse areas will now be expanded by 2,500 m<sup>2</sup> to a total of 10,236 m<sup>2</sup> over the next

two years. This means an increase in warehouse capacity of 3,153 cassettes to a total of 8,071 cassettes, which corresponds with approximately 5,600 tonnes. The altered material flows and the logistics processes connected with them, the expected increase of order positions, and an adjusted product palette structure required this extensive expansion stage. This is intended not only to provide increased warehouse capacity, but also additional handling and buffer areas. Service is enhanced by two fully automatic sawing cells, one which is already scheduled to go into operation this year. These machines are tailor-made productions that promise a clear increase in efficiency. In the future, bars featuring a diameter of up to 800 mm will be able to be tailored in Bönen.

Preparations for expansion are currently underway at full speed. In addition to the expanded construction site, the company's internal logistics have been simulated with a computer model. Based on the current data and the expected capacities, an optimised arrangement of machines and work areas may be produced. Norbert Lutterbach is responsible on-site for this large project.



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

## Otmarov in the lead.

In the Czech Republic, STAPPERT has been producing impressive growth numbers. STAPPERT Česká republika has distinguished itself successfully from the competition as a modern, international company, and it offers its customers added value.

The second largest city in the Czech Republic after Prague is Brno. 14 kilometres to the south-east of Brno, you'll find the community of Otmarov. This is where the success story of LEGA-INOX began in 1994, as a dealer of stainless steel products. Ten years after its founding, STAPPERT took over the company, which has been managed here since 2012 under the name STAPPERT Česká republika. Traditionally, the focus in Otmarov was placed on processing the domestic market, and customers from the areas of machine and automobile production, foodstuff production, the chemical industry, construction, and energy production were serviced.

### *Expansion becomes a reality.*

Even during its fusion with the STAPPERT group, it was clear to the responsible parties that sustainable development of the location would only be possible through expansion and modernisation. For this reason, the foundations for a new hall were already laid early on. In 2014, the previously available expansion plans for a new hall were implemented, and now STAPPERT Česká republika possesses over 4,600 m<sup>2</sup> of warehouse area and 1,950 m<sup>2</sup> of outdoor area. The inventory and warehouse management system corresponds with the most modern standards.



Wolfgang Hartmann, Robert Necas, General Manager of STAPPERT Česká republika, and Edgar Hartelmüller, in the new hall.

Impressions from the location and customer event.

Using applied QR codes, the quality, dimensions, melt, system line, and address of a delivery are able to be traced. With the help of our own EAN codes, a message is sent to the EDP system, which automatically updates the warehouse inventory. The investment in the modernisation of the location proved to be a good decision, since success didn't take very long: In just the past three years alone, a two-digit growth rate has been recorded as a result of turnover quantities. The customer numbers also continue to increase constantly, which currently amount to up to 1,800 returning customers.

### *Permanently on course to success.*

Each year, the company sells around 9,300 tonnes of stainless steel. The lion's share consists of 40 % plates and sheets, followed by 29 % bars, 26 % pipes and tubes, and 2 % fittings. 67 employees therefore generate revenues of over 30 million euros per year. STAPPERT Česká republika is positioned very well to expect continued growth in the future. In order to ensure

continuous growth in the future, employees on-location follow simple rules: There are clearly defined guidelines for all of the processes in the company, and processes are continuously optimised. During reporting, automation is used, which avoids unnecessary bureaucracy. The organisational structure is kept lean, and decisions are able to be made quickly.

### *Service makes the difference.*

STAPPERT Česká republika profits from the strength of an international group, and it is able to persuade its customers with services that the competition in the Czech Republic normally doesn't offer. Above all, the modern CNC saws are worth mentioning, since these are an important plus for business involving bars. In the area of saw technology, Otmarov is also in the lead, and the production takes place at the highest level, which produces added value that customers appreciate. The success story of STAPPERT in the Czech Republic can be expected to continue.

# Export on Tour.

This year, STAPPERT was busy travelling the world once again to promote INOX INTELLIGENCE and to present the large diversity of dimensions and grades. Here is an extract from the trade fair and travel program of the past months.



## *May – Brno*

What started off as a small expert trade fair in Ostrava, Czech Republic, has developed into one of the most important dates for the Eastern European stainless steel market in recent years. Due to increasing visitor numbers, a decision was made in 2009 to move to Brno. Now, all of the important stainless steel specialists present here. For STAPPERT, this trade fair is an important and crucial date in its activities calendar. This year, in addition to customers from the Czech Republic, STAPPERT also greeted visitors from the Baltic region, Romania, and Bulgaria at the booth.

## *September – Bangkok*

The trade fair in Bangkok is very high on STAPPERT's list, since it attracts visitors from all over Southeast Asia. Three concentrated days in Bangkok replace numerous weeks of tiresome travel. This becomes clear by looking at the visitors coming to the STAPPERT booth: This year, the STAPPERT export team was able to develop interesting contacts in countries including Taiwan, Korea, Singapore, and Thailand.



## *October – Sao Paulo*

Since the summer of 2015, STAPPERT has been active in South America. After initial visits to customers in Argentina, the trade fair in Sao Paulo was the second important step on the way to accessing regional markets. Martina Stöver's export team is currently focused especially on Brazil, which is still a kind of sleeping giant that holds enormous opportunity for growth. After initial contracts, additional personal contacts are being developed, which is certain to be followed by development of a stable network.

# Perfect start in Argentina.

STAPPERT takes its first steps in the South American's market. Export Manager Martina Stöver secures the company's first orders in record time in Argentina.



Martina Stöver, Export Manager (above) and several snapshots from an exciting region.

She knows her way around the world. As Export Manager, Martina Stöver has mainly been active over the past few years in Asia. When the decision was made this year to develop the South American market for STAPPERT, she packed her suitcases once again. This time, the destination was Buenos Aires, the bustling capital city of Argentina, which is still a real adventure for this well-travelled cosmopolitan, since it represents a completely new cultural environment. Martina Stöver describes the city as a mixture of Madrid, Paris, and Rome. The dimensions are gigantic; for example, the widest street in the world is here, which features eighteen lanes. And new surprises pop up all of the time, since it's possible that a group of demonstrators have completely blocked the highway. After years together with people from Asia, who are known throughout the world for their discipline, Stöver can only describe this kind of experience as especially impressive.

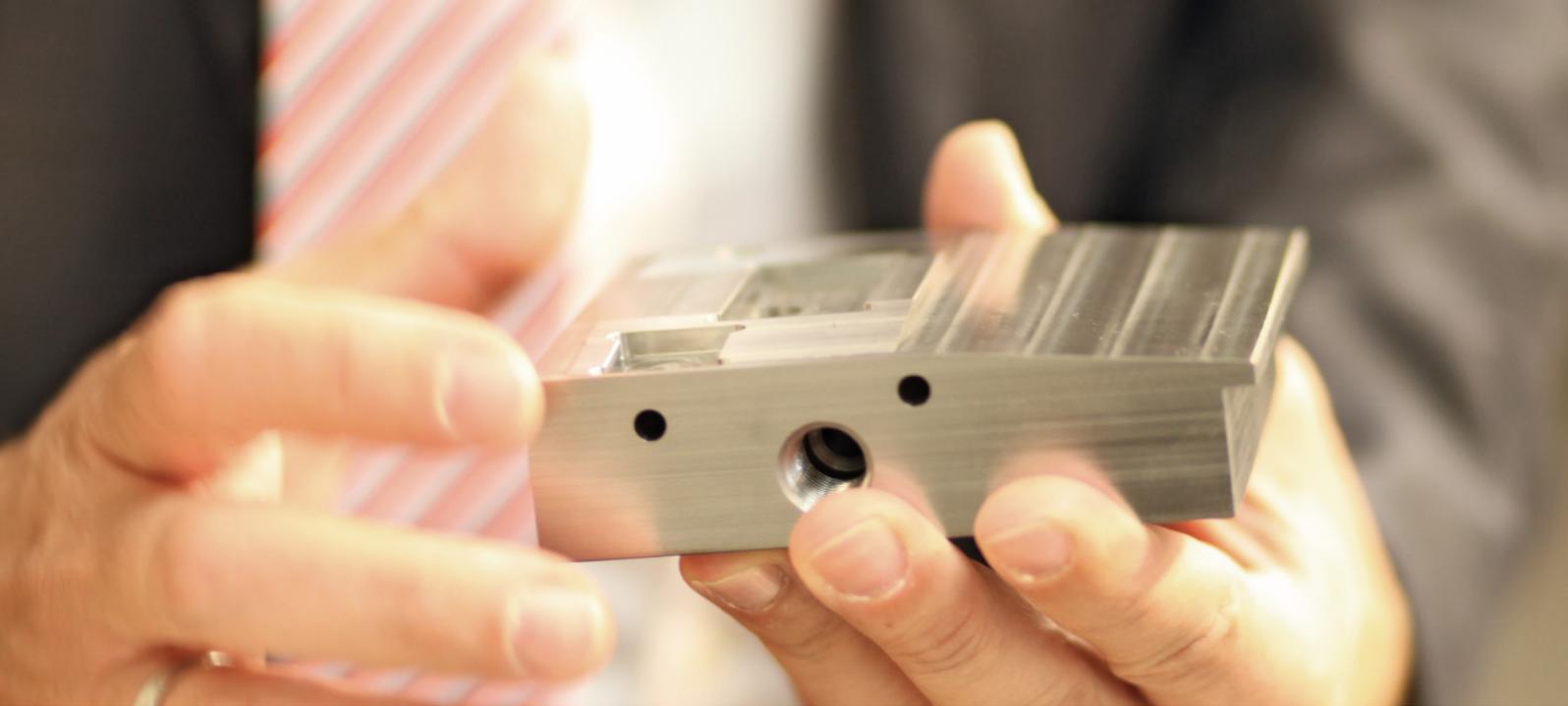
Argentina has recovered well from the difficult economic crisis at the start of the century, and it has become an interesting growth market for many industries in the meantime, and for STAPPERT, too. A cooperation partner on-location helped us develop contacts. In this way, our experienced Export Manager was able to present her first success for STAPPERT: A six-digit order! Additional orders from Brazil, Peru, and Chile followed.

It's a perfect start for Martina Stöver, who has already accepted the country and the people into her heart. She describes the people as very open and friendly. Even if the crime rate in Argentina is very high, the wallet she lost in the airplane

was found and returned to her. Plus, the nice taxi driver was not only very helpful with the necessary formalities as a mediator, he also invited her to enjoy coffee and typical baked delicacies while she had to wait for her wallet.



Police officers block a highway for a political demonstration.



## CUSTOMER PORTRAIT

# SIG Zerspanungstechnik GmbH meets the highest standards.

SIG Combibloc Zerspanungstechnik GmbH in Aachen, Germany, is a part of SIG Combibloc Group, one of the world's leading manufacturers of cardboard packaging and filling machines for beverages and foodstuffs. For many years, Zerspanungstechnik has been one of our most demanding customers.

The history of the "Schweizerischen Industrie Gesellschaft" (SIG) is very diverse. In 1853, "Schweizerische Waggon-Fabrik bei Schaffhausen" was founded. The success of the new company didn't take long. In 1855, at the World Exposition in Paris, the first SIG wagons were displayed and acclaimed. After 1860, SIG focused on weapon production. The precision know-how of SIG in the area of designing pistols and extensive experience in thermal treatment of steel led to a machinery factory for curve milling and deep drilling machines and the production of compressed air tools and hydraulic pumps. Drive technology developed out of the hydraulic technology, and construction and mining developed out of compressed air tools. In 2000, SIG defined a new corporate strategy: A concentration on packaging technology.

The history of the European beverage box begins at the richly traditional and respected machine factory of Ferd. Emil Jagenberg in Düsseldorf. In 1929, he applied for a patent for a leak-proof folding box as a brand that he called "Perga". "Perga" is the first flexible packaging in Europe and the precursor of today's worldwide successful packaging systems from SIG Combibloc. In 1962, the blocpak packaging is released on the market, which is the company's first large series packaging. With the introduc-

tion of "combibloc aseptic" to the market, a packaging system for sterile filling of non-perishable foods, the company achieved its international breakthrough. In the mid-80s, the first anti-septic cardboard packaging capable of containing soups with fragmented contents appears. In 1993, SIG Combibloc introduces the world's first resealable spout to the market. In 1999 the first single-action flat seal followed, and in 2000, the first screw-on seal. In 2010, combibloc EcoPlus was developed, which saves on up to 28 % CO<sub>2</sub> versus conventional cardboard packaging featuring the same format. With its combidome, SIG Combibloc presented a type of packaging in 2013 that combines the best aspects of cardboard packaging with the best aspects of a bottle and guarantees extraordinary differentiation of beverages.

SIG Combibloc is one of the world's leading manufacturers of cardboard packaging and filling machines for beverages and foodstuffs. Since 2015, SIG Combibloc has been the property of the Canadian private equity company Onex Corporation. Worldwide, it employs more than 5,000 people in over 40 countries with its know-how and experience for its customers. With packaging factories and branches around the world, SIG Combibloc is able to respond to customer needs quickly and directly.



General Manager Dr. Mark Betzold looks positively into the future.

Cardboard packaging from SIG Combibloc ensures the quality of foodstuffs. They ensure that the taste, nutrition, and vitamins of the product are preserved. At the same time, cardboard packaging from SIG Combibloc is gentle for the environment. As the name already suggests, they mainly consist of cardboard, which is produced using wood, a raw material that regrows. As a systems provider, SIG Combibloc delivers both the packaging and the corresponding filling machines required for filling the respective product, for example juices or milk.

### *Precision and special components for machine construction.*

“The system business consists of providing our customers excellent packaging solutions with first-class systems and reliable service,” explains the General Manager of SIG Combibloc Zerspanungstechnik GmbH, Dr. Mark Betzold.

Within the SIG Group, the machine engineering division is responsible for the production of filling machines. This area also includes SIG Combibloc Zerspanungstechnik GmbH in Aachen, which is responsible for precision and special components of filling machines with the highest standards, just as they are required by the foodstuff production industry. “The strength of chipping technology is obvious in the precise production of stainless steel, aluminium and high-tech plastic products. From purchasing of raw materials and consulting on design to the production of the components and quality assurance, we provide you the full range of services.” In order to offer SIG customers the ideal systems business, value is placed on meeting all requirements and standards from the start at Zerspanungstechnik and the production of the individual components of the filling machine.

In order to head in the right direction during the early phases of product development, Dr. Betzold focuses on the fusion of designer knowledge and production know-how. “Production

processes, tools, and materials are constantly developed further, in which case the corresponding designers are not always extensively informed. For this reason, cost-optimised production requires that both technical areas engage in regular and intensive exchange.”

With nearly 50 employees, a production area of around 1,500 m<sup>2</sup>, a highly modern machine park, and 50 years of experience, Zerspanungstechnik GmbH offers its customers sustainable added value. “Both production strategies and approaches from the area of lean management enable us to operate efficient and cost-optimised production,” continues Dr. Betzold. The range of company services includes the complete processing of CNC processing centres, from milling and turning to drilling and eroding, including surface finishing and assembly of modules. “The machine portfolio is regularly maintained at the state of the art, which enables us to react to nearly every customer request, both inside and outside of SIG, within the shortest time possible. We measure ourselves by quality and meeting deadlines.” Zerspanungstechnik also produces components that form “the heart” of the filling machine, in the so-called “germ-free” area. These parts are direct in contact with the foodstuffs. Especially in this case, the highest quality requirements must be met by the materials that are used. Dr. Betzold emphasises: “For this reason, it is extremely important to know who our suppliers are and where our raw materials and semi-finished products come from, both for the packaging material as well as the machines and machine components. For this reason, we endeavour to create complete traceability within the entire delivery chain.”

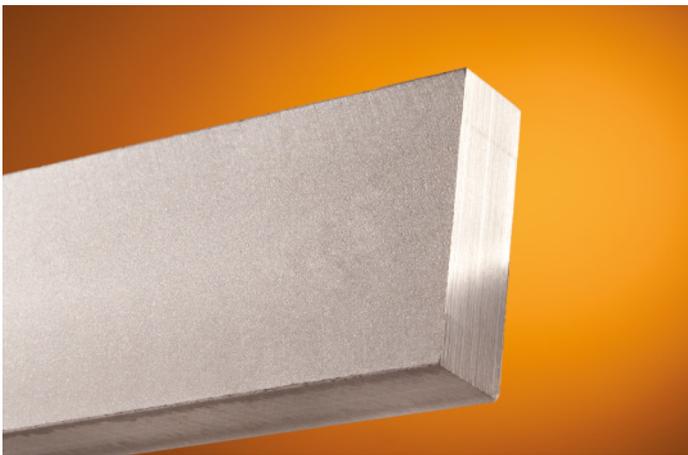
Not only for this reason has the company relied for many years on stainless steel from STAPPERT. Additional reasons for the success of this partnership include the necessity to react quickly and flexibly as required. The warehouse area at SIG Zerspanungstechnik is very limited, and solutions are often required just in time. In particular, the new sawing cells in Bönen will be able to respond to these high customer requirements successfully in the future.



Machine components made of stainless steel from STAPPERT.

# The intelligent diversity of flat bars.

Flat bars are an important product for processing industries. Its applications are diverse, including uses in the construction industry, the automobile sector, or in the food production industry. STAPPERT offers an unparalleled range of dimensions and grades directly ex stock.



STAPPERT has developed an outstanding reputation in the area of flat bars, and with regard to diversity of dimensions, it is setting new standards. Diverse applications also require „curved pieces“ that go beyond the dimensions of what is normal. For example, STAPPERT is one of very few dealers that stocks hot-formed flat bars of the grade 1.4301 in dimensions 100 × 80, 110 × 40, 110 × 50, 120 × 70, 130 × 40, 130 × 50, 140 × 40, 140 × 50 and 150 × 60 mm.

## *Grades for export.*

Additional interesting products include hot-formed flat bars in 1.4404. These products qualify as a standard for export business and are used especially for machine constructions and everywhere, where milling is involved. STAPPERT has stocked up its warehouse assortment in this area even more and even stocks extreme widths from 160 to 200 mm.



## *Flat bars also available in Duplex.*

Here's another current expansion: STAPPERT has recently started to stock hot-formed flat bars in 1.4462. With this step, the company underscores its claim to being a special provider once again. Furthermore, this also responds to the growing global demand for this special grade.



## *Cold-formed flat bars with precise dimensions.*

When considering the range of flat bars, cold-formed flat bars cannot be overlooked. These are produced specially and feature extremely low tolerances. STAPPERT keeps these products in stock in the following grades: 1.4301, 1.4305, 1.4404, and 1.4571.

Conclusion: Anyone who requires flat bars should contact STAPPERT. This is the widest range of dimensions and grades available from a single provider directly ex stock.



Sales Manager Dirk Fälber (3rd from right) and his team.

# Niederaula on course with sales.

A central location, an extensive inventory range, high customer involvement, and a small team, who is not likely to ever get bored. These are the factors that make the Niederaula sales team a success.

On 1 April 1993, the sales office at the Niederaula location was founded. The fact that this was not an April Fool's joke, but rather the beginning of a successful undertaking, was soon to be proved by the employees.

In the beginning, only three employees were active in the sales office, but Niederaula grew significantly. In 2004, the economically and industrially strong region of Rhein-Main was also added. Today, Dirk Fälber's sales team has grown to include five people and a sales region that stretches from Hesse, the south of Lower Saxony, Lower Franconia, and West-Thuringia. Niederaula supplies both dealers and end consumers that come from the industries of machine engineering, chemistry, the foodstuffs industry, sewage and drainage technology, electrical technology, and the general metalworking industry in particular. The team is especially proud of their good organisation and high efficiency: With 4,000 to 5,000 tonnes per year, the employees currently achieve revenues of over 25 million euros.

Many years of loyal customer relationships enable the company to lead the dialogue mainly by telephone. In this case as well, the growing level of success in daily business resulted in a desire to achieve more. For this reason, a field employee has been dedicated elegantly to the topic of new customer acquisition since July 2015.

Over the course of the years, the employees in Niederaula have experienced many interesting things. For example, orders for artwork like a giant bouquet of tulips or the delivery of tubes and pipes for use as the trunks of stainless steel palm trees. But in addition to these exotic products, it's the large projects that have been completed that stand for the proficiency of the sales team, and they can all be very proud of this.



## Perfect surfaces.

The Niederaula surface refinement centre makes every product shine. Since, in addition to surface refinement, STAPPERT also offers customer-oriented solutions and professional advice.

### The possibilities:

- Polishing: grain 180 – 1,200, as per roughness specifications, e.g. Ra or Rz value, gloss level, or as per pattern
- Brushing
- Polishing: Industrial, from matt to mirror-finished
- Glass bead blasting

# Top grades for training.

Anyone who focuses on the youth can profit from the future. STAPPERT views this maxim as an obligation, and now it has received an award for this. The biggest confirmation of this is the good grades that several trainees were able to show upon completion of their training this year.



Martina Stöver, Wolfgang Hartmann, and Jürgen Meier receive the prize from Dr. Ulrich Hoffmeister of IHK Lübeck.

Numerous young people have trained for their profession at STAPPERT over the years, and many of them continue to work at the company. This year, IHK Lübeck commended the high quality of the training at STAPPERT: On 29 October, the location at Ahrensburg was awarded the training award by the state of Schleswig-Holstein.

The independent prize judges examined companies across the country with regard to their trainees and to how many graduates were hired. In this case, STAPPERT was able to achieve top rankings in several categories. For example, thirteen former trainees are currently employed in Ahrensburg, seven of which alone in the export division.

Excellent evaluations were a further reason for this award from IHK Lübeck. Several trainees were able to complete their examination with top grades, especially to the pleasure of trainers Marko Telesch and Jürgen Meier. Viktor Brak and Sabrina Landwehr were among the top achievers with their perfect exam scores. Brak, who works in the logistics department, was also honoured by the State Premier on 9 November as the best in Schleswig-Holstein.



The trainees from Ahrensburg who received awards: Victor Brak and Sabrina Landwehr.

And there wasn't just reason to celebrate in the north of Germany. Michelle Dyckhoff was also able to complete her training in Düsseldorf with a perfect score. Congratulations to all of our successful graduates.



The top-grade candidate from Düsseldorf: Michelle Dyckhoff.

## FLASHLIGHTS

# Teesdorf celebrates.



Wolfgang Hartmann with the artwork completed on-site.

In September 2015, STAPPERT Fleischmann celebrated its ten-year anniversary in the Lower-Austrian village of Teesdorf with more than 240 guests from at home and abroad.

The richly-traditional company Fleischmann has been active in stainless steel for more than 60 years. Since its integration with the STAPPERT group, the Austrians have been able to offer their customers over 15,000 different products. In Teesdorf, employees act based on the maxims of high availability and uncompromising quality. The level of success is high: Today, 56 employees on an area of around 4,300 m<sup>2</sup> shift nearly 10,000 tonnes of stainless steel per year.

This was a great reason to celebrate extensively together with customers, suppliers, and employees. They all received a gemstone together with their invitation and were requested to bring it along with them to the anniversary party. An artist created at the event a "mosaique en acier", a work of art framed in stainless steel as a symbol for growth, value creation, and appreciation.

The nearly 240 guests celebrated in a warehouse hall emptied and decorated in elegant white especially for this purpose, in the so-called "Stainless Steel Palace". Many important customers and suppliers attended, and State Representative Christoph Kainz also honoured the proceedings in Teesdorf.

STAPPERT Fleischmann pampered its guests with a richly varied entertainment program- saxophone, a glass harp duo, classical ballet, fine finger food, and a 3-course dinner. Wine from the vineyard 'Alphart' in neighbouring Traiskirchen was also served.

Of course, the people of Teesdorf are proud of regional strengths, but a glance at the guest list proves that STAPPERT Fleischmann enjoys recognition far beyond the country's borders: In addition to the company's Austrian partners, General Manager Harald Ebenberger welcomed numerous guests from Germany, Slovenia, Hungary, and the Czech Republic. This evening, it became clear how much has been achieved over the past years, and what we are all prepared to continue to do.

All the best in the future!



The warehouse, which was converted to the "Stainless Steel Palace".



The excited guests.



Proud host Harald Ebenberger on the stage.

# STAPPERT Deutschland GmbH

## STAPPERT Deutschland GmbH

Willstätterstraße 13  
40549 Düsseldorf  
GERMANY  
T +49 211 5279-0  
F +49 211 5279-177  
deutschland@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/deutschland

## Export Division

An der Strusbek 54  
22926 Ahrensburg  
GERMANY  
T +49 4102 4741-0  
F +49 4102 4741-67  
export@stappert.biz

## Ahrensburg

An der Strusbek 54  
22926 Ahrensburg  
GERMANY  
T +49 4102 4741-0  
F +49 4102 4741-22  
ahrensburg@stappert.biz

## Berlin

Landsberger Allee 366  
12681 Berlin  
GERMANY  
T +49 30 428403-0  
F +49 30 428403-15  
berlin@stappert.biz

## Bönen

Edisonstraße 19  
59199 Bönen  
GERMANY  
T +49 2383 957-0  
F +49 2383 957-010  
boenen@stappert.biz

## Düsseldorf

Willstätterstraße 13  
40549 Düsseldorf  
GERMANY  
T +49 211 5279-0  
F +49 211 5279-190  
duesseldorf@stappert.biz

## Freiburg

Mitscherlichstraße 8  
79108 Freiburg  
GERMANY  
T +49 761 55965-0  
F +49 761 55965-20  
freiburg@stappert.biz

## Hannover

Karl-Wiechert-Allee 76  
30625 Hannover  
GERMANY  
T +49 511 54097-0  
F +49 511 54097-61  
hannover@stappert.biz

## Leipzig

Hugo-Aurig-Straße 7d  
04319 Leipzig  
GERMANY  
T +49 341 65972-0  
F +49 341 65972-50  
leipzig@stappert.biz

## Mannheim

Donaustraße 64-66  
68199 Mannheim  
GERMANY  
T +49 621 84216-0  
F +49 621 84216-70  
mannheim@stappert.biz

## München

Carl-Zeiss-Ring 19a  
85737 Ismaning  
GERMANY  
T +49 89 82917-0  
F +49 89 82917-200  
muenchen@stappert.biz

## Niederaula

Industriestraße 9  
36272 Niederaula  
GERMANY  
T +49 6625 100-0  
F +49 6625 100-1000  
niederaula@stappert.biz

## Nürnberg

Am Plärrer 27  
90443 Nürnberg  
GERMANY  
T +49 911 393626-0  
F +49 911 393626-24  
nuernberg@stappert.biz

## Ulm

Wilhelmstraße 22  
89073 Ulm  
GERMANY  
T +49 731 140129-0  
F +49 731 140129-1000  
ulm@stappert.biz

## Weil der Stadt

Josef-Beyerle-Straße 13  
71263 Weil der Stadt  
GERMANY  
T +49 7033 5282-0  
F +49 7033 5282-4713  
weilderstadt@stappert.biz

## STAPPERT brand

### STAPPERT Česká republika spol. s r.o.

Otmarov 57  
66457 Měnin  
CZECH REPUBLIC  
T +420 544423911  
F +420 547230363  
ceskarepublika@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/ceskarepublika

### STAPPERT Fleischmann GmbH

Gewerbepark B17/1/Objekt 1  
2524 Teesdorf  
AUSTRIA  
T +43 2253 90313-0  
F +43 2253 90313-600  
fleischmann@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/fleischmann

### STAPPERT France S.A.S.

13, Rue Charlemagne-BP 21  
02201 Soissons Cedex  
FRANCE  
T +33 3 23 73 50 00  
F +33 3 23 73 50 10  
france@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/france

### STAPPERT Intramet SA

Rue du Parc Industriel, 5  
4480 Engis  
BELGIUM  
T +32 4 275 82 11  
F +32 4 275 82 90  
intramet@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/intramet

### UAB STAPPERT Lietuva

R. Kalantos g.49B  
52303 Kaunas  
LITHUANIA  
T +370 37 473509  
F +370 37 373281  
lietuva@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/lietuva

### STAPPERT Magyarország Kft.

Rétifarkas utca 1.  
1172 Budapest  
HUNGARY  
T +36 1 4342424  
F +36 1 4342442  
magyarorszag@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/magyarorszag

### STAPPERT Nederland BV

Stationsplein 4N  
3331 LL Zwijndrecht  
THE NETHERLANDS  
T +31 78 6117150  
F +31 78 6117160  
nederland@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/nederland

### STAPPERT Polska Sp. z o.o.

ul. A. Gaudiego 18  
44-109 Gliwice  
POLAND  
T +48 32 3447300  
F +48 32 3447375  
polska@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/polska

### STAPPERT Slovensko a.s.

Šimonovská 37  
97271 Nováky  
SLOVAKIA  
T +421 46 51834-20  
F +421 46 51834-30  
slovensko@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/slovensko

### STAPPERT Sverige AB

Gamla Slätthultsvägen 3  
34334 Älmhult  
SWEDEN  
T +46 476 48550  
F +46 476 48560  
sverige@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/sverige

### STAPPERT UK Ltd.

Arley Road | Saltley  
B8 1BB Birmingham  
GREAT BRITAIN  
T +44 121 740 0175  
F +44 121 326 3109  
uk@stappert.biz  
www.stappert.biz/uk

[www.stappert.biz](http://www.stappert.biz)



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