

The HIMMEL technologies Group celebrates its 75th anniversary

Conquering the global market from Gescher

GESCHER. Gustav Neudecker and Willi Jolitz –would have every reason to be proud were they to cast their eyes over the HIMMEL technologies Group today. After all, they laid the foundation stone for the company when they established Neudecker & Jolitz Elektromaschinenbau GmbH & Co KG in 1947. Who would have thought back then that a small repair workshop for electric motors would evolve into an international corporation with over 350 employees?

The 80,000 square metre premises on Venneweg with its production space of 35,000 square metres is now home to eight companies from the fields of mechanical engineering, drive technology, automation technology, systems engineering and environmental technology. All of this would have been inconceivable in 1947 when Gustav Neudecker and Willi Jolitz decided to go into business after fleeing Silesia. In the earliest days, they mainly repaired bell motors for the local bell foundry and electric motors for the neighbouring weaving mills. Gustav Neudecker passed away at the age of 70 in May 1962. Willi and Käthe Jolitz took over the Neudecker family's shares in the business, which they then ran as a team.



View of the 80,000 square metre premises of the HIMMEL Group on Venneweg.

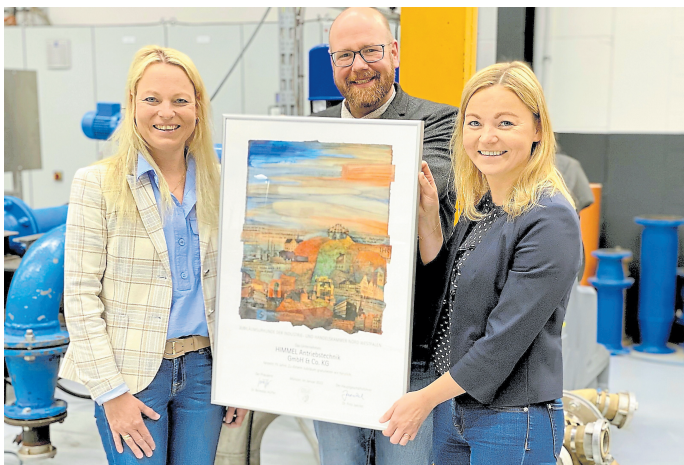
Faced with steady growth in the customer base, the Jolitz family decided it was time for their own company building in spring 1965 and set about buying the present property on Venneweg 28. Sadly, Willi Jolitz would never see the finished company building with his own eyes, as he died suddenly and unexpectedly at the age of 59. Käthe Jolitz then took charge of the company together with her daughter Monika Jolitz. Monika Jolitz met her future husband Paul Lütkenhaus from Oer-Erkenschwick in 1968.

He joined the company a year later and shortly afterwards passed his master craftsman's examination to become an electrical machine builder. Paul and Käthe Jolitz then managed the company together. Monika Lütkenhaus was passionately involved and in charge of the areas of personnel and accounting.

Paul Lütkenhaus was driven his whole life to expand the company into new business segments. True to his motto: "If you don't go forwards, you go backwards!" he developed a variety of innovative products in the 80s. He did not acquire his nickname of "Pump Paul" without reason. Paul expanded the existing network of pump manufacturers. The new company he founded, PVG Pumpen Vertrieb Gescher GmbH, took charge of representing many prestigious manufacturers and has remained highly successful in this field to this day. The takeover of hoelscher technic-gorator in Herne in 1986 was a milestone, as it expanded the business segment into waste-

water pumping, wastewater treatment and wet shredding (Gorator). There was a large number of takeovers in the following years, and the company expanded into many new product segments, according to Paul Lütkenhaus' guiding principle: "More products, more customers, more opportunities." Industrial engineer Nina Lütkenhaus became managing director alongside her father Paul in 2018. Their combination of experience, innovative spirit and technical savvy made them an outstanding team. The company has built on its market share in recent years, so that HIMMEL flat motors,

for example, are used worldwide in the wood-working industry. The patented Gorator – which is needed for wet crushing – is also used around the world, especially in the chemical, recycling and mining industries. The last year has left its mark. The sudden death of managing director Paul Lütkenhaus shook the entire corporate group to the core and presented it with new challenges. Not only was Paul Lütkenhaus the "boss" for over 50 years, he was also a "fatherly mentor" to many. But the company still needed to continue – so it did with the help and support of the entire workforce.



The North Westphalia Chamber of Industry and Commerce presented a pretty certificate to HIMMEL partners Nina Lütkenhaus (l.) and Petra Böing to mark the company's 75th anniversary.

Out of this world anniversary celebration at Schalke

The 75th anniversary of the company was recently celebrated at the Arena auf Schalke with all employees. In addition to several live acts and a tour of the stadium, the focus was also on "togetherness". In her speech, Managing Director Nina Lütkenhaus had some fitting words: "The HIMMEL technologies Group is a labour of love for our family. For my father, it would be a joy to see my sister

Petra Böing, my brother-in-law Patrick Böing and I pulling together to successfully continue the life work of our parents and grandparents." The two managing partners accepted an official 75th anniversary certificate from the North Westphalia Chamber of Industry and Commerce with a great sense of pride and joy. They are both confident that, together with their great team, they will build on the 75-year success story.