

## *Press release*

Wettenberg, February 17, 2014

### Scientists from China visit PVA TePla

**A delegation of five professors headed by the President of Xi'an University of Technology, Prof. Liu Ding, visited PVA TePla AG on February 13 to exchange ideas. The crystal-growing and automation process specialists from China discussed the latest research and development work, markets and potential cooperations in China with PVA TePla.**

Also present were Prof. Günter Bräuer of the Fraunhofer IST, Brunswick as well as Professors Bruno Meyer and Peter Klar, representing the Laboratory for Material Research (LaMa) at the University of Giessen. In conjunction with the Fraunhofer IST and the University of Giessen, PVA TePla established a Fraunhofer working group in Wettenberg at the end of last year.

Prof. Bräuer explained how the Fraunhofer working group will also support optimization of the PVA TePla systems in the context of services for process developments. If the development results were ultimately to go onto the Chinese market with the systems, it would obviously be necessary to ensure protection of expertise there, stressed Günter Bräuer.

"The main areas of research and development at Xi'an University of Technology are highly compatible with our process system engineering activities. We expect a cooperative approach to deliver additional market potential for PVA TePla," stressed Dr. Arno Knebelkamp, CEO of PVA TePla AG.

Peter Abel, who founded the PVA TePla Group in 1991, is delighted with the prospect of an upturn in corporate activities in the Chinese province of Shaanxi. He established a joint venture with Xi'an University of Technology for the manufacture of crystal-growing systems for the solar industry back in 2005. However, he believes that the global market for process systems of this kind is depressed at the moment. "That's why it makes sense for us also to be focusing on process systems for new high-tech materials and functional layers for the fast-growing Chinese market right now. By doing this, we can gradually tap into applications in microelectronics, the aviation industry and batteries," said Abel.

The talks resulted in sound starting points for cooperations involving vacuum process furnaces for crystal-growing and high-voltage technology, while ion sources for aerospace may also be of interest in this link-up.



Chinese scientists at PVA TePla

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