

## Press release

Stahlo Stahlservice GmbH & Co. KG



*Stahlo Stahlservice at the Blechexpo 2019  
from 5 to 8 November in Stuttgart  
Hall 10, booth 10509*

Stahlo Stahlservice at the Blechexpo 2019

### Perfectly prepared for electro-mobility

**The continuing technological development of electric drive systems will make steel service centres capable of reliably and economically fabricating high strength and ultra-high strength steel more important for the automotive industry. Stahlo Stahlservice is perfectly prepared these demands. At the upcoming Blechexpo international trade fair for sheet metal working from 5 to 8 November 2019, the Friedhelm Loh Group company presents its capabilities when working with high strength and ultra-high-strength steel.**

Dillenburg/Stuttgart, 5 November 2019 – Electric and hybrid drive systems are expected to become a major part of vehicle production in the foreseeable future. This has extensive effects on the upstream production chains. The trend away from combustion engines toward other drive technologies holds significant potential for steel as a material – this includes crash-relevant components that will not only have to protect the vehicle occupants but also the vehicle's sensitive batteries in future. As a consequence, steel service centres with expertise in working with high-strength and ultra-high-strength steel will be in greater demand than ever – such as Stahlo Stahlservice.

### Reliable partner for ultra-high strength steel

The steel service centre belonging to the Friedhelm Loh Group now presents its expertise in processing high-strength and ultra-high-strength steel and aluminium from 5 to 8 November at the Blechexpo 2019 international trade fair for sheet metal working in Stuttgart (hall 10, booth 10509 ). By constantly expanding its pro-

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cessing expertise while making continuous investments, Stahlo Stahlservice has successively established its position as a solid partner for diverse special industries and the automotive industry in particular in recent years.

With its recently completed plant in Gera, Stahlo Stahlservice has doubled its capacity at this location to 400,000 t and reinforced its technology leadership. In addition to the existing equipment, the plant now includes a second contour cutting system with a pressing force of 800 t along with a slitting line capable of processing coils of this steel grade with an coil outside diameter of up to 2,100 mm and up to 60 strips in a single operation. Stahlo Stahlservice has positioned itself as a reliable partner capable of keeping pace with technological development and effectively processing both high-strength and ultra-high-strength steel with a tensile strength of up to 1,900 MPa.

“The development towards electro-mobility is a growth opportunity for steel service centres”, says Oliver Sonst, the new Managing Director of Stahlo Stahlservice as of October 2019. All things considered, some experts predict that the use of flat steel could increase by 10 per cent per electric vehicle in comparison to conventional vehicles. Yet at the same time, increasing price pressure in the automotive industry is also expected. High-strength and ultra-high-strength steel provides automotive manufacturers with the materials group that offers both outstanding chemical properties and is also economically efficient while the production has a good carbon footprint.

The trend toward higher strength steels is, therefore, expected to continue. However, greater material strength also results in increasingly demanding steel processing. Expertise in working with steel is predicted to become even more important in future, because high-

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performance and reliable partners such as Stahlo Stahlservice are essential for the automotive industry.

“With its highly qualified technical application consultant employees, Stahlo Stahlservice it is perfectly prepared”, says Oliver Sonst. Its investment in state-of-the-art fabrication capabilities and by doubling its capacity in Gera to a total of more than 800,000 t per year the company has made an investment in the future.

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### **Caption(s)**

Image 1 (fri192026500.jpg): “The development towards electro-mobility is a growth opportunity for steel service centres”, says Oliver Sonst, the new Managing Director of Stahlo Stahlservice as of October 2019.

Image 2 (fri19238300.jpg): With its new plant in Gera, Stahlo has reinforced its claim to technological leadership. The 23,000 square metre production and storage facility utilises high-tech systems and machines such as the new contour press with the pressing force of 800 t.

Image 3 (fri19238400.jpg): The new Stahlo plant in Gera is capable of processing around 100 coils per day and more than 400,000 t steel per year with its doubled capacity and yet again upgraded systems. In combination with the production facilities in Dillenburg and Nordhausen and the redundancy of its plants and facilities, Stahlo can guarantee its customers maximum delivery capability and reliability for up to 800,000 t per year.

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Stahlo Stahlservice GmbH & Co. KG is one of the advanced state-of-the-art and largest independent steel service centres in Germany. It offers a complete range of products and services for all relevant materials in the sheet metal market. Moreover, its plant in Gera is home to one of Europe's largest blanking centres. Stahlo manufactures diverse sheet metal products, including slitted coils, contoured and cut-to-size blanks, plus standard and cut-to-size sheets – in line with its customers' specific needs.

Stahlo was founded in 1983 in Dillenburg, Germany, and is a member of the Friedhelm Loh Group. The Group maintains a global presence, with 18 production sites and 80 subsidiaries across the world. Managed by founder Prof. Friedhelm Loh himself, the Group employs 11,500 people and generated revenues of €2.6 billion in 2017. In 2018, the family-run business was named one of Germany's leading employers by the Top Employers Institute, for the tenth year running. Within the scope of a Germany-wide survey, Focus Money magazine identified the Friedhelm Loh Group as one of the nation's best providers of vocational training for the third time in 2018.

For more information, visit [www.stahlo.de](http://www.stahlo.de) and [www.friedhelm-loh-group.com](http://www.friedhelm-loh-group.com).