

AD-HOC MESSAGE

Large Volume of Orders Announced Alongside Six Month Figures

With a consolidated turnover of DM 21.5 million in the first half of 2000, LPKF Laser & Electronics AG, Garbsen near Hanover, generated an EBIT of DM 4.6 million or 21.4 per cent. And because the usual seasonal development, and an accounting shift into July, means that the turnover in the first half of the year is around 38 per cent of the projected annual turnover – as explained at the presentation of the six month figures – the management board forecasts that the budgeted figures for the whole of 2000 will be achieved. The current volume of orders for the second half at the head office in Garbsen has grown to a record figure of around DM 14 million. Of great strategic significance here is the order for a second MicrolineLaser by a co-operation partner. The first order has also been received for a Polymer-StencilLaser. In addition, the first half 2000 saw the first orders for two Flexlaser systems arising from the Mania co-operation, and the sale of a ProtoLaser. This demonstrates that the new technologies are being accepted. Market launch has begun.

As at 22.08.00, the orders received by the parent company totalled DM 25.8 million, up around 55 per cent year-on-year.

The French distribution company founded in December 1999 is already in profit. LPKF plans to establish their own subsidiary in the Chinese growth market before the end of the year. A subsidiary is then planned for Singapore in 2001. LPKF expects to receive an additional boost in orders on the back of its participation at electronica 2000 in Munich in November - the world's leading electronics trade fair. Negotiations are currently ongoing on establishing new partnerships and expanding existing partnership agreements.

For more details, please look us up in the internet at www.lpkf.de.