



## Media release

### **SCHMOLZ + BICKENBACH resumes discussions on open-ended selling process for specific distribution activities**

Emmenbrücke, 12 March 2015 – SCHMOLZ + BICKENBACH AG, a global leader in special long steel (such as tool steel, stainless steel, and engineering steel) listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (SIX: STLN), has resumed discussions on an open-ended selling process for specific distribution units in Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and Austria.

The affected distribution units belong to the Sales & Services division, follow a diverging business model and focus on selling third party products. Therefore they do no longer fit into the strategic direction of the SCHMOLZ + BICKENBACH Group, which has been elaborated in 2013; the future focus of the Group lies on production and sales of own-mill products. In 2014, these activities achieved revenues of around EUR 600 million and employed around 1 000 employees.

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#### **About SCHMOLZ + BICKENBACH**

Today, the SCHMOLZ + BICKENBACH Group is one of the world's leading providers of customised solutions in the special long steel products business. A global name in tool steel and stainless long steel, the Group is one of the two largest companies in Europe for alloy and high-alloy special and engineering steel. With around 10 000 employees at its own production and distribution companies in 38 countries across five continents, the Company supports and supplies customers wherever they operate. Besides a comprehensive Production and Sales & Services portfolio, customers benefit from the Company's technological expertise, consistent high quality worldwide and in-depth knowledge of local markets.

#### **Forward-looking statements**

Information in this release may contain forward-looking statements, including presentations of developments, plans, intentions, assumptions, expectations, beliefs and potential impacts as well as descriptions of future events, income, results, situations or outlook. They are based on the Company's current expectations, beliefs and assumptions, which are subject to uncertainty and may differ materially from the current facts, situation, impact or developments.

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