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Hendor 70th anniversary highlight and investment summary

Hendor's 2018 in a nutshell: the end of a round of investments in top-of-the-line machines, a refreshed corporate identity and a technical conference. The international pumps and filters family business celebrated its 70th anniversary this year as well. Director Paul van Ham, who serves on the executive board with Marja Kaethoven-Bohncke and Hessel Bohncke, reviews the eventful year with satisfaction and looks confidently ahead: "The innovations that we have recently implemented guarantee that Hendor is now ready for the future and will continue to be."

Founders Henk and Dorus Bohncke would hardly recognize 'their' Hendor in the Dutch town of Bladel if they were to walk into the large manufacturing facility today. The enormous gantry milling machine which can work autonomously even through the night catches the eye. Van Ham: "Sustainability is at the heart of our company, our products and our work method. This is why we decided to invest in production methods which waste fewer materials in addition to making the work more efficient. We used to produce a lot of waste in the cutting process; this machine mills everything as sparingly as possible now. In fact, Hendor was already committed to reducing the amount of waste material thirty years ago by performing in-house injection moulding of plastic components." of its solid construction (providing a long service life and low down time), its high flow rate vs motor size and power saving potential.



Founders Henk and Dorus Bohncke (1955)



Gantry milling machine

Investing in lean manufacturing

A lot has changed for Hendor in seventy years. However, the desire to do business in an innovative and sustainable way has remained a constant. This is why the organisation set the goal of lean manufacturing in 2016. This desire was manifested by effecting a round of investments worth half a million euros, which reached a climax in 2018. Besides purchasing the gantry milling machine, Hendor invested money in new software and an automatic welding machine, installed LED lighting everywhere and organised the workplace in a more efficient way. "We want to obtain a higher output with the same number of hands by automating. The machines are used more efficiently thanks to the new planning software. We work with small batches and customise more products in accordance with our clients' wishes. Not only does this shorten the lead time, but we use raw materials more economically as well," explains Van Ham.

Products with a long lifespan

The current executive board, the third generation of the family, highly values the Hendor philosophy of sustainability. "We traditionally choose solid materials which last long and which use as little energy as possible. We design products to add value. This means that we use top-quality raw materials such as Georg Fischer and Simona plastic. We also source engines from Germany and Austria. We develop products which can be repaired and thus last for a long time," says Van Ham. An ideology which perfectly suits the lean manufacturing strategy implemented by Hendor. This mindset is not limited only to the production method, however; staff members are also involved. "Our staff members followed a training course in order to learn how to communicate better. This ensured work is carried out more efficiently," Van Ham explains.

"Sustainability is at the heart of our company,
our products and our work method"



The Hendor Team

An international conference

In order to celebrate the 70th anniversary and the end of the round of investments, Hendor launched a new house style, a company video, a technical conference and a party in June. Partners, distributors and agents from more than twenty countries around the world visited Bladel to hear about the innovations implemented by Hendor. In addition, various guest speakers, including chemical suppliers, discussed new developments in the sector. "Guest speakers from our sector were an important part of the conference," emphasises Van Ham. "We want to be a good partner for our clients and want them to enjoy discussing their plans with us. This means that we must contribute ideas and be up-to-date with what is going on in our sector. We therefore always ask about the client's objectives first – that is how the best solution is found."



Marja Kaethoven-Bohncke, Hessel Bohncke en Paul van Ham

A healthy Hendor

Hendor's 70th anniversary is coming to an end, lean manufacturing is now a fact and the new logo has been implemented everywhere. This does not mean that the executive board of three is going to sit back and relax, however. Van Ham: "We have grown substantially during these past years and we want to keep growing at the same rate. The focus will continue to be on innovation, at the product and manufacturing level as well as in our corporate culture. Not only do we want to make clever products, we want to have a more ingenious approach too. Our mission therefore remains unchanged. We want to leave a healthy Hendor for the fourth generation. I can tell you it's a generation that can't wait to get on board!"