

PRESS RELEASE

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Boost to orders in first quarter of 2014

New orders up by around 20 percent – slight growth in consolidated earnings

Göppingen (Germany), May 6, 2014 – “With its first-quarter results, Schuler has got off to a successful start in the new fiscal year 2014,” explained CEO Stefan Klebert on presentation of the company’s interim report in Göppingen. From January to March 2014, orders were up 19.8 percent year on year to € 319.8 million. The press manufacturer made strong gains in Asia, and especially China, as well as in South America and the Gulf region. In Europe, Schuler received its largest-ever service order. At € 258.0 million, sales were 16.0 percent below the corresponding prior-year figure. As expected, sales suffered from falling orders in the previous year.

Due to this decline in revenue, earnings before interest, taxes and amortization (Ebita) of € 17.5 million fell short of the prior-year figure of € 26.4 million. The Group profit for the period, however, rose from € 10.7 to € 11.3 million year thanks to lower interest expenses and taxes.

At the end of the quarter, Schuler’s net financial status improved to € 307.8 million. Equity rose by 4.2 percent to € 286.3 million.

“Over the past few years, Schuler has worked hard to establish a strong market position and solid financial basis. We must now continue along this successful path,” stated Klebert with reference to the company’s key financial figures.

The company has also confirmed its guidance for the fiscal year 2014. Schuler continues to expect total sales of around € 1.1 billion in 2014 with an Ebita margin of 6 to 7 percent. “The high order backlog of around € 1.1 billion provides a solid basis for our 2014 sales and earnings forecast,” concluded Klebert. At the end of March 2014, the Group employed 5,494 people.

Schuler Group at a glance:

		01.01. - 31.03.2014	01.01. - 31.03.2013
Sales	€ million	258.0	307.0
New orders	€ million	319.8	267.0
Order backlog ¹	€ million	1,100.6	1,125.9
Ebitda	€ million	22.3	32.9
Ebita	€ million	17.5	26.4
Ebit	€ million	17,0	25.7
Ebt	€ million	16.3	23.5
Group profit	€ million	11.3	10.7
Ebitda margin	%	8.6	10.7
Ebita margin	%	6.8	8.6
Shareholders' equity ¹	€ million	286.3	270.9
Equity ratio ¹	%	27.7	27.8
Net financial status ¹	€ million	307.8	190.7
Employees ²		5,494	5,532

¹ At the end of the reporting period Mar 31; ² Including apprentices

Click here for the full interim announcement:

http://ir2.flife.de/data/schuler_ag/igb_html/index.php?bericht_id=1000011&lang=ENG

Captions

Picture1.jpg: 2014, Schuler celebrates its 175th anniversary.

Picture2.jpg: Recent innovations, such as the ServoDirect Technology, underline Schuler's leading position in the field of metalforming.

Please name Schuler as the photo source.

About the Schuler Group – www.schulergroup.com

As the technological and global market leader in metal and plastic forming equipment, Schuler offers cutting edge presses, automation, dies, process know-how and services for the entire metal forming industry and lightweight vehicle construction. Its clients include car manufacturers and their suppliers, as well as companies in the forging, household equipment, packaging, energy and electrical industries. Schuler is the market leader in coin minting technology and supplies systems solutions for the aerospace, railway and large pipes industries. The company can trace its roots back to a locksmith shop founded by Louis Schuler in 1839 and celebrates its 175th anniversary in 2014. In fiscal year 2012/13 (ending Sep. 30), Schuler posted sales of € 1,185.9 million. With 5,600 employees, Schuler is represented in 40 nations around the world. The Austrian ANDRITZ Group holds a majority share in Schuler.