



Press release

SPD-politician visits Aenova in Gronau:

Federal Minister of Labour Andrea Nahles informs herself about high-quality pharmaceutical contract manufacturing „Made in Germany“

Gronau, 11. August 2016. On Thursday Federal Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Andrea Nahles, received detailed information about high-quality pharmaceutical contract manufacturing „Made in Germany“ at the Aenova Group in Gronau (Lower Saxony). Together with the mayor of the municipality Gronau, Rainer Mertens, the minister visited the Lower Saxony site of Aenova, a worldwide leading company of the pharma- and healthcare-industry. Both politicians obtained comprehensive details from the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the Aenova Group, Marco Gorgas, and the managing director of the factory, Sebastian Ludwig, about the extensive product range and the services of the site with more than 420 employees.

„The production in Germany enables us to optimally meet the requirements of our customers of the pharmaceutical industry with best-qualified employees and highest production standards“, said Marco Gorgas. Particularly in the pharmaceutical industry, like in many other producing industries, ‚Made in Germany‘ or ‚Made in Europe‘ are a genuine competitive advantage. „This will also continue to be so in the future. We have a clear commitment to the production site in Germany“, emphasized the COO.

Politicians should provide stronger support for school and further education

„Recruiting specialist and managerial staff obviously is easier at a site in Germany than in many low-wage countries“, added the managing director of the factory, Sebastian Ludwig. „Nevertheless there is upward potential even in Germany concerning our general education level.“ Thus Aenova currently prefers high-school graduates when selecting apprentices. „However we would like to employ as well graduates of secondary or comprehensive schools as apprentices, if the educational level permitted that. Furthermore we wish more support of policy in continuing vocational education“, the

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managing director added.

Well-qualified team with over 420 employees

The Aenova Group produces tablets and ampoules on behalf of nationally and internationally operating pharmaceutical companies at the site in Gronau with more than 420 qualified employees. More than one billion tablets and more than 50 million ampoules leave the plant in Gronau (Leine) as bulk or finished goods per year.

In addition to the classical contract manufacturing the service portfolio of the site covers production and distribution of clinical trial samples as well as further pharmaceutical services. The professional handling of substances, that are subject to the narcotics law, is the Gronau plant's core business as well as the analytical testing of all manufactured products and their raw materials.

„High safety and hygiene standards with all important audits and certifications ensure the consistent top quality of our production“, managing director Sebastian Ludwig emphasized. Flexible production capacities provided the best possible utilization and allowed an optimal reaction to specific customer requests from all over the world.

„Through ongoing investments the site meets the steadily growing requirements of customers and authorities and additionally increases efficiency“, Ludwig explained.

Tradition for almost 120 years

The plant's origins date back to the year 1898. At that time the company Johann A. Wülfing Bauer & Cie. started the production of the very successful tonic Sanatogen, which in those days especially was in demand for prevention of protein deficiency and related infectious diseases, on the premises of a former paper factory.

After several realignments and renamings the Haupt Pharma Wülfing GmbH was overtaken by the Aenova Group in the year 2014. At that time the site was part of the Haupt Pharma Group, a big pharmaceutical contract manufacturer and developer.

**About Aenova**

The Aenova Group is one of the world's leading companies of the pharmaceutical and healthcare industry. The group's range of services includes the entire value chain of development and production of all conventional dosage forms and product categories in the field of pharmaceuticals and food supplements. With high quality standards, enormous flexibility and delivery capability as well as a clear future alignment Aenova has become Europe's market leader in the business-to-business area. The company based in Percha near Munich is represented worldwide with 18 production sites. More than 4.400 employees in 11 countries contribute to the Aenova Group's success.