

Press Information

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175 years of Heidelberger Druckmaschinen: Company starts anniversary year with growth strategy

- **Growth strategy: medium-term sales potential of more than € 300 million**
- **Growth drivers in the core business: packaging, digital printing
Software and lifecycle business**
- **Industrial business: focus on further expansion**
- **175 years: the company has been shaping the printing industry for decades
with technological innovations, quality and reliability**
- **Numerous anniversary activities throughout the year**

Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG (HEIDELBERG) is entering its anniversary year 2025 with a growth strategy: March 11, 2025, marks the 175th anniversary of the company's founding. What began over a century and a half ago as a bell foundry in Frankenthal in the Palatinate region of Germany, has since developed into a leading global technology company and total solutions provider for print shops and packaging applications. HEIDELBERG is tackling the challenges of the future with a clear growth strategy.

"To expand our market position, we are increasingly tapping into growth potential in our core business in packaging and digital printing as well as in the software and lifecycle business," says Jürgen Otto, CEO of HEIDELBERG. "We will also continue to expand our offering in the growing green technologies market. This includes key areas such as high-precision mechanical engineering, the automotive industry, charging infrastructure and software, and new hydrogen technologies." In total, HEIDELBERG sees growth potential of more than € 300 million in sales for all strategic initiatives by the 2028/2029 financial year, while at the same time consolidating performance and increasing efficiency.

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- **Packaging market has seen significant growth since 2014**

HEIDELBERG is benefiting from the constantly **growing global demand for packaging**. The end customer market for packaging has grown by more than 60 percent worldwide over the past ten years. In cooperation with Solenis, HEIDELBERG is responding to the global **trend away from plastic and foil towards paper-based packaging** and will in future offer solutions for printing recyclable packaging, particularly for the food industry. The company already generates more than 50 percent of its turnover in the packaging segment. And the trend is clearly upward.

- **HEIDELBERG seizes opportunities in growing industrial digital printing**

According to market estimates, the global digital printing market accessible to HEIDELBERG, including service and consumables, will grow from around EUR 5 billion today to EUR 7.5 billion by 2029. HEIDELBERG has significantly expanded its offering, including through its **cooperation with Canon**. This will **significantly increase sales of digital printing solutions**. Incoming orders already confirm this from the next financial year.

- **International business with high potential**

HEIDELBERG sees a lever for more sales growth in its strong international presence in around 170 countries worldwide, with one of the **largest global sales and service networks**. The company will continue to expand this internationalization, particularly in **growth markets such as Asia**, the USA and emerging markets. HEIDELBERG has the best prerequisites for this, particularly in China, thanks to its local production and partnership with MK Masterwork. More than 85 percent of the company's business is already conducted outside Germany.

- **Focus on expanding industrial business in the Technology segment**

Another focus is on HEIDELBERG's industrial business to **open up new product areas, markets, and industries**. To this end, the company has extensive skills, expertise and resources that are currently already being used outside the printing industry, particularly in the fields **of high-precision mechanical engineering, the automotive industry, electromobility and hydrogen**.

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The company is also increasingly offering its expertise and installed capacities to other companies in order to efficiently industrialize or manufacture their products.

175 years: the company has been shaping the printing industry for decades with technological innovations, quality and reliability

HEIDELBERG has been shaping the printing industry for 175 years with innovations, top quality and maximum reliability. Throughout its history, the company has repeatedly set new standards with pioneering developments such as the "**Original Heidelberg Tiegel**" and the "**Speedmaster**" model series for sheetfed offset printing. "175 years of Heidelberg Druckmaschinen are a strong testimony to consistency, as well as innovative strength and thus future viability," says Jürgen Otto. "Thanks to its impressive achievements over the past 175 years, the company is looking forward to further growth in the coming years with its current market position, the expertise of its employees and global customer relationships."

Numerous anniversary activities throughout the year

Together with customers, employees and partners, HEIDELBERG is celebrating its anniversary year with numerous events and activities. In the summer, for example, there will be a week of celebrations at the Wiesloch-Walldorf headquarters in the **newly designed demonstration center - the Home of Print** - including an anniversary ceremony with guests from all over the world, i.e. customers, suppliers, partners and representatives from politics and society. Family days are planned for employees at individual locations. In addition, there will be an anniversary magazine in which the history of the company will be presented, and the future will be directed.

With around 9,500 employees worldwide, production facilities in several countries and regions, including China and the USA, as well as the densest sales and service network in the industry, HEIDELBERG is now a true global player and world market leader from Germany. "Our history impressively demonstrates how entrepreneurship, technical expertise and the genuine creative power of our employees can have a lasting impact on a company over such a long period of time and, far beyond that, on an entire industry to this day," Otto continues.

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Image 1: March 11, 2025 marks the 175th anniversary of the founding of HEIDELBERG. The automatic platen press introduced in 1921 is HEIDELBERG's best and longest seller with a printing capacity of 3,000 sheets per hour and is the epitome of precision, performance and reliability.

Image 2: In 1974, the HEIDELBERG Speedmaster sheetfed offset series was presented for the first time, with a speed of 11,000 sheets per hour, underpinning the company's leading market position to this day.

Image 3: The highly automated Peak Performance Speedmaster XL 106 with up to 21,000 sheets per hour on show at drupa 2024 enables autonomous print production.

[Images](#) and further information about the company are available on the Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG press portal at www.heidelberg.com.

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