



Press Release

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Hilite International opens new plant in China

Hilite International, a global supplier of leading automotive system solutions, opened a new plant in Changshu, province Jiangsu in China, on November 15th, 2011. The production of double clutch transmission (DCT) components will be ramped up to full capacity over the next six months. Late in 2012, the production will be expanded to variable valve timing (VVT) phasers and valves, doubling the site plant capacity. From its Changshu site, Hilite International will primarily supply Asian activities of Volkswagen and General Motors. Moreover, Hilite is striving to further broaden its OEM customer base in Asia.

Karl Hammer, CEO of Hilite International, said: "China is a very important growth market and of strategic relevance for us and our customers which include the worldwide leading car manufacturers. Our new plant is an important milestone of our strategy that aims at opening up this market in order to foster our growth." With its new plant in China, Hilite is now present on three continents with own production facilities and able to supply its clients with customized solutions worldwide.

The investment volume of the new plant amounts to \$ 25 million in 2011 (about € 18.6 million). By the end of the current year, about 50 employees will be working on the Changshu site. The plant comprises a production area of 6,800 square meters. Hilite headquarters for Asia remains in Shanghai, where the company coordinates its sales, purchasing and engineering activities in the region.

3i, an international investor focused on Private Equity, Infrastructure and Debt Management, and funds managed by 3i, as well as China Investment Corporation (CIC) as a co-investor support Hilite's international growth strategy that aims at clearly outperforming the automotive industry, currently focusing on the BRIC countries.

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About Hilite

Hilite International is a global supplier of leading automotive system solutions. Its innovative and well-engineered engine, transmission and emission control products are used to improve fuel efficiency and reduce emissions for passenger cars and commercial vehicles. Headquartered in Marktheidenfeld, Germany, Hilite has more than 1,200 employees at eight locations in Europe, North America and Asia and generated revenues of €300 million in 2010. Around the globe, Hilite is a reliable and close partner to its customers which include the leading international car and truck manufacturers. Its product segments are Variable Valve Timing (VVT), Double Clutch Transmissions (DCT) and Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR).

www.hilite.com