**Press statement**



**On the occasion of Perimeter Protection 2023**

**9:30, Tuesday, 17 January 2023**

As the honorary sponsor and co-founder of Perimeter Protection, the Gütegemeinschaft Metallzauntechnik (Metal Fence Technology Association) has a very close connection with this event. We are therefore very pleased that everything is pointing toward continued success for Perimeter Protection even after the pandemic.

Until 2021, the Fachverband Metallzauntechnik (German Metal Fencing Association) and its subdivision, the Gütegemeinschaft Metallzauntechnik (Metal Fence Technology Association), represented the interests of fencing construction companies. The two associations merged two years ago, and since then, the Technology Association has taken care of the activities of the Fencing Association. The Technology Association has been active in its current form since 1999, although the roots of its activity as an association date back to March 1963, when fencing manufacturers in Stuttgart established the Gütegemeinschaft Drahtzaun (Wire Fencing Technology Association), which became a member of RAL Deutsches Institut für Gütesicherung und Kennzeichnung (German Institute for Quality Assurance and Certification) in 1968. Currently, the Association represents 76 fencing construction companies and 26 “promoters”, i.e. manufacturers of fences and gates for outdoor areas, and of fencing construction components. The bulk of the fencing construction companies in the Association have between ten and 25 employees.

The Technology Association ensures the quality of assembly of metal fences and also checks that only metal fences assembled in accordance with the quality regulations carry the RAL quality mark. Constant in-house and neutral third-party monitoring guarantees the reliable observance of this stringent quality requirement. As a partner to consumers and decision-makers, the Technology Association is responsible for ensuring information security and transparency .

The Technology Association has also taken over the tasks of the Fencing Association in representing the interests and business policy of the fence construction and manufacturing industry, most of whose members are SMEs. A key task is to promote metal fencing in all its potential forms and uses as a building product for private, commercial/industrial and public areas, facilities and buildings.

For the metal fencing industry, Perimeter Protection is the ideal platform for providing its target groups – architects, building and security designers, operators and users of commercial, public and private outdoor areas and sensitive infrastructure, fencing assembly businesses and the specialist trade – with an overview of metal fencing technology and perimeter protection.

Perimeter Protection has succeeded in combining mechanical and electronic security system products and services for monitoring outdoor areas and presenting them in a compact event format.

Perimeter protection comprises all elements – essentially systems, products and services – aimed at securing commercial, public and private sites right at the boundary level. These include fences with entry and exit opportunities such as gates, doors, barriers and related systems, revolving doors, turnstiles and bollards.

The goals of perimeter protection are to protect general well-being, maintain security of supply and ensure the continued function of supraregional transport facilities such as airports or sea ports.

**Industry situation**

The Covid-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and the resulting problems affecting international supply chains, the rise in inflation and the reversal in interest rates have strongly affected the economy in many areas. Nonetheless, the fencing construction industry has come through this crisis relatively well so far, despite all the challenges.

During the past three years, declining revenues in the commercial and industrial area have been offset by a marked increase in the private sector. Many private households have used money that they have been unable to spend on holidays and travel to invest in their own properties, for example. And the large number of construction projects that have been completed in recent years are currently benefiting the sector.

The fencing construction industry is, however, in a position of late-stage cyclical dependence on the building industry. That means that even if the order situation is still good overall, there are darker clouds on the horizon. For the current year, the building industry is expecting a decline in both the commercial and residential construction sector. There will be a delay before this also reaches the fencing construction industry. The ongoing war in Ukraine and the Covid-19 wave in China will also continue to impact on economic development and thus also on the building industry. The extent to which this will affect our industry is difficult to forecast at the moment.

Another factor that is likely to cause significant problems is the shortage of labour. In almost all of Germany’s regions it is hard to find employees, both for relatively basic activities and for those requiring more highly qualified workers. According to a current survey, 56 percent of all companies consider the skilled labour shortage as a major business risk. These difficulties will continue to affect the industry in the years to come.

Contact: Kai-Uwe Grögor

Gütegemeinschaft Metallzauntechnik e.V.   
An der Pönt 48  
D-40885 Ratingen  
Germany  
Tel. + 49 (0) 2102-186200  
Fax + 49 (0) 2102-186212  
[info@guetezaun.de](file:///D:\newjobs\info@guetezaun.de)    
[www.guetezaun.de](http://www.guetezaun.de/)