# PRESS RELEASE

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# Schuler celebrates 175th anniversary

## From metalworking shop to globally operating group: The world’s leading press manufacturer has a long tradition

*Göppingen, April 29, 2014* – It’s Schuler’s birthday: the internationally successful press manufacturer is celebrating its 175th year in business in 2014. Louis Schuler founded the company in 1839 as a metalworking shop in Göppingen’s Sauerbrunnengasse. Nobody at the time would have thought that the little workshop would one day become a global corporation with sales of almost € 1.2 billion.

“There have been many milestones in Schuler’s success over the past 175 years,” says CEO Stefan Klebert, “and very few companies in Germany can look back on such a long and successful history.” A 175th company anniversary is rare: not even half of all German companies reach their 10th anniversary. To mark the occasion, Schuler’s celebrations will therefore include a central event for employees at its base in Göppingen, Germany, to be held in July. In addition, a special website ([www.schulergroup175.com](file:///C:\Users\scherren\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\L4LSY1I3\www.schulergroup175.com)) presents 175 minor and major moments which have shaped Schuler over the years.

These include, for example, the moment in 1852 when founder Louis Schuler – inspired by the Great Exhibition in London one year previously – decided to dedicate his future to the construction of machines for sheet metal processing. However, he himself could no longer witness his company’s own exhibit at the World Exhibition in Paris in 1900: the world’s first transfer press. Over the following years, the company’s headcount grew to 1,000. With a car body press for Opel in 1924, Schuler began supplying the fledgling auto industry, which is still its most important customer today.

## Economic and technological milestones

After the Second World War, Schuler was the first company in the American sector to receive an export license. The painstaking reconstruction work was rewarded: in 1961, sales reached 100 million deutschmarks, in 1970 they exceeded 200 million. At the same time, the company drove its internationalization with the foundation of subsidiaries in Brazil and North America, for example, followed by China and India in the 90s.

Meanwhile, Peugeot launched production on the first Crossbar Transfer press with suction-cup tooling – supplied by Schuler. Further innovations in recent years, such as Compact-Crossbar presses, ServoDirect and TwinServo technologies, have underlined Schuler’s leading position in the field of metalforming. This is also reflected by its business success: in 2012, the Schuler Group posted sales of more than one billion euros.

“Over the past years, we have achieved a level of growth and earnings which we can be justly proud of,” concludes CEO Stefan Klebert. “We therefore want to celebrate this 175th anniversary together with our employees and look forward to a year full of exciting and entertaining moments.”

## Timeline

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| *1839* | Company founded as a metalworking shop by Louis Schuler |
| *1852* | First metalworking machines produced |
| *1863* | Founding of Fritz Müller Construction and Decorative Metalworking in Esslingen |
| *1866* | Founding of machine tool factory Weingarten |
| *1895* | Schuler delivers the first minting press to China |
| *1897* | Founding of Erfurt Forming Technology GmbH |
| *1900* | Schuler presents the world’s first transfer press |
| *1922* | Founding of Gräbener Pressensysteme, Netphen |
| *1924* | Development of car body presses for mass manufacturing |
| *1945* | First Export License in the American sector |
| *1946* | Founding of Süddeutsche Maschinenbau-Gesellschaft in Waghäusel |
| *1961* | Sales exceed 100 million deutschmarks |
| *1963* | Founding of Machine Tool Plant Hermann Schleicher in Heßdorf |
| *1965* | Founding of Prensas Schuler S.A. in São Paulo (Brazil) |
| *1967* | Louis Schuler Fund (LSF) for Education and Science established |
| *1973* | Foundation of Gemminger Machine Tool Builders GmbH |
| *1983* | Schuler installs large panel transfer press with a three-axis transfer |
| *1991* | Crossbar transfer presses with suction-cup tooling supplied |
| *1992* | Foundation of Tianjin facility in China as joint venture |
| *2003* | World’s first Compact Crossbar press starts operating |
| *2007* | Acquisition of Müller Weingarten AG,  Launch of ServoDirect Technology (SDT) |
| *2009* | Production launched on world’s first press line with SDT |
| *2012* | Introduction of TwinServo Technology (TST) |

### Captions

Bild1.jpg: Schuler was founded 175 years ago in Göppingen, Germany.

Bild2.jpg: Louis Schuler opened a metalworking shop in 1839.

Bild3.jpg: Schuler had its own exhibit at the World Exhibition in Paris in 1900: the world’s first transfer press.

Bild4.jpg: A car body press for Opel in 1924 was Schuler’s first contact with the auto industry, which is still its most important customer today.

Bild5.jpg: The large assembly hall in Göppingen, 1952.

Bild6.jpg: Eccentric press no. 1000 leaves the production in 1956.

Bild7.jpg: The service vehicles fleet of 1962.

Bild8.jpg: Recent innovations, such as the ServoDirect Technology, underline Schuler’s leading position in the field of metalforming.

Bild9.jpg: Press line with ServoDirect Technology.

Bild10.jpg: The latest development: the Twin Servo Technology.

Logo.jpg: The official anniversary logo.

*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.*