# PRESS RELEASE

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# Die-free production of shaped blanks

## Daimler orders two Laser Blanking Lines from Schuler

*Göppingen/Kuppenheim, June 22, 2015* – Daimler AG has ordered two Laser Blanking Lines from Schuler for its Mercedes-Benz facility in Kuppenheim, near Baden-Baden, Germany. The two lines cut blanks out of a moving sheet metal coil which are then formed into car body parts in further steps. As fiber lasers are used for the cutting process, no dies are required – in contrast to conventional blanking lines.

The flexible blanking method means there is no more need for procurement and handling of blanking dies. Product changes can be made almost without any set-up time – simply by loading the corresponding cutting program. Additionally, material can be saved by optimizing nesting: If more shaped blanks can be cut from the same surface area, this significantly reduces coil waste.

## Production launch scheduled for fall 2016

“An important argument was also the fact that both lines can do without a basement and elaborate press foundations,” explains Schuler Managing Director Stephan Mergner: “In contrast to blanking presses with dies.” The two Laser Blanking Lines are due to be installed in November 2015 and the production launch has been scheduled for fall 2016.

At the heart of the line is a laser cell with three simultaneously operating fiber lasers. To ensure maximum production output, the blanks are cut from a moving sheet metal coil (DynamicFlow Technology). Each line is also equipped with a coil line with automatic cassette change and straightener with crowning capability, in order to balance out quality fluctuations in the coil stock, and a robot-aided transfer station for scrap separation with automated tool changing.

Of particular importance for flawless outer panel blanks: the cleaning device for improving surface quality. With its automatic stop setting, the Stop2Drop stacking unit is also very gentle on the finished blanks. The shaped blanks are subsequently used to produce car body parts for the Daimler Group’s latest models – on a press line also supplied by Schuler.

### Captions

Bild.jpg: As the Schuler line uses fiber lasers, no dies are required – in contrast to conventional blanking lines.

*Please name Schuler as the photo source.*

***About the Schuler Group –*** [***www.schulergroup.com***](http://www.schulergroup.com)

*Schuler is the technological and global market leader in forming equipment. The company 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 presses and supplies systems solutions for the aerospace, railway and large pipe industries. In fiscal year 2014 (ending Dec. 31), Schuler posted sales of € 1.18 billion. With around 5,400 employees, Schuler is represented in 40 countries and is a member of the Austrian ANDRITZ Group.*