

## Digital Press Pack

This press pack contains a summary of all the key facts and figures of the Messer Group.

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## Brief Description of the Messer Group

Messer is one of the leading industrial gas companies, and is active in over 30 countries in Europe and Asia, as well as Peru, with over 60 operating companies. Its international activities are managed from Frankfurt am Main, whilst management of core technical functions – logistics, engineering, production and applications engineering – is undertaken from Krefeld. In 2011, more than 5,200 employees will generate consolidated sales of approx. one billion Euro.

From acetylene to xenon, the Messer Group has one of the most diverse product portfolios on the market – it produces industrial gases such as oxygen, nitrogen, argon, carbon dioxide, hydrogen, helium, shielding gases for welding, specialty gases, medical gases and many different gas mixtures.

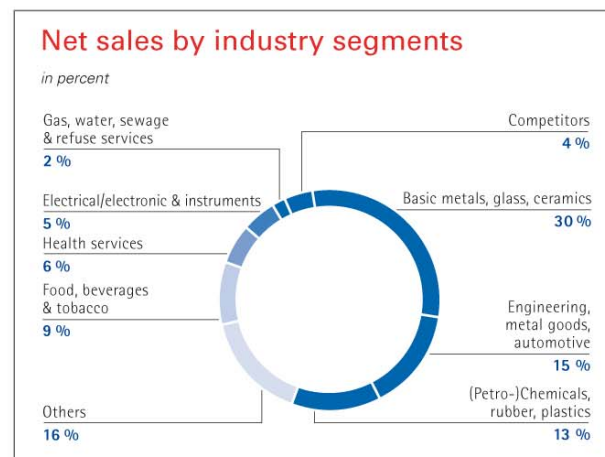
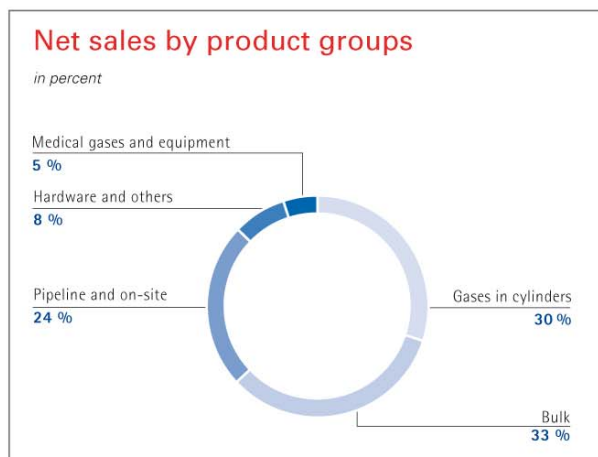
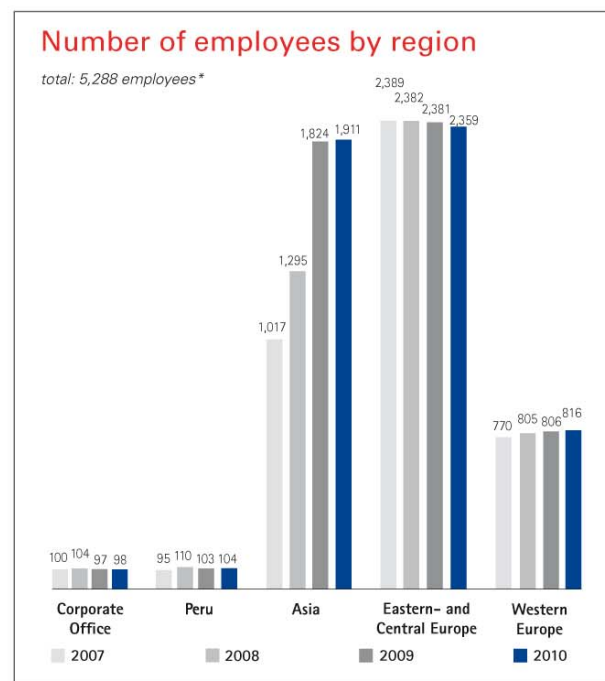
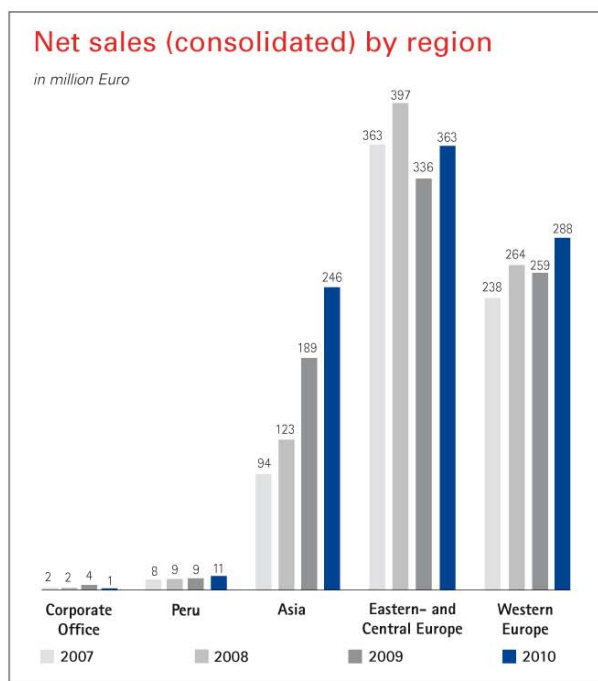
The Messer Group has state-of-the-art research and competence centers in which it develops applied technologies for the use of gases in almost every sector of industry, in food technology and environmental technology, medicine as well as research and science.

<http://www.messergroup.com>

## Key Figures for the Messer Group 2010

		2007	2008	2009	2010
Net sales	<i>in million Euro</i>	705	795	797	909
EBITDA	<i>in million Euro</i>	154	172	175	207
EBITDA margin	<i>in percent</i>	22	22	22	23
Investments	<i>in million Euro**</i>	173	194	202	168
Employees *		4,380	4,696	5,211	5,288

\*contractual employments \*\*incl. IFRIC4



## Company History

Messer has a strong tradition of valuing the success of its customers. The company was founded by Adolf Messer in 1898 in Frankfurt am Main, and today it is a third-generation family-owned enterprise with Stefan Messer at the helm.

Initially, Adolf Messer manufactured acetylene generators and lighting fixtures. Gas cutting and welding as well as the construction of oxygen generation systems were soon added as new business segments. For approximately six decades the company retained the character of a family business. Then, in 1953, Adolf Messer handed over the reins of the business to his son, Hans.

In 1965, Dr. Hans Messer oversaw the merger of Messer with parts of the German Hoechst Group, and Messer Griesheim was born. The company, which was two-thirds owned by Hoechst and one-third owned by the Messer family, expanded worldwide in the years that followed. Messer Griesheim GmbH developed into a global supplier of industrial gases, cryogenic systems and cutting and welding products.

In 2001, Hoechst AG, which today is part of the Aventis Group, sold its shareholding to financial investors, who streamlined the Messer Group's portfolio and enhanced its competitiveness. In 2004, the Messer family acquired all the shares in the holding company of the Messer Group. Today, Messer Group GmbH is once again an owner-managed company.



*Adolf Messer*



*Dr. Hans Messer*



*Stefan Messer*

## General Management of Messer Group GmbH



**Adolf Walth,**  
Executive Vice President Sales Marketing  
and Operations Europe

**Dr. Uwe Bechtolf,**  
Executive Vice President Controlling/  
Accounting & Strategy,

**Stefan Messer,**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Dr. Hans-Gerd Wienands,**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Johann Ringhofer,**  
Executive Vice President  
Engineering & Production

(from left)

## Supervisory Board of Messer Group GmbH



**Dr. Bodo Lüttge, Deputy Chairman,**  
Dipl. Kaufmann

**Wilhelm Peter Storm van's  
Gravesande,** Consultant

**Dr. Jürgen Heraeus,** Chairman,  
Entrepreneur, Chairman of the  
Supervisory Board of Heraeus  
Holding GmbH

**Karl-Gerhard Seifert,** Chemist,  
Chairman of the Executive Board  
of AllessaChemie GmbH

(from left)

## Résumé Stefan Messer

### Stefan Messer

born 20.01.1955 in Frankfurt, married, two children

## Work History

<b>CEO</b> Messer Group GmbH, Sulzbach	since 05/04
<b>Member of the Board of Management</b> Messer Griesheim GmbH Frankfurt Europe / Central America, Global Key Account Management, Global Technology Information Services,	01/00 - 05/04
<b>Member of the Board of Management</b> Messer Griesheim GmbH, Frankfurt Labor Relations, Global Key Account Management, Global Technology Information Services	03/98 - 12/99
<b>President</b> Messer France S.A., Paris	11/95 - 02/98
<b>President</b> Messer Nederland B.V., Amsterdam	12/89 - 11/95
<b>Manager International Business Development</b> Messer Griesheim GmbH, Frankfurt	02/88 - 11/89
<b>Sales Manager</b> Airgaz S.A.R.L., Paris	09/86 - 01/88
<b>Marketing Analyst, Central Staff Department</b> Hoechst AG, Frankfurt	05/85 - 08/86
<b>Area Sales Representative,</b> Messer Griesheim GmbH, Bremen	01/83 - 04/85
<b>Manager Marketing and Public Relations</b> Messer Griesheim Österreich GmbH, Gumpoldskirchen	08/80 - 12/82
<b>Coordinator International Sales</b> Messer Griesheim GmbH, Frankfurt am Main	10/79 - 07/80
<b>Operator Service Center South</b>  IBM Deutschland GmbH, München	05/78 - 09/79

## Education

Education with the degree "Industriekaufmann", IBM and IHK Stuttgart	1976 - 1978
Studies of Economics, University of Mannheim	1973 - 1976
General School Education in Königstein with A-Level-Degree	1961 - 1973

## Languages

German – mother tongue  
English – fluent  
French – fluent  
Dutch – fluent

## Other Positions

- Honorary Senator of the Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences
- Honorary Consul Republic Slovenia
- Vice President of the Frankfurt/Main Chamber of Industry and Commerce
- Chairman of the Foreign Trade Committee of the Frankfurt/Main Chamber of Industry and Commerce and Member of the Foreign Trade Committee of the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Berlin
- Member of the Commerzbank AG's state advisory council for Hessen
- Member of the Advisory Council of the Economic Initiative Frankfurt/Rhine-Main
- Member of the Gerling Group's state advisory council
- Member of the Board of Trustees of the Dr. Hans Messer Social Foundation, the Adolf Messer Foundation and the Alfons und Gertrud Kassel Foundation
- President of the European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA), Brussels
- Member of the Board of Directors of the International Oxygen Manufacturers Association (IOMA), Washington
- Member of the Executive Committee of the German Association for Welding Technology (DVS)
- Member of the Board of Trustees of the Faculty of Economics of Goethe University Frankfurt/Main
- Member of the Board of Trustees of the China Institute at Goethe University Frankfurt/Main
- Chairman of the Supervisory Board of MEC Holding GmbH
- General Manager of Messer Industrie GmbH
- Chairman / member of the supervisory committees within the Messer Group in, Austria, Baltic States, France, Hungary, Peru, Spain, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Vietnam

Königstein, July 8, 2011

Portrait Photo Stefan Messer



*Stefan Messer, Owner and CEO of Messer Group GmbH*

## Dr. Hans-Gerd Wienands

**Dr. Hans-Gerd Wienands, Chief Financial Officer**

since 1996 lawyer and tax advisor at Freshfield Bruckhaus Deringer in Cologne

since 2001 partner of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

since 1.11.2004 Chief Financial Officer of Messer Group

**Area of responsibility:**

Resorts Finance, Taxes, Legal Division, Controlling, Accounting and Internal Audit, IT, Logistics, Sourcing and Filling, Production, SHEQ, Regional Management China



## Contact

Should you have questions or suggestions,  
or require further information, please feel free  
to contact us directly at any time:

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## Contact person

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