# Press release

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## “Ludwig Schunk would be proud”

**Commemorating the founder of the Schunk Group**

**Heuchelheim, May 26, 2017 – Representatives of the Ludwig Schunk Foundation, along with senior management from the Schunk Group, recently placed a wreath on the grave of Ludwig Schunk in Frankfurt's main cemetery. The occasion was the 70th anniversary of Ludwig Schunk’s death on May 10.**

In a speech commemorating Ludwig Schunk’s life’s work, Gunthard Sommer, chairman of the Ludwig Schunk Foundation, called attention to the incredibly positive development of his legacy: The company that was founded in 1913 has grown into today’s Schunk Group, with its more than 8,000 employees and turnover of more than 1.1 billion euros.

“Ludwig Schunk's bequest and guidelines were a clever decision on his part. He built a successful company from the ground up and passed on an extraordinary and extremely successful business model to us” Sommer said. “For this, we thank him. I am certain that Ludwig Schunk would be proud of what has become of his legacy.”

Frankfurt native Ludwig Schunk founded the company Schunk & Ebe with Karl Ebe in Fulda; its business was in manufacturing and selling carbon brushes for generators and motors. Five years later, the company moved to Heuchelheim near Giessen – which remains the technology corporation’s present-day headquarters. The group offers a wide spectrum of products and services from the fields of carbon technology and ceramics, environmental simulation and climate technology, sintered metal and ultrasonic welding.

**Safeguarding independence**

In his will, Ludwig Schunk declared the shareholders and partners as heirs to the company's assets and tasked the executor with “maintaining the company's operations in such a manner so as to make paramount the company's healthy continued development and the safeguarding of its independence." With these words, Schunk obligated his heirs to protect and grow his company's assets after his death. His wishes continue to mold the company's corporate culture to this day—a culture focused on financial stability and independence, profitable growth, and global presence.

(2,123 characters incl. spaces)

**Pictures:**

Pressebild Gedenken Ludwig Schunk.jpg: Gunthard Sommer (Chairman of the Ludwig Schunk Foundation), Dr. Reinhold Wolf (Deputy Chairman of the Ludwig Schunk Foundation), Prof. Dr. Hubert Jung (Board Member of the Ludwig Schunk Foundation), Ulrich Frey (Member of the Ludwig Schunk Foundation), Peter R. Manolopoulos (Senior Management), Dr. Jan Gupta (Senior Management) and Dr. Arno Roth (Chairman of the Executive Board) placed a wreath on Ludwig Schunk's grave in honor of the 70th anniversary of his death (from left to right).

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**Schunk Group**
The Schunk Group is an internationally operating technology company with more than 8,000 employees in 29 countries. The company offers a broad spectrum of products and services in the fields of carbon technology and ceramics, environmental simulation and air conditioning, sintered metal and ultrasonic welding. In 2016, the Schunk Group achieved a turnover of 1.1 billion euros.