

Rosti Group reports sales up 18% for 2014

By Richard Higgs
Posted 25 February 2015

Scandinavian plastics processor Rosti Group has achieved strong growth, reporting sales up 18% over the past year.

It recorded overall annual sales of €375m, reflecting increased revenue at all its 10 production sites in Europe and Asia, according to the group's chief executive Börje Vernet.

The best performance was in Malaysia, and in the UK where the Malmö, Sweden-based company added new injection moulding and painting capacity at its Rosti McKechnie plant Pickering, England. A positive contribution was also made by the group's recently acquired Turkish operation, Rosti Tebplast in Istanbul.

"It is pleasing to see this growth being achieved across all our market sectors. We have good growth in our automotive sales and also within packaging and industrial, with the addition of a number of new blue chip customers and leaders in their market who have introduced us to new market sub-segments and niche capabilities," commented the Rosti CEO.

Rosti is forecasting further growth of 10 - 15% this year in view of a continuing rise in orders. Its investment programme is set to rise at a "high pace" through 2015 and 2016 to satisfy demand from orders booked last year and expected "nominations" this year, predicted Vernet in a interim statement.

In April, the processor is due to commission an 8,000 square metre plant extension at its site in Suzhou, China which includes a clean room unit for products for the medical disposables market. The project will allow the plant to cover all the group's market sectors.

Meanwhile, Rosti is actively seeking further investment and acquisition opportunities "into the high precision injection moulding area". The group is targeting European and North American companies with facilities in Asia and South America as part of its aim to boost annual sales to €600m in 2017.

In addition, the processor says it also intends to expand its geographic spread around the world in line with the needs of its international clientele.

Rosti group, which increased its workforce by 300 last year, has production sites in Germany, Poland, Sweden, Scotland, Wales and England as well as China, Turkey and Malaysia. The company is part of the Swedish Nordstjeman investment group.

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