

Press Release

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Minister Hinz visits Werra potash plant

Today, the Hessian Minister of the Environment, Climate Protection, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Priska Hinz visited the Werra potash plant in the Hesse-Thuringia potash district at the invitation of Norbert Steiner, the chairman of the K+S Board of Executive Directors. The visit focused on the progress made by the company in reducing saline wastewater and in the extraction and processing of domestic raw materials, which form an important basis for a modern industrial society.

During a tour of the plant, the minister learned about the broad range of products manufactured from potash and magnesium salts of the Werra deposit as well as about the modern process technology for the prevention of wastewater in the future.

Norbert Steiner stressed: “We deploy the very latest exploration and mining processes and are continuously developing our process technology. The mineral fertilizers and salts we produce are needed and in demand throughout the world. We thus make an important contribution to feeding a global population that is continually growing and offer agriculture, industry and private consumers a comprehensive product range that creates the bases for growth in almost all areas of daily life.” Furthermore, Steiner referred to the progress made by K+S in its great efforts to further prevent saline wastewater. Currently, at the Hattorf site, a new facility – the KCF – is being created at a cost of around € 180 million, with the aid of which the saline wastewater volume of the Werra plant will be reduced by a further 20 per cent as of 2018.

He emphasized that, for K+S, commercially oriented actions, the conservation of natural habitats and social responsibility are connected. "We will also continue to do our utmost to minimize the inevitable interventions in the environment. K+S is doing its best to ensure that potash mining and with it, the region, have a good future over the coming decades. It is thus essential for us to have social consensus in the region and beyond", concluded Steiner.

About K+S

K+S is an international resources company. We have been mining and processing mineral raw materials for more than 125 years. The products we produce from them are used worldwide in agriculture, food and road safety and are important elements in numerous industrial processes. Potash and salt are integral nutrients for the megatrend of a constantly growing and increasingly prosperous global population striving for a higher standard of living. This will result in increasing consumption of mineral resources. We serve the resulting growth in demand from production sites in Europe, North America and South America as well as through a global distribution network. K+S is the world's largest salt producer and one of the top potash providers worldwide. With more than 14,000 employees, K+S achieved revenues in financial year 2015 of about € 4.2 billion and an EBIT of € 782 million. Learn more about K+S at www.k-plus-s.com.

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