

Wintershall in Kassel: facade and foyer of the headquarters have been renovated

- **Renovation work concluded after 14 months**
- **Reception redesigned and reopened**

Kassel. Following a 14-month construction period, the scaffolding on the facade at the Wintershall Head Office at Friedrich-Ebert-Straße 160 in Kassel has now been completely removed and the building can once again be entered through the official entry. The windows and the facade of the building's East Wing were meticulously refurbished over the past months. The process included exchanging 879 windows, completely renovating the insulation of exterior walls as well as the roof and attaching approximately 3,500 square meters of new natural stone facade tiles to the facade. And, the offices were rewired and new ventilation ducts were installed. The project strictly adhered to the plan with regard to costs and construction time.

"It is great to see that the refurbishment and the interior renovation went so smoothly. I would like to thank all of our employees and especially the neighbors for their patience and cooperation," says Mario Mehren, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Wintershall. "I am especially pleased that there was not one single, even a minor occupational incident, despite the fact that this was such a large construction site," he adds.

May 8, 2017
Ulrike Saße
PI-17-09
Phone +49 561 301-3301
Fax +49 561 301-1321
presse@wintershall.com
www.wintershall.com

Wintershall Holding GmbH
Corporate Communications
P.O. Box 10 40 20
34112 Kassel, Germany

Wintershall also used the opportunity to modernize the entry area, thereby incorporating ideas from employees. "The foyer is the first thing that employees and visitors see and therefore serves as the company's business card," notes Nina Klein from Corporate Communication. "Our entry area appeared somewhat outdated and provided little information about our business. Now we have freshened up this business card. More Wintershall identity, extra color and room for casual conversations – that is what employees suggested," she explains.

Upon entering the foyer, guests are now greeted by a new, modern counter. Furthermore, films depicting Wintershall's activities throughout the world are played on screens. An additional highlight is provided by a stairway that conveys a feeling of arriving on an offshore production platform out at sea.

The corporate head office located at Friedrich-Ebert-Straße was opened 60 years ago on November 16, 1957. At 46 meters high, it was Kassel's tallest building at the time. The structure caused quite a sensation: As the subgrade was a mixture of many different types of soil with very diverse load bearing capacities, the building had to be constructed on a 95-centimeter-thick reinforced concrete base. The building was expanded several times thereafter.

Wintershall Holding GmbH, based in Kassel, Germany, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BASF in Ludwigshafen. The company has been active in the extraction of natural resources for 120 years, and in the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas for over 85 years. Wintershall focuses on selected core regions where the company has built up a high level of regional and technological expertise. These are Europe, Russia, North Africa, South America, and increasingly the Middle East region. The company wants to expand its business further with exploration and production, selected partnerships, innovation and technological competence. Wintershall employs about 2.000 staff worldwide from 50 nations and is now Germany's largest, internationally active crude oil and natural gas producer.

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