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LIGHT AS A TOOL: 50 YEARS OF HOENLE AG AND 225 YEARS OF UV RADIATION

In 1801, physicist and natural scientist Johann Wilhelm Ritter discovered ultraviolet radiation in Jena, an observation whose significance he could scarcely interpret at the time, yet whose exceptionally strong photochemical effect would go on to transform science and industry alike.

Now, 225 years later, Bavarian technology company Hoenle AG celebrates its 50th anniversary. It's an impressive milestone demonstrating how a physical phenomenon has evolved into a key enabling industrial technology.

From Vision to Global Technology Leadership

Founded in 1976 in the greater Munich area by Prof. Dr. Karl Hönle and Dr. Günter Schmid, Hoenle set out with a clear mission: to develop innovative irradiation solutions for industrial and medical applications. Today, the company ranks among the world's leading providers of industrial UV technology and adhesive systems.

Over the past five decades, Hoenle has successfully transformed itself from a regionally rooted mid-sized enterprise into a globally operating technology group, driven by a consistent strategic focus on innovation and sustainable growth.

"UV light is invisible, but its effects are not. We make these effects precisely controllable, reproducible, and economically viable. That was the founding idea in 1976, and it continues to guide our actions today. Together with our customers, we develop solutions that advance industrial high-tech processes while creating sustainable value for technology, people, and the environment," says Dr. Franz Richter, CEO of Hoenle AG.

UV technology is widely used in industrial manufacturing for solvent-free drying and curing of adhesives, coatings, and inks, as well as for chemical-free disinfection of surfaces, air, and water. It combines outstanding efficiency with strong sustainability benefits.

Five Decades of Technological Continuity

A key differentiator for Hoenle is its deep in-house expertise across the entire UV value chain: from core components such as UV lamps and LED systems to complete system integration and application-specific adhesive solutions that utilize UV radiation as a curing mechanism.

This vertically integrated technological competence has been built over decades and is proving to be a decisive advantage, particularly in times of economic transformation. The development of high-efficiency LED-UV technologies represents just one of many strategic milestones along this path.

Whether in electronics manufacturing, automotive production, medical technology, the semiconductor industry, or display manufacturing: wherever precision, speed, and process reliability are essential, Hoenle UV systems play a critical role. The combination of hardware, consumables, and engineering expertise provides a level of resilience that pure component suppliers cannot match.

Global Presence, Local Expertise

In an environment shaped by geopolitical uncertainty and structural change, Hoenle continues to rely on customer proximity and innovation as the foundation of its future competitiveness.

At the same time, the company benefits from major global trends that structurally support the adoption of UV technology. Increasing miniaturization in electronics, the transition toward low-emission production processes, and growing demand for residue-free, fast-curing bonding technologies as well as chemical-free disinfection solutions align directly with Hoenle's portfolio.

From its headquarters in Gilching near Munich, Hoenle will continue to make a significant contribution to efficient and sustainable industrial manufacturing processes worldwide in the years ahead.



Caption: Hoenle headquarters in Gilching near Munich / Germany

Photo: Hoenle

Note: The photographic material may only be published in connection with the associated press release.

About Hoenle:

Hoenle AG is the parent company of a group of UV specialists and one of the world's leading suppliers of industrial adhesives and UV Technology. The publicly listed company is based in Gilching / Munich and develops, manufactures, and markets UV/LED-UV systems and equipment, UV lamps, and UV measuring technology for various application fields worldwide. The business is divided into three units:

The **Business Unit Curing** develops, produces, and distributes curing and drying technology for industrial printing, converting and coating applications. The product portfolio comprises systems and solutions based on UV, LED-UV, IR/hot air as well as inert UV systems and peripheral equipment.

The **Business Unit Disinfection** offers system solutions for disinfecting air, water and surfaces with UVC and xenon pulsed light as well as microbiological analyses, which are used in the food industry, for example. An in-house lamp production facility supplies customer-specific lamps.

The **Business Unit Adhesive Systems** comprises solutions for bonding applications in industrial manufacturing processes. These include adhesives and sealants as well as suitable UV and LED-UV curing devices.

In addition to **international subsidiaries** in China, Korea, France, Great Britain, Austria, Malta, and the USA, as well as a sales office in Italy, the group has a **dense network of distribution partners** worldwide.

A **comprehensive service offering**, consisting of service technicians stationed around the world, decentralized spare parts warehouses and the option of augmented reality-based remote service, ensures that customers' production processes are sustainably supported.