

Current Situation Possehl Electronics „Corona“

Daniel Pitschmann



Dear all,

It's an extraordinary way for me to approach you.

But it is also an extraordinary time.

A time that demands solidarity and sensitivity from us. But which also demands that we obey the rules.

We have seen in Germany how these rules have been tightened day by day, and for one single reason. There are still too many people who do not comply with them, who even do not care!

In other countries in Europe, much stricter measures have even been taken.

We also have to realize that many facts are being twisted in the social networks and that there are fake news. And many believe it or really absorb it.

Of course none of us do! None of us have stored supplies.

It is the others, the other ignorant ones.

That is why I appeal to all of us: please comply with all rules and regulations issued by the governments in the countries where we operate. This is serious! Keep to the rules to protect everyone, to protect sick people around you, your grandparents, or family members who are at risk. These are the words of the German Chancellor. This is not a war, it is about people in our surroundings, so the terrible pictures from Italy should be a warning to us all. Be in solidarity with the others, help where you can, make your purchases with consideration for others, and please do not let yourself be misled by fake news. There are reliable sources of information in every country, whether media or medical institutes. Use them. Keep a cool head, stick to the facts. It's what you and your families want.

We as a company already had to take the necessary measures in Asia a few weeks ago, which we are now implementing in Europe and North America on a comparable basis. Specifically, we have separated the departments in Europe and sent colleagues to the home office in order to make maximum use of the available space, such as using meeting rooms as break rooms.

However, this health crisis also means a major slowdown in the global economy, the consequences of which cannot be foreseen at present.

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For this reason, two basic principles apply to us in this context, which are closely linked:

- The protection of our employees, I have already mentioned
- Protecting our companies so that we can get through this crisis with the least possible damage, and creating the necessary conditions for us to get started again.

For the last-mentioned, we will decide, depending on the circumstances, how we can and must proceed. The order situation still varies considerably from country to country. In Asia, capacities are slowly being increased. However, the tightening of health measures and the complete isolation of the European continent will also have consequences for the order situation in Asia. The local management will inform you about possible consequences if they become necessary. This applies in particular to our colleagues in Malaysia, where suddenly last week a closure of all non-essential industries was ordered - as happened in Italy, by the way. However, we were able to start this week with deliveries with a skeleton crew and hope to be able to start up again next week with normal production. Especially since our customers in South East Asia continue to produce normally. Many thanks to our colleagues on site, who make this possible under difficult conditions through their tremendous efforts.

However, the entire automotive industry in Europe and the NAFTA region interrupted production for between 2 and 4 weeks, although not across the whole country. This requires a differentiated response from us, which we are working on together. A decision has already been made to introduce a short-time working week at the Niefern site at the end of April, as well as one week each in May and in June. We had to make this decision before the health crisis because of the order book. We are currently coordinating with the relevant committees at the Wackersdorf site to implement similar measures. As soon as it is clear whether further short-time work blocks are necessary, I will approach colleagues at these two sites. At the other sites in Europe, Mexico and the USA, there is not yet any need for this.

As you can see, we act flexibly and with agility in these highly dynamic market conditions. It demands a lot from all of us, from all of you. This special situation is new for all of us. Allow me to share my opinion with you: that there is a time before this pandemic. The time after will show another changed normality. I think we should all be open to that.

Many thanks to all of you, for your commitment, for following the rules, for your calmness and reflection. Thank you for your lived responsibility and your solidarity. We are going this way in common and will adapt to these conditions together.

Please take care of yourself, your family and friends and your fellow human beings.