



## Press Release

---

# Vice Chancellor of Germany visits U.S. Smart Factory of high-tech company TRUMPF

**Discussions with TRUMPF U.S. top management on transatlantic partnership, supply chains and digitalization // According to Dr. Habeck, close ties are an important part of innovative industry solutions in both countries.**

Ditzingen, Germany / Chicago, Ill., March 9, 2024 – Today, German Vice Chancellor and Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action Dr. Robert Habeck (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) visited the smart factory of German high-tech company TRUMPF near Chicago, Illinois, United States. The company is one of the technology and market leaders in highly versatile machine tools for sheet metal processing and in the field of industrial lasers (sales fiscal year 2022/23: 5.4 billion euros, employees: 18,400 worldwide). Discussions with the top management of the TRUMPF U.S. subsidiary centered on economic cooperation between Germany and the United States, strengthening the transatlantic partnership, the resilience of the supply chains, and the digitalization of the industry. The minister was accompanied by German Ambassador to the United States Andreas Michaelis.

“Close economic ties across the Atlantic are the right recipe for developing innovative solutions for our industries. Both sides benefit when we address transformational challenges such as the digitalization of the industry together. The Smart Factory in Illinois demonstrates what successful transatlantic cooperation looks like in concrete terms. TRUMPF’s automated manufacturing process shows how we can reduce the use of energy and material effectively through Industry 4.0 solutions,” said Robert Habeck, German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action.

The TRUMPF Smart Factory in Hoffman Estates, Illinois is one of eight TRUMPF locations in the United States, the company's biggest market in terms of sales. “A strong partnership between the United States and Germany is a key to prosperity



## Press Release

---

for both countries. Political and economic cooperation between the two nations opens market and growth opportunities and encourages investments on both sides of the Atlantic. Such cooperation plays a decisive role for our industry and innovative high-tech companies like TRUMPF,” said TRUMPF Inc. President and CEO Lutz Labisch.




The delegation toured the Smart Factory and witnessed demonstrations of its digitized, connected and automated production. TRUMPF experts illustrated how they work with manufacturers on innovative approaches which save energy and material. The TRUMPF Smart Factory also shows how automation helps manufacturers to overcome labor shortages and increase their profitability, and strengthens their competitiveness.

“We are honored to showcase TRUMPF’s international leadership in automated and connected manufacturing technology operating at our Smart Factory in Illinois. Here in North America, we are proud to have contributed more than \$1.05 billion USD in sales revenue to the TRUMPF Group’s tremendous worldwide growth, and we maintain a positive outlook for business,” said Labisch. “The U.S. economy remains strong, and we see continued demand for TRUMPF technology, particularly our smart factory products and services, in North America.”

Founded in 1969, TRUMPF Inc. is a subsidiary of the TRUMPF Group and today employs about 1,600 people to serve the manufacturing needs of customers in the United States, Canada and Mexico. The Chicago-area TRUMPF Smart Factory was the first of its kind when it was opened in 2017. Currently, TRUMPF has three Smart Factories globally and an additional U.S.-based TRUMPF Smart Factory is under construction at the North American subsidiary’s headquarters in Connecticut and scheduled for completion in 2025. TRUMPF’s North American operations include a machine tool technology center in California, laser technology centers in Michigan and California, as well as TRUMPF Photonics in New Jersey, Stellar Industries in Massachusetts, Access Laser in Seattle, Washington, and facilities in Apodaca and Querétaro, Mexico and Mississauga, Canada.

# Press Release

Digital photographs in print-ready resolution are available to illustrate this press release at the [TRUMPF Media Pool](#). Images may only be used for editorial purposes. Use is free of charge when credit is given as “Photo: TRUMPF”. Graphic editing – except for cropping out the main motif – is prohibited.

|   |   |
|---|---|
|    | <p><b>Smart Factory Visit</b></p> <p>German Vice Chancellor and Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action Dr. Robert Habeck and German Ambassador to the United States Andreas Michaelis visited with TRUMPF Inc. President and CEO Lutz Labisch at the smart factory of German high-tech company TRUMPF near Chicago, Illinois, United States. (From left to right: Habeck, Labisch, Michaelis)</p> |
|   | <p><b>Hands-on Demonstration</b></p> <p>Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action Dr. Robert Habeck gets a hands-on demonstration of how TRUMPF's easy-to-use automated technology can help mitigate the effects of the labor shortage.</p>  |
|  | <p><b>The Future of Manufacturing</b></p> <p>At the Chicago-area TRUMPF Smart Factory, Dr. Habeck gets a closeup look at how connected manufacturing works.</p>   |



## About TRUMPF

TRUMPF is a high-tech company offering manufacturing solutions in the fields of machine tools and laser technology. The Company drives digital connectivity in the manufacturing through consulting, platform products and software. TRUMPF is one of the technology and market leader in highly versatile machine tools for sheet metal processing and in the field of industrial lasers.

In 2022/23, the company employed some 18,400 people and generated sales of about 5.4 billion euros. With over 80 companies, the TRUMPF Group is represented in nearly every European country as well as in North America, South America and Asia. The company has production facilities in Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Poland, the Czech Republic, the United States, Mexico and China.

Find out more about TRUMPF at [www.trumpf.com](http://www.trumpf.com)

### German press contact:

Dr. Manuel Thomä  
 Head of International Media Relations  
 Mobile: +49 151 72728434  
[manuel.thomae@trumpf.com](mailto:manuel.thomae@trumpf.com)

### North American press contact:

Catherine Flynn, APR  
 Public Relations & Communications Specialist  
 Cell: +1 860 736-4228  
[catherine.flynn@trumpf.com](mailto:catherine.flynn@trumpf.com)