



## Press Release

### **Prestigious Japanese order to be conferred on Berthold Leibinger**

**Japanese government to honor the Senior Managing Partner of TRUMPF for his services toward the exchange between Japan and Germany.**

*Ditzingen, September 14, 2016* – This coming Friday, September 16, 2016, Professor Berthold Leibinger (85), Partner and former Chairman of the Managing Board of TRUMPF GmbH + Co. KG, will receive the Japanese “Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon”.

The order will be conferred at the Japanese Embassy in Berlin by the Japanese Ambassador, His Excellency Takeshi Yagi. The honor, awarded by the Japanese government, is in recognition of Berthold Leibinger’s “achievements in promoting economic exchanges and mutual understanding between Japan and Germany”, according to the explanatory statement. The laudation, in the presence of former German Federal President Horst Köhler, will be delivered by the former German ambassador to Japan and Indonesia, Heinrich Seemann.

The “Order of the Rising Sun” was first awarded in 1875 to persons who had “rendered distinguished service to the state and the general public”. Similar to the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, there are different levels. The “Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbons” is the rough equivalent of Germany’s “Great Cross of Merit”. The order is primarily conferred on politicians as well as cultural studies experts and natural scientists; entrepreneurs such as Professor Leibinger are an exception.

One good example of Berthold Leibinger’s commitment to Japan is the establishment of the German Industry Park in Yokohama in 1987, which led to a close partnership between the state of Baden-Württemberg and the Kanagawa Prefecture. TRUMPF also “made an important contribution to the development of Japanese machine tool manufacturing technology with the establishment of its



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subsidiary in Japan in 1978”, according to a statement by the Japanese Consulate-General in Munich.

The statement continues: “Also worthy of mention is the cultural commitment of the Berthold Leibinger Stiftung GmbH and TRUMPF GmbH + Co. KG. Through their support with the exhibition and cataloging of the collection of Japanese *netsuke* and *inro* in the Linden Museum, Stuttgart, these examples of Japanese craftsmanship were successfully presented to a broad public. This promotes an understanding of Japanese culture.”

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Prof. Dr. Berthold Leibinger



### **About TRUMPF**

The high-technology company TRUMPF provides manufacturing solutions in the fields of machine tools, lasers and electronics. These are used in the manufacture of the most diverse products, from vehicles, building technology and mobile devices to state-of-the-art power and data storage. TRUMPF is the world technological and market leader for machine tools used in flexible sheet metal processing, and also for industrial lasers. In 2015/16 the company – which has approximately 11,000 employees – achieved sales of 2.8 billion euros (preliminary figures). With almost 70 subsidiaries, the TRUMPF Group is represented in nearly all the countries of Europe, North and South America, and Asia. It has production facilities in Germany, France, Great Britain, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Poland, the Czech Republic, the USA, Mexico, China and Japan.

For more information about TRUMPF go to [www.trumpf.com](http://www.trumpf.com)



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