

Mersen celebrates the centenary of its Gennevilliers industrial site

Paris - Gennevilliers, September 19, 2014 - Mersen (Euronext FR0000039620 – MRN), global expert in electrical specialties and graphite-based materials, celebrates today the centenary of one of the two founding sites of the company, based in Gennevilliers (Hauts-de-Seine).. A ceremony bringing together elected representatives, public authorities and the media in support of Mersen's employees and management took place to mark the occasion.

Inaugurated in its current form in 1914, the Gennevilliers factory was the headquarters of the company *Le Carbone* when it was first constructed, specialising in the production of carbon brushes for electric motors. In 1937, *Le Carbone* merged with *La Compagnie Lorraine de Charbons pour l'Electricité* to form *Le Carbone Lorraine*, which was already at that time a world leader in graphite, and which would become Mersen in May 2010.

Since its creation, the Gennevilliers site has always been a driving force in the carbon industry in terms of performance and innovation. It is thanks to the discovery of the synthetic graphite production process in 1893 by the Group's engineer Charles Street that the site could be developed. Thanks to this major innovation, the company *Le Carbone* and its successors up to Mersen have continued to grow and maintain their leadership in France and the world.

Today, the Gennevilliers factory is one of the Mersen group's centres of excellence. Dedicated to speciality graphite solutions, it exports graphite renowned for its quality and performance across Europe for use in cutting edge industries, in particular aeronautics and electronics.

Luc Themelin, Chairman of the Management Board says " *Gennevilliers is an example of what makes Mersen different: historical knowledge, advanced technologies, international leadership and expert teams. We are proud to continue production in this century-old factory, in which we have not stopped investing and which has, over the years, become one of the company's sites of excellence and a success story in French industrial history.*"

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About Mersen

Global expert in electrical specialties and graphite-based materials, Mersen designs innovative solutions to address its clients' specific needs to enable them to optimize their manufacturing process in sectors such as energy, transportation, electronics, chemical, pharmaceutical and process industries.

With 6,400 employees in over 35 countries, Mersen achieved consolidated sales of €739 million in 2013.

The Group is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris – Compartment B

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