



Pumps + Systems

**International Rotating Equipment Conference 2016 –
Pumps, Compressors and Vacuum Technology**

**Press Conference
14 September 2016, 1:15 pm
Congress Center Düsseldorf, Room 12**

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**Pump Users International Forum 2016
Economic situation of the "Pumps + Systems" industry**

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Ladies and gentlemen,

As the Chairman of the VDMA Pumps + Systems Association, I would like to cordially welcome you to the press conference of the International Rotating Equipment Conference 2016 – Pumps, Compressors and Vacuum Technology. Let me begin with two important messages for you today:

1. We are currently facing quite a difficult market environment for pumps + systems. Nevertheless we forecast a relatively slight turnover decline for 2016 by 3 per cent.
2. We are continually developing the Pump Users International Forum 2016, part of the International Rotating Equipment Conference, and focussing our efforts to the markets and processes of pump users. Our international networking event combines lectures, exhibition and for the first time technical updates from companies.

The Pump Users International Forum 2016, formerly known as the Pump Conference, is the eleventh such event we have held. It was extended by the Compressor Users International Forum in 2004 and the European Forum for Reciprocating Compressors (EFRC) in 2008, thus we are organising the third International Rotating Equipment Conference this year. Again we meet in the beautiful metropolis Düsseldorf emphasizing its international event character.

As in the past, we are proud that the response to the joint conference has been excellent again this year despite of the difficult market conditions in some end-use industries. We are glad that we are welcoming a total of around 750 participants from more than 28 countries here today, consisting of pump users, plant engineers and planners as well as engineering offices, pump manufacturers, technology suppliers "for everything to do with pumps" and academics. We are quite convinced that participants certainly can take advantage out of the conference offering

- expert knowledge for users
- new applications / cost saving ideas
- high value training including training certificates
- an intensive exchange on the presented science-based papers
- technical exhibition
- update on the latest technical trends

Now to the economic situation in the pump industry: in 2015, German production of liquid pumps reached 4.7 billion euros and was thus 1.9% lower than the value achieved in 2014. We estimate the European production value at around 13 billion euros.

Orders received by the German pump industry from January to July this year consolidated in real terms compared with the same period in the previous year (Fig. 1), resulting from a slight increase in local demand of 2 per cent compensated by a slight decrease in demand from abroad of 2 per cent. This is also mirrored by capacity utilisation, which reached a relatively "low range" of 77.7 per cent of usual full capacity utilisation in July 2016. The current orders on hand (status: June 2016) are for 3.8 months in our industry and thus cover the rest of the year.

On the basis of these figures, we can confirm the forecast for our liquid pumps sector. We believe that for the whole year 2016 a slight decline of 3 per cent based on constant prices is realistic. This means we are even less optimistic than the forecast issued by VDMA economists for mechanical engineering as a whole of another 0 per cent after the previous 0 per cent. For the year 2017, the VDMA Pumps + Systems Association will not give any forecasts at all due to increased volatile surroundings. I think this outlook allows us to be in a confident mood for the future. Thank you for listening.