

Medical technology specialist invests CHF 32m in expansion of Swiss plant



The facility in Escholzmatt (Photo: B.Braun)

B.Braun (Melsungen / Germany; www.bbraun.com) has invested CHF 32m (about EUR 30m) in an expansion of its production site in Escholzmatt / Switzerland. The money went towards a doubling of the plant's size to a total of 26,000 m². The site, which is home to 250 employees, manufactures mostly plastic syringes, pumps, multiple-outlet faucet systems as well as other medical infusion products. Following one and a half years of construction, the addition – which features new clean rooms, logistics space and a new sterilisation plant – was officially inaugurated in mid-September. “We expect our production volumes to double by 2020,” plant manager Reinhold Gasper said at the ceremony, pointing to the group's larger product portfolio and the number of products in the R&D pipeline.

B.Braun first set up shop in Escholzmatt 43 years ago. Since then, the facility has undergone a number of modernisations, making it one of the group's most up-to-date plants. The site houses everything from R&D to production and technical support, and is also home to an in-house prototype workshop.

Madeleine Stöckli, CEO of subsidiary B.Braun Medical (Sempach / Switzerland), said the expansion is a clear commitment to Switzerland as a manufacturing country. “We have been able to profit from trained staff characterised by high flexibility and a willingness to perform, coupled with a politically stable setting,” she said during the inauguration ceremony. Escholzmatt is one of B.Braun Medical's four sites in Switzerland – the others are located in Crissier, Sempach and Lucerne. Parent company B.Braun has a global workforce of 56,000 employees, spread across 64 countries. About 1,000 workers are located at company sites in Switzerland.

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