

Ulm, April 24, 2024

## The future is lead-free

- The new product family of lead-free machining brasses sets standards in performance and efficiency
- Eco SZ3 meets the highest industry requirements, making it an attractive alternative to leaded brass
- The green product portfolio supports companies in their sustainable transformation process

The Wieland Group sets new standards in lead-free brass machining, forming, and efficiency with the new SZ product family, specifically the eco SZ3 alloy. As part of the ecoline family, it boasts unprecedented quality and outperforms the previous lead-free alloys, rendering them excellent alternatives for comparable lead-containing alloys.

The stricter regulatory requirements and the rising demand for green products prompted the development of new lead-free copper alloys that retained properties like those of the leaded variants. "Customers from all over the world are already benefiting from our intensive research and development in the field of lead-free alloys and the extensive expertise of our team," says Dr. Erwin Mayr, CEO of the Wieland Group. "We actively support our customers in their sustainable transition from lead to lead-free alloys."

### **Ideal replacement for leaded machining brass**

The new flagship product, eco SZ3, meets all current requirements placed on leaded materials CuZn40Pb2 and CuZn39Pb3, such as conductivity, corrosion resistance, and mechanical properties. Eco SZ3 has excellent hot stamping properties, and although the alloy contains less than 0.1% lead, it also has good machinability. These properties make the material highly attractive for use in industries such as plumbing, electrical, and automotive.

## **High economic efficiency and recyclability**

In addition to the excellent machining properties of eco SZ3, its copper-zinc ratio of 60:40 ensures a reduced metal price component and high economic efficiency. Eco SZ3 is part of the CuZnSiP alloy family. Because it contains the same alloying elements, a slight mixing of chips and scrap within the alloy family remains possible. Moreover, the machine does not require cleaning when changing alloys. Like their lead-containing counterparts, one can rework the chips and scrap into new rods without losing quality or recyclability – making the eco SZ3 exceptionally economically and eco-friendly.

"The new SZ product family, especially eco SZ3, revolutionizes our entire lead-free ecoline portfolio – especially in terms of machining performance, efficiency, and sustainability. We look forward to accompanying our customers into a lead-free future with these environmentally friendly products," says Anton Zierhut, President of Extruded Products of the Wieland Group.

## **Picture material**



Wieland Group introduces new product family of lead-free machining brasses.

# Press Release



## About Wieland

Wieland is one of the world's leading suppliers of semi-finished copper and copper alloy products. With a global network of more than 80 production sites, service, and trading companies, the company offers a broad product, technology, and service portfolio. From prototype to series production, Wieland develops solutions for automotive, aerospace, electronics, refrigeration, air conditioning, and many other industries. Wieland uses high-performance copper materials to drive the success of its B2B customers in future-oriented fields such as electromobility, connectivity, and urbanization. High technical competence, customer-oriented thinking, and sustainability determine their actions and have been the basis of the company's success since 1820.

## Wieland in brief

### Headquarter

Graf-Arco-Straße 36 | 89079 Ulm | Germany

### Facts

\*1820 in Ulm, Germany | Sales: 620 kt | Turnover: €6.3bn |  
Locations: 79 | Employees: 9,400 [FY 22/23 figures of the Wieland Group]

### Executive Board

Dr. Erwin Mayr, CEO | Gregor Tschernjavski, CFO

### Chairman of the Supervisory Board

Fritz-Jürgen Heckmann

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