

### STATE MINISTER AIGNER: “TAKE SUPERCONDUCTORS INTO SERIES PRODUCTION.”

#### Superconductors as an important element in future electricity transmission

**Ismaning, 21 November 2016 – Superconductors for the shift to renewables. That was one of the central topics at the visit by Bavarian Economic Minister Ilse Aigner to superconductor maker THEVA in Ismaning. She looked at it from two sides - the difficult search for investors, and superconductors as an important element for future electricity transmission in the context of the shift to renewables.**

Over 60 guests, including Nobel Laureate Dr. Georg Bednorz, investors, customers and companions, came to take a look at the expanded series production facilities. The company has worked in coating technology for 20 years, and since 2012 has focused on superconductors. Dr. Werner Prusseit, CEO THEVA GmbH, said, “We are firmly convinced that the future belongs to superconductors, be it in buried cables, generators, or power rails.”

State Minister Ilse Aigner was impressed by the company’s entrepreneurial courage. “You have a vision of revolutionizing the energy world with superconductors. Your goal is to make superconductors competitive and thus a technology that is used on a wide scale. That is most fascinating.” She expressed optimism that superconductors will eventually also be used in public power grids. “I’m glad that the Bavarian government can help you bring this technology to series production.”

She noted that the Wachstumsfonds Bayern, managed by Bayern Kapital, was set up to finance just this kind of growth project. “Sometimes you need a little help from the public sector.” That is exactly how the growth fund, which has 100 million euros at its disposal, sees itself. The minister added, “Our goal was to help five companies each year. Right now we’re at eight, although the year is not even over.” But the Wachstumsfonds Bayern makes no investments without a private lead investor. Using this approach, the 17.5 million euros the fund has invested have resulted in overall investments amounting to 127 million euros.

Dr. Werner Prusseit expressed satisfaction at being able to further expand production with the second financing round. “Four years ago this was an empty field. Today we have a high-tech production facility, and the question is no longer whether the technology is mature. The challenge is merely to deliver sufficient material. And competitive production takes controlled, reproducible processes.” In his view, superconductors are an obvious solution to the challenges of the shift to renewable energy. “Superconductors love electricity, the more the better.”

## About THEVA

With 20 years' experience in coating technology and equipment engineering, THEVA manufactures high-temperature superconductors (HTS) for loss-free transmission of extremely high electric current. With its patented production technology, the company has a unique approach to superconductor manufacture.

The company has invested over fifteen years in development, and built Germany's first commercial HTS production plant. Thanks to its very high energy density, THEVA Pro-Line superconductor cable can replace conventional copper cable in high-performance applications, and opens up entirely new possibilities for the construction of electrical components. Manufactures of cables, power switches, large electric drives and power rails can rely on the high quality standard and performance of the material. THEVA stands for high-end solutions in coating technology and equipment engineering.

THEVA Dünnschichttechnik GmbH was founded in 1996 and today has around 50 employees. Headquartered in Germany, and with representatives in Asia, the USA and Russia, the company has a global presence for its customers.

In 2012, with Target Partners and the Bayerische Beteiligungsgesellschaft two powerful VC partners came on board. Since 2016 eCapital and Bayern Kapital are additionally supporting the growth of the company.

### Press contact:

Adriana Olivotti  
Raum für Technik GmbH & Co. KG

Schlagintweitstrasse 11  
80638 Munich

T: +49 89 22 848 746  
M: [info@raumfuertechnik.com](mailto:info@raumfuertechnik.com)  
W: [www.raumfuertechnik.com](http://www.raumfuertechnik.com)