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## **Dedicated sheet metal working exhibitions in growth markets**

### **Mack Brooks Exhibitions announces BLECH Events in Russia, Poland and India**

Mack Brooks Exhibitions has announced dedicated sheet metal working exhibitions in Russia, Poland and India next year. The organisers of the world's leading international sheet metal working exhibition EuroBLECH, held for the 20<sup>th</sup> time in October this year in Hanover/Germany, will organise the BLECH series of events every other year. Unlike EuroBLECH which targets a global audience, BLECH *Russia*, BLECH *Polska* and BLECH *India* are designed for the respective national markets.

#### **BLECH *Russia***

BLECH *Russia* will take place from 10-13 March 2009 in St. Petersburg. Co-located with one of Russia's major industrial trade shows, St. PT Fair, and an integrated event for the automotive industry AUTOPROM, the exhibition will bring together international suppliers of sheet metal machinery, tools and systems with a high profile Russian visitor base. BLECH *Russia* is organised by Restec-Brooks, a joint venture between Mack Brooks Exhibitions and Russian exhibition organiser Restec.

Russia is a huge market for sheet metal machinery suppliers; its own machine tool production only covers around a third of the country's demand. The main supplier countries are Germany, Japan, Italy and Switzerland. With an annual economic growth rate of a good 7%, the demand of Russia's 142 million consumers for cars, white goods and consumer electronics are higher than ever before. There are now 13 vehicle manufacturers in the country, producing cars and commercial vehicles at seven main production sites. For companies interested in exhibiting at BLECH *Russia* a comprehensive "BLECH Russia market report" will be available soon. It can be ordered for free at [www.blechrussia.com](http://www.blechrussia.com). The website also contains all necessary information on the exhibition.

#### **BLECH *Polska***

Next BLECH *Polska* will take place from 27-29 October 2009 in Kielce, Poland. The launch event, organised in November 2007 in Warsaw, was fully booked: Some 100 exhibitors showcased a comprehensive range of metal-forming and fabrication solutions. With more than 1500 visitors, the exhibition which also comprised a conference was thoroughly successful.

The organisers have now moved the BLECH *Polska* exhibition to a new venue, the Kielce Exhibition Centre, which offers more hall space for exhibitors. Kielce is situated between Krakow and Warsaw, 100 km north of Krakow. Manufacturing and processing of metal is particularly concentrated in

this south-eastern region of Poland where several foundries and producers of steel and semi-finished products are based. As such, Kielce is an ideal venue for a specialised sheet metal working exhibition. Many of the 2007 exhibitors have planned to exhibit again at BLECH *Polska* 2009.

### **BLECH *India***

The third in the series of BLECH events in 2009, BLECH *India*, will be held from 18-20 November 2009 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre - NSE Complex in Mumbai. BLECH *India* is organised by Inter Ads-Brooks Exhibitions (India) Pvt.Ltd, a joint venture between Mack Brooks Exhibitions and Inter Ads Ltd, India.

Manufacturing with sheet metal is one of the fastest-growing basic industry sectors within the booming Indian economy. The automotive, shipbuilding, construction and heating/air conditioning sectors are all showing exceptional future growth trends. The society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) predicts an average annual growth of 15% in car production. Indian machine tool production is equally growing by 10-15% annually. However, the country's own machine tool production is mainly based in the low-tech segment. For suppliers of enhanced sheet metal forming machinery and fabrication solutions, the Indian market is therefore highly promising.

Like the other two BLECH events, BLECH *India* covers all sectors of the sheet metal manufacturing process, including metal-forming and bending solutions, stamping, pressing, automation, flexible manufacturing systems, metal supply, cutting, punching, joining/welding, tooling, laser technology, CAD/CAM, finishing/coating, quality assurance and material handling.

Stephen Brooks, Chairman Mack Brooks Exhibitions, commented: "Our decision to organise BLECH events in growth markets is based on the demand for specialised sheet metal working shows in these countries where to date mainly general machinery exhibitions were held. With our experience as the organisers of EuroBLECH and our strong partnerships in Russia and India we can offer our exhibitors solid platforms for new business contacts in major future markets for this industry sector."

Information on the BLECH events in Poland and India will soon be available at [www.blechevents.com](http://www.blechevents.com). For companies interested in exhibiting at BLECH *Russia*, an exhibitor brochure is now available; detailed information on the show can be found at [www.blechrussia.com](http://www.blechrussia.com)

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