A Global Presence:
56 Companies in 20 Countries

Itupeva, BR
Haren, DE
Nentershausen, DE
Troisdorf, DE
Gloucester, GB
Gijzegem, BE
Lahnstein, DE
Brensbach, DE
Worms, DE
Mannheim, DE
Ruppertsweiler, DE
Araia, ES
Maxéville, FR
Décines, FR
Bocairent, ES
Gernsbach, DE

Orangeville, CA
Cleveland, US
Mount Pleasant, US
Kimberly, US
Akron, US
Gastonia, US
Duncan, US
Ontario, US
Virserum, SE
Allingåbro, DK

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The Röchling Group has operations around the globe and represents competency in plastics.

In 2011, 6,600 employees at 56 sites in 20 countries generated sales of EUR 1.1 billion.

Röchling’s fundamental values are:
– competence
– quality
– innovation
in the processing of engineering plastics.
Our Claim
The Röchling Group, founded in 1822, has been active in plastics processing for over 90 years. Step by step, our Company has extended its activities with high-quality materials and state-of-the-art technologies. This, combined with our employees’ expertise, is what makes Röchling a reliable partner of customers around the world today – competence in plastics.

Competence, Quality, Innovation
Today, many internationally active enterprises require their suppliers to be present around the world. They should quickly respond to the wishes of local customers while simultaneously adhering to uniform standards worldwide. For the most part, neither large enterprises nor small companies fulfill both requirements. However, Röchling accomplishes this with ease. Our customers reap the benefits of speedy implementation and flexibility in order processing guaranteed by our small and medium-sized companies, as well as the mutual support and clout of a powerful group. With decades of expertise, high and uniform quality standards, and recognized innovation oriented toward customer needs, the Röchling Group is impressive on all fronts.

We have at our disposal a palette of innovative products and state-of-the-art plastics processing technologies that is unique worldwide. Our high quality standards equip us for any task, now and in the future. This is what the Röchling name and the Röchling logo represent.
Röchling Group

Headquartered in Mannheim, Germany, our global plastics group encompasses 56 companies. Together, they employ over 6,600 people in 20 countries around the world.

Our globally positioned Group of small and medium-sized companies is a world leader with a wide-ranging technology base in all areas of plastics processing. With our High-Performance Plastics and Automotive Plastics divisions, annual sales revenue from business in Europe, the Americas, and Asia amounts to over EUR 1.1 billion.

Strong growth and the swift pace of innovation characterize the market environment in which the Röchling Group does business. Few industries can compare with the plastics industry's current potential. In recent decades, plastics have spread at an unparalleled rate. Plastic has made its mark on the lives of people from Greenland to South Africa and from Colombia to Australia. In the twenty-first century, no other material will rival plastic in significance.

Material of the Future

These factors form the basis of the Röchling Group’s long-term entrepreneurial growth strategy. In focusing on plastics processing, we are concentrating on a material with outstanding future prospects. We have exerted a fundamental influence on the development of plastics in recent decades and now benefit from the specialized knowledge that our employees have amassed over the years.

Three corporate principles – competence, quality, and innovation – have been the foundation of the Röchling Group’s rise to the leading international ranks among plastics companies. Competence means that Röchling companies are leaders in their business.
The Group covers the full range of quality plastics and all major plastics processing techniques. We at Röchling believe quality means that our products and our service meet our customers’ exact requirements. We keep our promises. A spirit of innovation is required in order to competently advise our business partners. That is why Röchling leads the field in the technological development of products, applications, and processes.

For example, the innovative product range of the High-Performance Plastics division encompasses a wide range of semi-finished products, profiles, cast and injection-molded parts, as well as finished parts made from standard plastics and technical high-performance plastics that are machined, coated, and ready to use.

The Automotive Plastics division provides automobile manufacturers and system suppliers all over the world with technologically superior plastics applications that are being implemented to solve the current challenges of the automobile industry – reduction of costs, weight, fuel consumption, and emissions.
Röchling entered its plastics age over 90 years ago, and plastics have shaped the Company’s history ever since. On the basis of competent advice, staying close to the market, and remaining clearly committed to technological progress, the Company’s thermoplastics and composite materials now offer customized solutions in nearly all areas of the capital goods industry. Röchling’s High-Performance Plastics division and its workforce of over 3,000 employees at 35 production locations around the world are active in various lines of business and achieve sales of approximately EUR 600 million.

Customized Solutions for All Industries
The High-Performance Plastics division’s products are used in a wide range of industries – in the food industry, for example, as cutting boards, or as storage tanks for chemical substances and process containers in chemical tank and apparatus building. They are employed in the anti-static ventilation systems and manufacturing equipment used for semiconductor and clean-room technology as well as for manufacturing the photovoltaic modules for solar panels. In the packaging and beverage industries, they are used in sliding and conveyor components to enable frictionless transport from one spot to another. In medical technology, MRI examination tables, sterilization trays, test implants, and orthotic braces could scarcely be imagined without high-performance plastics. They are indispensable as large-volume insulation components in transformer and generator manufacturing or as interior and exterior cladding for commuter trains and buses. Be it mechanically solid or flexible, easily machined, light, resistant to chemicals, extreme temperatures or UV light, antimicrobial, low-friction, low-abrasion, electrically conductive or insulating – our plastic products have the exact properties our customers need.

Broad Range of Processes
Plastics are a dynamic market environment with a secure future. Fast-paced innovation cycles and increasingly sophisticated customer requirements regarding specific product attributes as well as manufacturing precision and dimensions have a major influence on business in the High-Performance Plastics division. We cover the entire range of products and production processes by dynamically transferring expertise between companies within our Group as needed. As a group of specialized companies, Röchling possesses materials, process, and industry expertise that allows it to offer its industrial customers and distributors tailored specialist advice. The Röchling Group thereby profits from the positive trend in the plastics industry and is preparing for the future in order to maintain its position as a technology leader in thermoplastics and composite materials.
The partnership between Röchling and the automobile industry began in the 1950s. The processes and products used have changed over the course of time. The high standards expected of quality and customer service have remained. Röchling’s Automotive Plastics division and its workforce of over 3,500 employees at 20 production locations are active around the world and achieve sales of approximately EUR 530 million.

Helping Achieve Greater Efficiency
In an age when sustainability is being promoted vigorously, the automobile industry is facing the primary task of making its vehicles more efficient. The use of plastics represents an important contribution to this. Röchling develops technologies and solutions which make a key contribution to reducing weight, consumption, cost, as well as CO₂ and noise emissions. The solutions that the automobile industry is looking for are being found by Röchling’s developers, particularly in the fields of air flow and fluid management, acoustics, and thermal management. Our specialists ensure that fuel consumption is reduced by optimizing air currents and improving a vehicle’s comfort without increasing its weight. Röchling manufactures many air flow management modules and components: ducts, air filters, intake manifolds, and complete air induction systems. Windshield cowls and air ducts take care of the interior, while air flap systems, underbody panels, and wheel arch liners ensure outstanding aerodynamics and acoustics. Degas bottles and cooling-water pipes are important elements of thermal management. We support the vehicles’ structures with trays and pans, and we help to improve the aesthetics with door panels and car body coverings. With technologically advanced applications made from thermoplastics and composite materials, as well as fiber mat specialties, Röchling is one of the leading suppliers in the engine compartment, undercarriage, and structural component areas.

A Reliable Partner for Automobile Manufacturers
The range of functions we cover is broad. Whether its high-quality trim, protection of power trains, or optimization of acoustics, aerodynamics, and cooling areas, we provide our customers with individually tailored solutions. All the components, modules, and systems from the Automotive Plastics division are characterized by their low weight and satisfy customers’ individual standards thanks to specific attributes, such as multifunctionality or special design features. That is why the Röchling Group is the development and production partner of choice for almost all the renowned automobile groups in the world in a market shaped by rapid innovation cycles for products and processes. What customers most appreciate about Röchling Automotive is its high level of innovativeness in the product and process solutions field, as well as the increasing globalization of its activities on the intensely competitive, fast-growing market.
The Customers

Our very close relationship with customers is a crucial component of our Company’s success. Cultivating and enhancing this relationship is the Röchling Group’s foremost priority.

The central theme of customer relations, both today and in the future, is providing competent advice. Regardless of the customer’s industry, the materials involved, or the manufacturing processes used, Röchling unites all plastics processes, technologies, and competencies under one roof and offers its customers individual solutions. To find the optimum solution for our customers’ requirements, we develop a close cooperation with our business partners so as to find the perfect concept to suit each requirement.

Our Customers’ Solution Partner
At Röchling, keeping close to the customer also means being represented by subsidiaries wherever business partners are likely to need assistance at existing or new industrial locations. Customer training courses and events at the Röchling Training Centers as well as on site all around the world are further ways in which we offer our customers added value. These events also give us the opportunity to discuss our customers’ needs with them face to face.

Röchling’s customers are not only found all over the world – they also come from nearly every sector of the capitals good industry. The High-Performance Plastics division supplies both manufacturers and distributors in chemical tank and apparatus building, the food and beverage industry, and conveyor technology, transportation technology and vehicle manufacturing, medical technology, electrical engineering, electronics, and the renewable energy industry along with customers from mechanical engineering and plant construction as well as manufacturers of micro-electronic components.

Customers of the Automotive Plastics division include nearly every leading automotive manufacturer and key systems supplier around the world. We ensure that our customers are provided with optimum support by maintaining facilities in close proximity to the manufacturers and development centers in Europe, the Americas, and Asia.
Sales by Sector

- Retail and machining: 17%
- Automotive technology: 47%
- Electrical and electronics industry: 7%
- Chemicals and environment: 7%
- Mechanical engineering: 6%
- Paper industry: 4%
- Medical technology: 4%
- Construction industry: 3%
- Other: 5%
In past decades, Röchling has gained a leading position with its High-Performance Plastics and Automotive Plastics divisions in Europe, the Americas, and Asia. The Group has always kept pace with the times and, today, as part of our flexible corporate structure, operates 56 production locations in Germany, France, Spain, Italy, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Latvia, the Czech Republic, Romania, Russia, the USA, Canada, China, India, Singapore, and Brazil.

To expand our strong position, we invest strategically in new locations. From an international perspective, we are unequaled in the industrial plastics market. Our raw materials and manufacturing processes are absolutely identical, no matter if in China, India, Europe, or the Americas. With our financial power and vigorous internationalization, we are able to unfold our strengths to the fullest in this environment. In a continuous process of expansion, we have set up production facilities, sales offices, and development centers wherever we have customers. In recent years, the Röchling Group has followed the major carmakers as they expanded into the Americas, China, and Eastern Europe, for example. The Röchling Group has strengthened its position in the European and American markets by means of acquisitions and has established new production facilities in Asia, Europe, and the Americas.

**Always Close to Our Customers**

The Röchling Group’s expansion strategy is being shaped in particular by the growing development of the emerging markets in Eastern Europe, Asia, and South America. It has led to an increase in demand for capital goods and, therefore, for engineering plastics. We are already strongly committed in these emerging markets and will continue to pursue this strategic objective in the future. Our major advantage is that we are on safe ground from South America to China with the same products based on identical raw materials and processes, advanced machining technology, and the process expertise that goes along with it all.
Sales by Region

- Europe (excluding Germany) 33%
- The Americas 12%
- Asia 11%
- Germany 44%
For thousands of years, man has mastered materials and made objects out of them. It is for this reason that the main periods in human development have been named after materials used by man since the Stone Age. Today, plastic objects are predominant in workshops, laboratories, offices, homes, and our daily lives. This versatile material has enabled us to realize an enormous number of desired product properties and has advanced technological development like no other material.

First Choice – Economically and Ecologically
Plastics pave the way for economic, ecological, and social progress. They conserve resources, facilitate by means of their excellent working properties the economic manufacturing of all types of goods, and are, in many areas, the best material available in terms of functionality and design. Röchling has a strong influence on the field of plastics processing. Today, we are able to provide a solution for almost every application using these high-tech materials. We adapt to growing demands with regard to mechanical and temperature stability, workability, resistance to abrasion and wear and tear, weight, sliding ability, electrical and thermal insulation properties, and acoustics.

And the material’s potential is by no means exhausted. In the future, we will continue to support technological development in the aerospace, automotive, medical, electrical, and communications sectors via the targeted implementation of new plastics. This also applies to the development and use of environmentally sustainable biopolymers. In short, the plastics age has only just begun.

Materials
• Commodities (PE, PP, ABS, PVC, PMMA, PS)
• Engineering plastics (PA, POM, PET, PBT, PC, PVDF, PE-UHMW)
• High-temperature plastics (PSU, PES, PPS, PEI, PAI, LCP, PEEK)
• Glass fiber reinforced thermoplastics (PA 6-GF, PA 66-GF, POM-GF, PC-GF, PPS-GF, PP-GF)
• Composite plastics (UP, EP, VE resins, glass and carbon fiber reinforced, SMC)
• Low weight reinforced thermoplastics (LWRT)
• Laminated compressed wood
• Laminated pressboard
• Biopolymers (PLA)
Thermoplastic material
Laminated compressed wood
Composites
Engineering plastics
Glass fiber reinforced plastics
High-temperature plastics
The Processes

The mastery of highly varied manufacturing processes plays a key role in plastics processing. Röchling covers a unique range of processes used to form, shape, and mold these materials.

Given the versatility of modern plastics, the various manufacturing and processing procedures are important criteria for product quality and process efficiency. The palette of processes we use for production, processing, surface finishing, plant and mold construction, calculation, simulation, and prototyping is just as diverse as our product range.

Processing with Expertise
The High-Performance Plastics division uses a large number of production processes for its extensive product range of thermoplastics and composite materials. These include extrusion, polymerization, compression molding, winding, pultrusion, and processing semi-finished products on state-of-the-art CNC milling machines as well as the supply of standardized, ready-to-install components. Röchling provides the growing market for technical parts with high-precision plastic components. During their production, all types of engineering plastics are processed by injection molding machines with a clamping force of up to 5,000 KN. The automotive segment is an important submarket of the plastics industry. On the basis of the Röchling Group companies’ expert know-how and state-of-the-art equipment, the components, modules, and systems that the Automotive Plastics division manufactures meet the customers’ individual requirements. Our extensive materials expertise in the ever more important field of direct compounding also plays a part in ensuring this.

Another Röchling specialty is the manufacturing of semi-finished products for innovative, acoustically effective, lightweight components and modules such as underbody panels or air ducts.

Production Processes
- Injection molding (multi-component injection molding, hybrid technology, GID, PIT, overmolding) up to 32 KN
- Extrusion blow molding (2D, 3D, suction, sequential)
- Jectbonding
- Compression molding (DLFT, GMT, sheets, compression molded parts, LWRT, SMC)
- Extrusion (profile and sheet extrusion)
- Polymerization (vertical casting, shaped part molding, spin casting)
- Winding
- Pultrusion
- Polyurethane foaming (PUR)

Machining Procedures
- Mechanical machining procedures (lathing, milling, drilling, punching)
- Cutting (laser, water jet)
- Joining techniques (welding, gluing, screwing, attaching inserts, insert molding)

Finishing Procedures
- Film cladding
- In-mold decoration
- Printing
- Coating
- In-mold graining

Equipment and Mold Construction
- Equipment design and construction
- Plant development/construction
- Mold construction

Simulation and Analysis
- CAD/CAE/CAM
- CFD (flow analysis)
- FEM (structural analysis)
- Moldflow (injection molding simulation)
- Software development
- GT-Power (acoustic analysis)

Prototyping
- 3D rapid prototyping
- Vacuum forming
- Machine finishing (turning, milling)
Our activities are oriented toward providing our employees with a workplace in which they can work safely and accident-free, while causing as little impact to the environment as possible. Röchling is committed to both of these areas via a company policy that establishes a process of continuous improvement. They are both subject to reporting requirements and receive management’s utmost attention.

**Safety Awareness**

During the planning of machinery set-up and ergonomic installations, we take important steps to enhance safety. Our work processes are constantly surveyed for any hazards to which employees could be exposed. Together with associates and senior management, our safety officers devise measures to prevent any potential work-related accidents. Thanks to this active analysis, dangers are identified, assessed, and eliminated early on.

In workplace safety, little things often have a major effect. At Röchling, prevention is our priority. Annual statistics show that the Röchling Group has successfully reduced the number of accidents to a minimum by, for instance, making changes to machinery and equipment, redesigning forklift traffic lanes, optimizing lighting conditions, improving signage, and training employees accordingly. In the interests of our employees, we will continue to make full use of the extensive prevention potential so as to avoid risk and accidents.

**Environmentally Committed**

We take the potential impact of our work on the environment into account early on. In the planning phase for new products and manufacturing processes, we identify any such factors and minimize them effectively. Sustainability is a top priority for us. A central environmental protection issue is the effective use of resources. In order to identify potential for improvement, we analyze our material and energy flows and develop measures to reduce energy consumption and emissions. As a matter of principle, the Röchling Group integrates into its production process planning, ideas on how to avoid waste and increase the recycling quota. It does so by using state-of-the-art technologies, recycling waste water, making full use of in-house recycling potential, avoiding waste, and pursing sophisticated waste management strategies. We also integrate into plant construction the latest developments in renewable energy resources. Moreover, by providing information and training, we increase the environmental awareness of our employees.
Röchling Management Board
Continuity through Change

1822 – 1881
Röchling = Coal

The present-day Röchling Group commences its activities in the coal trade in Germany’s Saarland region.

In the mid-19th century, Röchling enters the highly promising industrial iron processing sector by engaging in coal production. Its choice of this high-quality substance, used in almost all economic sectors, lays the foundation for its future commercial success.

1881 – 1978
Röchling = Steel

The iron and steel era begins for Röchling in 1881 when it acquires the Völklinger Eisenwerk steelworks.

The works rapidly develop into a modern blast furnace plant. High-quality specialty steel is produced using innovative technologies and manufacturing procedures.

In 1920, Röchling enters the plastics processing market by acquiring Holzveredelung GmbH Berlin.

The history of the Röchling family-run company dates back to 1822. Since then, the extended Röchling family has always remained closely associated with the Company and its development. The family has been ensuring continuity through change for almost two centuries. Its decisions have guided and supported the Company along its path from its beginnings in coal trading to its years as a steel company, through its phase as a conglomerate to its current status as a globally-operating plastics group.

The shareholders, of whom there are more than 200, remain in constant and close contact with the Röchling Group. The shareholders’ meeting elects the Advisory Board, which consists of family members and external experts. It discusses and votes on the main strategic course decided by the Röchling Group.
In the face of the international steel crisis, Röchling changes its corporate strategy. Its withdrawal from the coal and steel industry is accompanied by the development of various new business segments. Röchling acquires companies and equity stakes in the communications, automotive, and measurement and control technology industries.

From 1982 on, the expansion of its successful plastics engineering activities is intensified.

Röchling again concentrates on a material with a bright future. The strategic switch from a conglomerate to a plastics group involves the divestment of all those companies not involved with plastics engineering.

Röchling successfully completes its restructuring process in 2005 and begins with the expansion of plastics processing in 2006 by acquiring companies which represent useful additions to its portfolio.

1978 – 2005
Conglomerate

Since 2006
Röchling = Plastics

Advisory Board
Johannes Freiherr von Salmuth, Chairman
Dr. Carl Peter Thürmel, Vice Chairman
Dr. Günter von Au
Dr. Bernd Michael Hönle
Dr. Gerd Kleinert
Prof. Klaus Nehring
Prof. Dr. Frank Richter

Executive Board
Georg Duffner, Chairman
Ludger Bartels
Marc Trube