



Staff of SchuF celebrating 10 years in Cork and the 100th anniversary of the company

Thriving Cork valve manufacturer expects to more than double its turnover in two years

SCHUF, which manufactures and exports specialist industrial valves worldwide from its Togher, Cork, facility, has announced that it expects to increase its turnover by more than 50% over the next two years.

It will reach €10m this year.

Celebrating 20 years in Ireland, SchuF's parent company, SchuF Chemieventile in Germany, is celebrating 100 years in the valve inventing and manufacturing business.

The company operates mainly in the chemical, pharmaceutical, oil and gas,

plastics and polymer industries.

Some 55 workers are employed in Cork with another at other locations worldwide.

Nicolas Frank, boss of the Irish operations and a great grandson of founder Josef Frank, said they were proud of their long history in this country and internationally.

Their projected increase in business over the next two years was based on opportunities in China, India and other emerging economies such as the Middle East and South Africa. This

would see them grow their business considerably here in this country.

The company's research and development department had recently patented a valve which incorporated infrared probes.

These valves enabled customers in the pharmaceutical industry to take accurate real-time chemical readings from the very bottom of the reactor; the preferred location for measuring process parameters.

The product had been hailed as a breakthrough for SchuF in that it gave

the company an edge over competitors in the pharmaceutical sector, said Mr Frank.

It was a safe and cost-effective way for the customer to integrate hi-tech analytical probes into their process.

Through the accumulation of industry knowledge, manufacturing expertise and design know-how, they had become the expert in innovative valve designs required for the petro-chemical and related process industries. They had firmly established themselves as the market leader.