**Freudenberg Expands Engineering Services**

**Increased customer demand for testing assistance prompts company to open second validation center**

**Plymouth, Mi., July 7, 2020. As a leading manufacturer of engineered sealing applications around the world, Freudenberg Sealing Technologies is constantly pursuing ways to provide its customers with enhanced product quality and better service. To that end, the company has opened a dedicated engineering service center in North America as part of its global radial shaft seal operations. The center, located at the company’s Ashland, N. H., oil seal facility, offers global customers access to advanced testing protocols and validation measures that can save them time and money.**

The 3,100-square-foot Ashland service center, first conceptualized in 2016, has been equipped with state-of-the-art test rigs and other equipment that can track everything from pressure, temperature, frictional torque and speed capabilities to changes in mechanical properties, characterization of tribological system interactions, leak detection and failure analysis in seals and sealing components. Freudenberg also offers these services to radial shaft seal customers through its Engineering Service Center in Weinheim, Germany. That center, at 16,200-square-feet, is one of the largest testing centers in the world and houses over 260 test rigs.

With radial shaft seals in use in seemingly unlimited industrial applications – from tiny seals for use in micro actuators to massive designs for ship engines – Freudenberg’s engineering service centers are a one-stop-shop for often complex and expensive sealing system testing and validation efforts. The company’s decision to take an Ashland center from concept to reality was prompted by a rapid growth in North American customer requests for sophisticated validation and performance analysis.

“While Freudenberg Sealing Technologies has long offered testing as an option to our customers, establishing a separate, dedicated engineering service unit takes product testing capabilities to a new level of sophistication and access,” said Marcel Santos, Global Director of Business Development Engineering Services. “We can run 24 hours a day and have already developed and invested in the newest testing equipment available. Now, with engineering centers in both North America and Europe, we can handle customer service requests from any region.”

With access to such diverse and individualized testing through Freudenberg, many customers are deferring or even cancelling the purchase and operation of their own test rigs, Santos noted. In addition, customers using large or difficult-to-install seal applications have found it easier, faster and less costly to request that Freudenberg manage their product testing. For example, the Ashland center recently completed performance and durability testing on engine seals that are used on 15-ton marine engines.

“We are able to run the tailored tests that our customers need, when they need them, providing fast results and offering guidance on the right solutions,” said Dr. Matthias Adler, Head of Global Material Development & Global Engineering Services for Oil Seals Industry. “And as the largest oil seal distributor in the world, Freudenberg Sealing Technologies has access to plenty of product and application data points that can be referenced during testing to offer a deep analysis of product capabilities for our customers.”

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***Image:*** *FST\_img\_TC\_Ashland\_2020.jpg // Nicholas O’Connor, Product Engineering Manager at Freudenberg Sealing Technologies’ Engineering Service Center in Ashland, N.H., is responsible for state-of-the-art product validation and analysis using a variety of sophisticated test rigs and equipment. © Freudenberg Sealing Technologies 2020*

**About Freudenberg Sealing Technologies**

Freudenberg Sealing Technologies is a longstanding technology expert and market leader for sophisticated and novel applications in sealing technology and electric mobility solutions worldwide. With its unique materials and technology expertise, the company is a proven supplier for demanding products and applications, as well as a development and service partner to customers in the automotive industries and in general industries. In 2019, Freudenberg Sealing Technologies generated sales of about €2.2 billion and employed approximately 14,000 people. More information at [www.fst.com](http://www.fst.com)

The company is part of the global Freudenberg Group which has four business areas: Seals and Vibration Control Technology, Nonwovens and Filtration, Household Products as well as Specialties and Others. In 2019, the Group generated sales of approximately 9.5 billion and employed more than 50,000 associates in around 60 countries. More information is available at [www.freudenberg.com](http://www.freudenberg.com).

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