

Press Release

Munich, November 28, 2016

Memorial to company founder Georg Knorr unveiled in Berlin

The final resting place of Knorr-Bremse founder Georg Knorr has been granted memorial status by the Federal State of Berlin.

At the ceremonial unveiling of the memorial plaque at “Zur frohen Botschaft” cemetery in the Karlshorst district of Berlin, Dr. Peter Laier, Member of the Executive Board of Knorr-Bremse AG, paid tribute to the life’s work of the great entrepreneur. Also present at the ceremony were Carl-Georg Kleppe, a grandson of the company founder, and Andre Janis, representing the Knorr-Bremse plant in Berlin.

“Georg Knorr embodied an exceptional blend of inventive spirit, foresight and entrepreneurship,” explained Dr. Laier. “Even as a young engineer, he set out to make the railways a safe and efficient means of transportation. With his good ideas and perseverance he succeeded. The breakthrough came with the K1 Knorr rapid-action brake valve, which brought passenger trains to a halt faster, more reliably and smoothly. This laid the foundations for the enduring success of Knorr-Bremse, the company he founded in Berlin in 1905. Today, every day more than one billion people across the globe put their trust in our systems. This would never have been possible without the courage and ingenuity of Georg Knorr. We are delighted that his achievements have been honored with the creation of this memorial. On behalf of today’s proprietor of Knorr-Bremse AG, Heinz Hermann Thiele, the Executive Board and the entire Knorr-Bremse workforce, I would like to express our sincere thanks to the State of Berlin.”

Caption 1: Georg Knorr at a test bench for passenger train brakes, 1908 | © Knorr-Bremse

Caption 2: The memorial to company founder Georg Knorr at “Zur frohen Botschaft” cemetery in Berlin-Karlshorst. | © Sir-Richard-Picture

For more on the history of Knorr-Bremse and the work of Georg Knorr, visit: www.knorr-bremse.com/media/documents/group/history_2/Knorr-Bremse_Milestones.pdf

Knorr-Bremse is the world’s leading manufacturer of braking systems for rail and commercial vehicles, with sales totaling almost €6 billion in 2015. In 30 countries, some 25,000 employees develop, manufacture, and service braking, entrance, control, and energy supply systems, HVAC and driver assistance systems, as well as powertrain and transmission control solutions. As a technology leader, for more than 110 years now, through its products the company has been making a decisive contribution to greater safety by road and rail. Every day, more than one billion people around the world put their trust in systems made by Knorr-Bremse.

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