

# *Innovation ensures oil-free technology*

**T**he German, French and British flags are raised high at the St. Gallen headquarters of HAUG Kompressoren in Switzerland. The Chinese flag takes an important place beside them as the country joins HAUG's worldwide network with a sales and service centre in Shanghai.

HAUG has extensive experience in the engineering and production of oil-free compressors, having made more than 38,000 units since 1896. Fifty years ago, HAUG developed the dry-running oil-free piston compressor which does not have a single drop of oil in the unit.

The pioneering company specialises in customised oil-free compressor solutions and in the environmentally safe compression of gases. Its gas compressors run with a frictionless, maintenance-free magnetic coupling which HAUG innovated 20 years ago.

"This is unique. We have a special gas-tight compressor system that makes it impossible for gas to leak out because we don't use shaft seals which can wear out and contaminate the environment and workplace," said owner and chief executive Beat Frefel.

Exports, which account for more than 80 per cent of the company's business, are



**(From left) Jeffrey Liu, sales engineer and local representative in the mainland, Beat Frefel, owner and chief executive, and Max Egger, export sales manager.**

expected to continue growing especially in the mainland. "China wants the best quality and that is what we have," Mr Frefel said. HAUG's oil-free reciprocating compressor for SF6 is particularly significant for gas recovery to the mainland's power transmission industry.

In the pipeline is a 300 bar oil-less compressor, which includes a recently patented high-pressure cylinder system. "We supply global research institutes like CERN in Geneva, the institute of technology (ETH) Zurich, and others in Beijing and Delhi," sales manager Max Egger said.

HAUG's oil-less compressor

technology is also in demand in the chemical, pharmaceutical and electronic industries that require clean, compressed air and secure gas compression. It customises solutions for Linde, Bayer, ABB, Dilo, BASF, Krupp Uhde, Thyssen Krupp Steel, Novartis, Siemens and other international companies in China.

HAUG would like to work directly with mainland companies that are increasingly industrialising their production processes. The company plans to transform its Shanghai sales and service centre into a fully owned company and tap the expertise of local engineers such as Jeffrey Liu.