

Richard Anton

1904

Steeped in tradition, the Bavarian company specialises in processing synthetic graphite and calcined petroleum coke. At each of its plants, Richard Anton operates its own laboratories equipped with cutting-edge testing equipment to attain its innovative developments and to satisfy every customer request.

From a chemical point of view, graphite and diamond are very similar: Both materials are made of carbon. The difference lies in the respective crystal structure which makes graphite one of the softest and diamond one of the toughest materials. Richard Anton KG specialises in the preparation of synthetic graphite and calcined petroleum coke. The company's carbon products can be found in almost every car on our roads.

Richard Anton KG is one of the world's largest suppliers of synthetic graphite and specialty coke for brake linings. With a wide range of carbon products, the over 100-year-old family enterprise is also among one of the most important strategic partners of foundries and steel mills in Germany and abroad. The export share of carbon products was roughly 40 per cent in 2014. Added to that is trading with pig iron. The subsidiary Aluwerk Hettstedt manufactures aluminium rods and sells them through the second subsidiary of Richard Anton, RMG Metallfachhandel GmbH, which also deals in an extensive range of non-ferrous metal semi-finished products.

The company purchases its raw materials worldwide in a variety of qualities and grain sizes. They are then processed and blended at the company's plants according to customer requirements. The products supplied by Richard Anton are used in many different areas and in numerous products, including in grey and ductile castings as well as in cast products with vermicular graphite. The products of the traditional Bavarian company are also used in foundries and steel mills as carburisers to increase the carbon content of the melt.

This includes, for example, the production of castings for wind turbines and for the automotive industry, such as engine blocks, gearbox parts and axle subframes. In non-ferrous foundries, synthetic graphite and calcined petroleum coke replace charcoal as a covering material for the melting process. Other application areas of the versatile carbons are lubricants, brake linings for passenger cars and trucks, motorcycles and waggons, insulation materials and cladding as well as chemical products.

The extensive international customer base of Richard Anton thus consists of foundries and steelworks all over the world as well as brake-lining manufacturers, lubricant producers and the chemical industry. Richard Anton KG sets international technological accents with its fully automated production 24/7, ultramodern milling and screening equipment as well as a specially-developed pelletising system that enables accumulating dust to be completely processed. The company has its own laboratories equipped with ultramodern testing equipment for its innovative developments and has been certified according to DIN ISO 9001 since 1993. The company has also had an environmental management system certified according to ISO 14001:2004 since 2007.

Graphite is a niche product and there are only a few comparable producers worldwide. Thanks to its many years of experience, its technological capabilities and its mechanical equipment, Richard Anton KG is capable of producing any desired fineness and mix of the highest quality. In addition, the company's highly experienced



The final product is bagged

Chronology



The administrative headquarters of Richard Anton KG in Gräfelfing near Munich

- 1904 The company is founded on 13 December.
- 1905 Richard Anton is awarded the exclusive right to import graphite from Ceylon to Europe.
- 1964 Richard Mader, the husband of Dorothea Anton – the granddaughter of Richard Anton – joins the company.
- 1980 Construction of a new plant in Mannheim; development of new graphite grades for the brake lining industry
- 2003 Son Florian (4th generation) joins the company.
- 2004 Founding of Aluwerk Hettstedt GmbH; acquisition of the non-ferrous metal trading company RMG in Ladenburg
- 2012 Construction of a new production facility at the Oberzell plant
- 2015 111th anniversary of the company

application engineers advise customers in choosing the most suitable products and, if necessary, help them with advice and assistance to carry out field testing. As a supplier of carburisers to foundries and steel mills, the company is the market leader in Germany and among the leading suppliers in Europe; as a supplier of synthetic graphite and specialty coke for the friction lining industry, it is actually the world market leader. 500 million brake linings are produced each year worldwide with carbon products from Richard Anton KG.

The history of the company with the elephant as a trademark dates back to 1904: At that time, Richard Anton founded a trading company for importing natural graphite from Ceylon, now Sri Lanka, and from Madagascar, exclusively for the whole of Europe. Over the years, the company has continuously expanded. In 1927, the company purchased the first plant in Oberzell near Passau, which has been continually expanded and is today one of the most modern of its kind. In 1980, the second plant was constructed at the industrial port of Mannheim with direct shipping access. By establishing a second production facility in Oberzell in 2012, the capacity doubled at this location. More than 50 different grain fractions are milled at the two ultramodern and fully automated plants, always perfectly tailored to customers' requirements.

In 1964, Richard Mader, the husband of the founder's granddaughter Dorothea Anton, joined the company and directed the company's focus to processing synthetic graphite and specialty coke. At that time, an annual volume of around 1,000 tonnes of carbon products

was produced. Today, the company has capacities of over 100,000 tons. In 1972, the company began importing pig iron. Other business sectors were added in 2004 with the founding of Aluwerk Hettstedt GmbH and the acquisition of RMG Metallfachhandel GmbH. Since 2003, the fourth generation of entrepreneurs has been actively involved in the company management with Florian Mader, who became the managing director in 2012. The company is still entirely owned by the family, with ownership shared by three shareholders.

Richard Anton has 64 employees at the head office in Gräfelfing near Munich as well as at the two plants in Oberzell and in Mannheim; 180 employees work for the entire Group. Together with Richard Anton KG, the two subsidiaries Aluwerk Hettstedt GmbH and RMG Metallfachhandel GmbH generated an annual turnover of around 125 million euros in 2014. Distribution is coordinated by the Munich headquarters, supported by a worldwide network of representatives.



The management in the 3rd and 4th generation (from left, Richard and Florian Mader)



RANCO – the product family of Richard Anton KG

Richard Anton KG
 Würmstraße 55
 82166 Gräfeling
 Germany
 t +49 89 898144-0
 www.richard-anton.de

Facts and *Figures*

INDUSTRY

processing of carbon and trading in pig iron

PRODUCTS

synthetic graphite, specialty coke and carburisers; trading in pig iron; aluminium rods; trading in and processing of non-ferrous metal semi-finished products

MARKET POSITION

the world's largest supplier of synthetic graphite and specialty coke for brake linings; one of the leading suppliers of carbon in the field of carburising

MANAGEMENT

owner-managed by Richard and Florian Mader

LOCATION

Germany

EMPLOYEES

180 in the corporate Group (2015)

TURNOVER

125m euros in the corporate Group (2014)

EXPORT RATIO

40% for carbon products

FOUNDED

1904, Antwerp by Richard Anton