Start of construction works of the new Leoni plant in Kraljevo

* Up to 5000 new jobs by 2023
* Leoni plant, the first new built plant in approximately 30 years in Kraljevo
* Leoni continues to support raising the living standards and reducing the unemployement rate in the areas where it operates

**Kraljevo, Serbia, October 11, 2018 – Leoni, a global provider of energy and data management solutions in the automotive sector and other industries, started the construction works of its fourth plant in Serbia, in the city of Kraljevo. The new plant will not only be the largest Leoni plant in Serbia, but it will also employ the biggest number of people at full capacity (end of 2023) among all Leoni plants in Serbia, namely up to 5.000.**

There will be produced harnesses for one of the world's premium carmakers, Mercedes Benz. Leoni will invest 60 million EUR in building and equipping the new production facility. By the end of the year, the first 6.500sqm will be finished and around 150 people we will employed. By the end of January next year, the test production will start. The entire building will have more than 60,000sqm, out of which 45,000sqm represent the production area, and will be completely finished in the first quarter of 2020. The Leoni plant will be the first new plant built in almost 30 years in the region of Kraljevo and is expected to significantly contribute the decreasing the unemployment rate in the area.

““LEONI’ s investment in this factory is a positive sign for both the expansion of our company and the development of the Serbian company. I am confident that this big project will be beneficial for all of us. The start of construction of a new location is a very special moment, because you can see something new emerging. In our case here, a large – scale production plant is taking shape. It will be the place where high quality products will be made”, stated Martin Stüttem, Member of the Board of Directors of Leoni AG with responsibility for the Wiring Systems Division (WSD) on the ceremony marking the start of construction works held in Kraljevo today.

Clemens Sachs, Managing Director of Leoni Wiring Systems Southeast d.o.o said: “Following this future growth and together with the three already working factories, Leoni will become the biggest industrial employer in Serbia. What is more important than being the biggest employer is to be the best. It is a tough target, but we as one Leoni Serbian Team are working constantly to become better and better each day. Good working conditions, practical and theoretical induction trainings, best surroundings combined with an interesting motivation package, fair treatment and open communication are qualities which make Leoni a very interesting and appealing employer.”

The President of the Republic of Serbia, Mr. Aleksandar Vucic, Ambassador of Federal Republic of Germany, H.E. Mr. Thomas Schieb and Mayor of City of Kraljevo, Mr. Predrag Terzic have also attended the ceremony of start of construction works of the Leoni plant in Kraljevo .

**About the Leoni Group**

Leoni is a global provider of products, solutions and services for energy and data management in the automotive sector and other industries. The value chain encompasses wires, optical fibres, standardised cables, special cables and cable system assemblies as well as intelligent products and smart services. As an innovation partner and solutions provider, Leoni supports its customers with pronounced development and systems expertise. The market-listed group of companies employs more than 88,000 people in 31 countries and generated consolidated sales of EUR 4.9 billion in 2017.

Leoni has been present on the Serbian market since 2009 when it opened its first production facility in Prokuplje. Our plants in Malosiste (2014) and Niš (2017) followed. All facilities produce harnesses for global, premium car brands. The Company currently employs over 6,000 people and, once the fourth plant in Kraljevo is working at full capacity, Leoni will be the largest manufacturing-sector employer in Serbia with a workforce of more than 10,000.

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