**Freudenberg’s S4 Cassette Seal Increases Reliability of Agricultural Equipment**

**Weinheim (Germany), November 14, 2017. ‘Green Future – Smart Technology’ – that is the central theme of AGRITECHNICA 2017, which takes place this week in Hanover. The leading global trade fair for agricultural technology is focusing on the forward-looking products and technologies that make a sustained increase in farming efficiency possible. One example is the S4 cassette seal from Freudenberg Sealing Technologies, which lasts four times as long as conventional cassette seals.**

Maximum efficiency under extreme operating conditions is crucial for agricultural machinery. The equipment has to function as long and reliably as possible, whether it is used in demanding temperatures, in water and mud, or in dust-filled fields. That’s because downtime and malfunctions, especially during sowing and harvesting, lead to major reductions in profitability.

That is why Freudenberg Sealing Technologies has especially stood for reliability and longevity in its products for the agricultural sector. That’s the case for its cassette seals, which have proven themselves fully for decades in the most adverse work environments. “Cassette seals are the gold standard for protecting the wheel bearings of heavy machinery from water and contaminants while retaining oil in the bearing,” said Angelika Mulac, Vice President Mobile Machinery. “The advanced design of our cassette seal combines numerous sealing elements in a single seal, providing outstanding protection from dirt.”

Freudenberg cassette seals are robust pinion and wheel hub seals with a dirt-repelling multi-labyrinth in a single housing. This provides the maximum sealing effect with minimal friction. In addition, a finished seal running surface is integrated into the cassette seal. In this way, the shaft does not need to be hardened and ground separately. Additional dirt seals are not required either.

With the new S4 cassette seal, Freudenberg has further improved an already successful product, Mulac said. “With more improvements in the product’s design, we were able to increase its lifespan fourfold, as data from real-life use prove. Even when operated in rice fields, where the equipment’s axles run under water, our S4 reliably kept mud away from the axle.”

The new cassette seal has another advantage: Large tractors and harvesters are often equipped with crawler drives. Due to their greater contact area, they compress the soil less. Until now they had to be fitted with complicated mechanical slide ring seals, Mulac said. “But the latest generation of our high-performance cassette seals is also superbly suited for most uses on crawler track systems."

New designs of cassette seals can also improve the sealing of axles without reducing driving speeds on roads. The cassette seal HS-EVO is one example. In this case, the overheating of the seal’s elastomer is prevented, enabling it to offer a high degree of protection even at high rotational speeds and naturally with outstanding resistance to contamination.

More information on Freudenberg Sealing Technologies products for agriculture can be found on the Internet at <https://www.fst.com/markets/mobile-machinery/agriculture>.

***Images:*** *XXXXX*

**About Freudenberg Sealing Technologies**

As the leading specialist in sealing applications and their markets, Freudenberg Sealing Technologies is a supplier as well as a development and service partner serving customers in a wide variety of sectors including the automotive industry, civil aviation, mechanical engineering, shipbuilding, the food and pharmaceuticals industries, and agricultural and construction machinery. In 2016, Freudenberg Sealing Technologies generated sales of more than €2.3 billion and employed approximately 15,000 people. More information at [www.fst.com](http://www.fst.com)

The company is part to the global Freudenberg Group which, with its Business Areas Seals and Vibration Control Technology, Nonwovens and Filtration, Household Products as well as Specialties and Others. In 2016, the Group generated sales of more than
€8.6 billion in and employed approximately 48,000 associates in around 60 countries. More information is available at [www.freudenberg.com](http://www.freudenberg.com).

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