



PRESS RELEASE

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100 years of innovation, passion and stories –
and there's no end in sight!

NTN-SNR celebrates its 100th anniversary

In 2018, NTN-SNR Roulements is joining the exclusive club of the 1,500 one-hundred-year-old companies in France. It's a double anniversary: one for NTN Corporation and one for NTN-SNR Roulements, which has been headquartered in Annecy since 1918. Behind the story of every big company, there are women and men who, through their energy, their expertise and their passion, bring the company to life and make it last. This centenary is the occasion to celebrate this pioneering company's employees of yesterday and today, to recall the values that built it, and to look back on 100 years of innovation. This centenary is also a symbol, because it lays the solid foundation of a company that is ready to take on the challenges of tomorrow. Investments, innovations, and commitment to society and the environment will enable it to shine from Annecy across Europe, Africa, Brazil and the Middle East. Various events are scheduled in Annecy for colleagues and customers as well as for the general public. The exhibit "100 Years of History in the Heart of Annecy" will permit residents of Annecy and employees to discover or rediscover the joint development of NTN-SNR and the city. NTN-SNR is taking advantage of this emblematic year to inaugurate the second building of the Argonay factory. Dedicated to aeronautics, this Factory 4.0 is the flagship of a new generation of NTN-SNR factories. A future to which NTN-SNR and NTN Corporation are fully committed.

100 years of shared values
to create a corporate spirit

For more than 100 years now, the strength of NTN-SNR has been the passion, expertise and commitment of its women and men. Its goal: To provide a pleasant work environment where employees develop and achieve their potential every day; to provide a shared purpose that gives meaning to the actions of every individual. Solidarity, goodwill and expression are values upheld by the company. Development and the enhancement of skills in the context of a career plan and training throughout the course of its workers' professional life fuel the company's success and well-being.



“To produce technologies that better the world for current and future generations by preserving our planet and contributing innovative technological solutions. To make the world nameraka (harmonious).” Spoken by Hiroshi Ohkubo, President of NTN Corporation, these words reflect the Group's desire to overcome everyday challenges.

In June, the company will host an event dedicated to the company's workforce and all production sites will welcome employees, retirees and their families to an open house day.

100 years of history to launch into the future

NTN-SNR places its commitment to society and the environment at the very heart of its corporate strategy. It strives to be an exemplary industrial citizen.

This centenary celebration is also the occasion for NTN-SNR to present its project for the future, which is built around people, innovation, sustainable development and performance.

Nurturing innovation and continuing to anticipate

Innovation is at the heart of the company's development strategy. NTN-SNR teams conceive and build the solutions of tomorrow. They identify, understand and anticipate trends, while understanding the stakes for mobility and ecology. NTN-SNR invests 4% of its annual turnover in R&D in support of new projects that secure its place today among the leaders in the industry. As a mechatronics pioneer, NTN-SNR already created ASB 20 years ago – a technology that has meanwhile become an international standard. It equipped France's high-speed TGV trains, which hold the railway speed record; it helped conquer space with the Ariane rockets; and it equips all latest-generation aeronautical engines. From the basic bearing to the intelligent bearing and to more and more integrated systems, NTN-SNR develops system geometries and applies new materials and new processes to achieve ever greater performance and lower consumption while enhancing both reliability and safety.

A strategic industrial project, highly effective production facilities

NTN-SNR is investing in a strategic industrial project to modernize its production facilities in France and Europe (incl. Germany, Italy, Romania) and to make them more efficient. In that effort, it benefits from the support of NTN Corporation, which is the second biggest Japanese investor in France today.

NTN-SNR plans to dive into digital transformation, using this key dimension to become a major player with an established reputation. The Alès factory in the Gard region of France is one good example. It produces third-generation wheel bearings and was awarded the *Vitrine Usine du future* (Showcase Factory of the Future) label by the *Alliance Industrie du future* (Industry of the Future association).

The factory of the future is a first response to this industrial process revolution based on new technologies and innovation. Factory 4.0 combines the internet and factories. Along each link in the industrial chain – from production to procurement – the tools and workstations communicate continuously. Sensors, programmable controllers, Big Data, the cloud and industry are witnessing a complete reorganisation of production methods by relying on existing tools and by connecting them together in networks.

One of the highlights of this centenary celebration will be the official inauguration of Building 2 of the Argonay factory near Annecy, another example of Factory 4.0.

NTN-SNR Roulements invested 27 million euros in the Argonay industrial site, creating a facility that represents the state of the art in technology and productivity, in order to satisfy the quality and capacity demands of orders under new contracts. It is a genuine factory of the future for manufacturing bearings for the new generation of engines – LEAP from CFMI (a joint venture of GE



and SAFRAN), GTF from Pratt & Whitney, and Trent 1000 and 7000 from Rolls Royce – the result of more than ten years of research and innovation.

A project for the women and men of the company

A company's ambition cannot be reduced to any one industrial project. NTN-SNR promotes people, innovation and sustainable development. Its objective is to provide a pleasant work environment where employees develop and achieve their potential every day. NTN-SNR tries to develop the potential of each colleague through the management of the future. To that end, NTN-SNR invests its colleagues with responsibility and autonomy, through the use of decision support systems, the elimination of tedious and repetitive tasks, and by using visual management tools. Each new colleague receives training upon joining the company, and then continues to develop expertise throughout their career. The leitmotif of NTN-SNR and its employees is to subscribe to the logic of continuous improvement.

In 2016, the platform Ecovadis rated the Group among the top 8% of companies evaluated as the most effective in the metallurgy sector. For many years now, NTN-SNR has been committed to a proactive CSR approach: an agreement on gender equality in the company, which guarantees equal pay for equal work as well as equivalent opportunities for advancement, and ethical commitments ranging from training for managers to the Group's Code of Ethics.

With all production sites certified according to ISO 14001 and all French sites certified according to ISO 50001 for their energy performance, NTN-SNR is resolutely committed to responsible and sustainable production.

“Because for us, tomorrow is today” NTN-SNR

Programme of centenary events attached

NTN-SNR ROULEMENTS belongs to NTN Corporation. NTN Corporation, with a turnover of more than 5.4 billion euros, is a world-leading designer, developer and manufacturer of bearings (third largest in the world) and CV joints (second largest in the world). NTN Corporation is present in all industrial, automotive and aeronautics markets. The acquisition of SNR Roulements by NTN Corporation in 2007 made it possible for the latter to reinforce its presence in Europe and its positioning as worldwide leader. In Europe, NTN employs about 6,000 people and operates 13 production sites, seven of which are in France.

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NTN-SNR centenary programme in Annecy, France

- Thursday, 5 April: Inauguration of the new Argonay factory unit (near Annecy, Haute-Savoie, France)
- Friday, 6 April: Opening of the exhibit “100 Years of History in the Heart of Annecy” at the Bonlieu Cultural Centre (Annecy, Haute-Savoie, France)
- Friday, 1 June: Employee event and party
- Saturday 2 June: Open house day at the sites in the *Grand Annecy* metropolitan area for employees, retirees and their families