

# Press release

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

## Dr. Axel Schweitzer becomes first German citizen to receive the accolade of “high-end foreign expert”

### China's first expert visa is presented to ALBA

Berlin. As the first German citizen to have received such an honour, Dr Axel Schweitzer, CEO of the ALBA Group, has been awarded the new Chinese “visa for talents” (aka the “high-end foreign experts visa”). The visa is presented to highly qualified scientists, technicians, executives and artists. On the occasion of the presentational ceremony at the Chinese embassy in Berlin, **Chinese Ambassador Mingde Shi** said that due to its rapid economic development, China had a considerable demand for advanced environmental technologies of the kind that ALBA Group has to offer. He hopes that the “visa for talents” will see more experts coming from Germany to China and thereby intensify the collaboration between both countries in every area.

“As the leading recycling company we are now in an even better position to modify, apply and disseminate our cutting-edge technology together with our Chinese partners,” explained **Dr Schweitzer** on the occasion of the presentation of his visa. “By combining our 50 years old recycling expertise with the Chinese entrepreneurial spirit we want to contribute to achieving the country’s goal of a ‘more beautiful China’ more rapidly. The ALBA Group is active at numerous locations in China, with its systems and projects, among others, for the treatment of electric waste, old cars and household waste. Only a few days ago, ALBA announced its establishment of a joint venture with the Baowu Group, the second biggest producer of steel in the world.

Schweitzer said that “as CEO of the ALBA Group, I am honoured and proud to be presented with the first visa of this kind.” The visa is valid for 10 years and allows its holders an uninterrupted stay of up to 180 days as well as numerous individual journeys.

#### **About ALBA Group:**

With its two brands – ALBA and Interseroh – and a total of about 7,500 employees ALBA Group operates within Germany, Europe and Asia. With an annual turnover of approx. 1.8 billion Euros (2016) ALBA Group is one of the leading recycling and environmental services companies as well as raw material providers worldwide. In 2016 alone ALBA Group saved almost 4.3 million tonnes of greenhouse gases compared to primary production and at the same time about 36.2 million tonnes of primary raw materials through its recycling activities.

Further information on ALBA Group can be found at [www.albagroup.de](http://www.albagroup.de). All press releases of the ALBA Group may be subscribed to via RSS feed at [www.albagroup.de/presse](http://www.albagroup.de/presse).

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