## 1972

# SIGRAFLEX® 2022

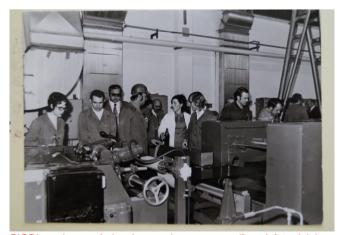
### **Ceremonial SOP of the first SIGRAFLEX plant in Meitingen**

The successful laboratory trials for the production of flexible graphite foil and the great market interest triggered by the presentation at the "Hanover Fair" led to an intensification of research activities at SIGRI ELEKTROGRAPHIT.

In 1969, Head of Research Dr. Otto Vohler gave the goahead for the development of a manufacturing process for flexible graphite. Fritz Wagner was responsible for the project planning of the first foil line. In 1971, the first foil line, named "Akropolis", was put into operation by the research team headed by Dr. Peter-Ludwig Reiser. The ceremonial commissioning of the line took place in Meitingen on April 28, 1972.

The plant, with a capability of producing foil at a width of 500 mm (19.7"), initially had a capacity of 10 metric tons per year. This was very quickly increased to approximately 25 metric tons per year.

With the demand constantly increasing through the 1970's particularly for the sealing industry, the pilot plant was converted to a full production unit. Dr. Ottmar Rubisch was the first Head of Operations at this time. By 1985 the plant was capable of producing 160 metric tons of foil per year.



SIGRI employees during the opening ceremony (from left to right): Lieselotte Kellermann, Udo Gruber, Erich Buffy, Alois Weiss, Karl Frank (in the background), Christina Sommer, Alfred Hirschvogel, Michael Braun, Johann Bobinger.



Alfred Hirschvogel, Dr. Albrecht Engelmann und Dr. Otto Vohler inspecting the quality of the SIGRAFLEX® foil on the day of the official opening ceremony of the first production plant on April 28, 1972; Dr. Peter-Ludwig Reiser and Gerhard Bock can be seen in the background.



Fritz Wagner, responsible for the project planning of the plant, gives his speech at the inauguration ceremony.



#### Registration of the SIGRAFLEX brand

On October 4, 1972, SIGRI Elektrographit GmbH filed an application for the SIGRAFLEX trademark with the German Patent Office in Munich. The list of goods in this application now also included the various sealing materials – in contrast to the old application from 1969.

Even today, after 50 years, the brand is still recognizable and known globally in the sealing world far beyond the borders of Meitingen. SIGRAFLEX has and still stands for high-quality materials made of flexible graphite.

BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND



#### URKUNDE

UBER DIE EINTRAGUNG DES WARENZEICHENS

124282



Sigraflex



DEUTSCHES PATENTAMT

W 7312

Certificate of the German Patent Office for the application of the trademark SIGRAFLEX®, filed on October 4, 1972.

924282 1 S 25877 Sigri Elektrographit GmbH, 8901 Meitingen. Herstellung und Vertrieb von chemischen und elektro-	
technischen Erzeugnissen, insbesondere von Kohle= fabrikaten.  4.10.1972  Chemische Erzeugnisse für gewerbliche Zwecke, nämlich Graphitsalze; Graphitexpandat in Pulverform als Zwischenprodukte für die Herstellung von Graphit= laminat, Lagern, Gleitringen, Packungen, Dichtungen und thermischen Isolierstoffen; aus mehreren Graphit= folien bestehende Graphitlaminate in Form von Platten, Stangen und Rohren als Zwischenprodukte für die Herstellung von Lagern, Gleitringen, Packungen, Dichtungen und thermischen Isolierstoffen.  (GK.1,17)	30 OKT 1974

<sup>\*)</sup> Der Schutz des eingetragenen Zeichens dauert 10 Jahre, die mit dem Tage beginnen, der auf die Anmeldung folgt. Die Schutzdauer kann um jeweils 10 Jahre verlängert werden (§ 9 Absatz 1 und 2 des Warenzeichongosetzes).



## A new sealing material especially suitable for difficult operating conditions

Carbon and graphite were used as dynamic sealing materials long before the industrial production of graphite foil, e. g. for seal rings or mechanical seals, packing or metal-sleeved rings. However, they could not be utilized for static sealing applications. This changed with the availability of flexible graphite foil. The material's softness and flexibility, aging and corrosion resistance, low permeability, and smooth pressure and temperature change behavior make it ideal for both static and dynamic sealing applications.

After the successful development of SIGRAFLEX in the laboratory, SIGRI began to look intensively for possible applications for the material and quickly realized that it could have great potential as a sealing material - due to its unique properties.

Excerpt from the contents of the advertisement:

To ensure that nothing leaks, SIGRAFLEX® gaskets own properties no other gasket material can match: Temperature resistant, -200 °C to +3000 °C, no corrosion, no aging, no flowing, no embrittlement and offer excellent long-term stability of compressibility and recovery at low sealing forces and excellent pressure resistance.



