



## Press Release

### New Biography of Carl Zeiss Available in Stores

**Book sheds new light on the company founder in celebration of his 200<sup>th</sup> birthday.**

JENA, 12 May 2016

This year the company ZEISS is commemorating the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of the company founder with many different activities and events. This week the German edition of *Carl Zeiss: A Biography 1816-1888* will be published by the Böglau Verlag. It was written by historian Stephan Paetrow and the Head of the ZEISS Archives, Dr. Wolfgang Wimmer. The 144-page book brings the figure of Carl Zeiss to life and is available at bookstores for €19.90. The English edition will be available in June.

The biography contains around 100 images, and the reader can learn more about the precision mechanic who set about revolutionizing optical device construction from his workshop in the German town of Jena. "The number of written documents left to us by Carl Zeiss is surprisingly small," says Dr. Wolfgang Wimmer. "Since not much is known about the life of Carl Zeiss, we've made the most of the enigmatic sources we have." When conducting their research, the two authors examined a ledger which Zeiss kept between 1848 and 1863. In this ledger, Zeiss recorded the income and expenses of his young company. The authors also examined the microscope ledgers, which contain detailed documentation on which microscopes were produced and to whom they were delivered. "The biography has a strong historical foundation but is written in a style that is easy to read," says Wimmer, describing the book.

"Sometimes intensive research is also necessary to prove that something did not happen," adds Wimmer, Head of the ZEISS Archives. "For example: it's a legend that Zeiss applied to settle in Weimar and the local authorities rejected his application, prompting Zeiss to open his workshop in Jena. There was no information to substantiate this claim in any archive."

This biography also brings the person and history of Carl Zeiss into the present through conversations with today's descendants, company representatives and scientists.

On 15 June at 8:15 p.m., a reading took place at the Jena University Thalia bookstore on Leutragraben 1 in Jena. At this event, the two authors presented the book and the results of their research into the life of Carl Zeiss.



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**About ZEISS**

ZEISS is an internationally leading technology enterprise operating in the optics and optoelectronics industries. The ZEISS Group develops and distributes semiconductor manufacturing equipment, measuring technology, microscopes, medical technology, eyeglass lenses, camera and cine lenses, binoculars and planetarium technology. With its solutions, the company constantly advances the world of optics and helps shape technological progress. ZEISS is divided up into the four segments Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology, Research & Quality Technology, Medical Technology, and Vision Care/Consumer Optics. ZEISS is represented in over 40 countries and operates more than 30 production sites, over 50 sales and service locations and about 25 research and development facilities.

In fiscal year 2014/15 the company generated revenue approximating €4.5 billion with around 25,000 employees. Founded in 1846 in Jena, the company is headquartered in Oberkochen, Germany. Carl Zeiss AG is the strategic management holding company that manages the ZEISS Group. The company is wholly owned by the Carl Zeiss Stiftung (Carl Zeiss Foundation).

Further information at [www.zeiss.com](http://www.zeiss.com)

**ZEISS in Jena**

At the Jena site all four segments are represented by the Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology, Medical Technology and Microscopy business groups, the Planetariums strategic business unit and the Central Research area of ZEISS. Jena is also the headquarters of the central service company for production operations of the ZEISS Group. ZEISS employs over 2,000 people at its Jena site.