

1935–1960

# Kautex – a history\_

**1935**

Kautex is founded.

**1947**

Dr. Reinold Hagen starts with 47 employees.

**1949**

Kautex develops the first blow-mold machine in Europe.

**1956**

Kautex reaches 389 employees and exports its first blow-mold machines outside Germany.

**1960**

Kautex brings its machine-building to the assembly line, marking the breakthrough of the family business on the world market.

1960–1990

**1989**

Kautex sold to Klöckner Werke.

**1986**

The company captures the North American market with the opening of the plant in Windsor, Canada.

**1984**

With the opening of a production plant in Spain, Kautex begins to expand into the international markets.

**1972**

Kautex develops the first plastic fuel tank made of HDPE, which is integrated into a VW Passat as the first plastic fuel tank in serial production.

**1964**

With the construction of the first prototype of a plastic fuel tank made of polyamide for Ford, Kautex begins its successful move into the automotive industry.

**1963**

With 1039 employees, Kautex becomes the largest producer of blow-molded hollow bodies on the European continent.

1990–Today

**1996**

Kautex sold to Textron; First plant in China opens.

**1999**

Kautex employees top 4,600 at 40 locations in 15 different countries.

**2007**

Kautex receives the first orders for mass production of NGFS® and SCR.

**2011**

Kautex opens two new plants, in Silao, Mexico and Craiova, Romania.

**2012**

Kautex starts to produce its first Hybrid Pressure Tank and also opens a new plant in Chongqing, China and a Development and Validation Center in Guangzhou, China.

**2015**

Kautex begins production of the first all-plastic hybrid fuel tank – using plastic stiffeners instead of metal reinforcements.