



Heinz-Dieter Schmidt (left) and Anne Kuhlmann presenting the cheque to the Chairman of the Friends Association, Dieter Mett (2nd from the left), and Clinic Manager Thomas Klein

Support for addiction treatment

Buderus Edelstahl donates € 5,000 to the Eschenburg clinic

On 6 August 2008, Heinz-Dieter Schmidt, works doctor at Buderus Edelstahl, and Anne Kuhlmann, Assistant to the Managing Director, presented a cheque for € 5,000 to the Chairman of the Friends of the Eschenburg clinic, Dieter Mett.

Buderus Edelstahl's donation was in recognition of the Friends' voluntary commitment, including many clinic staff devoting their free time to helping patients convalesce, over and above their professional commitment. The Friends support the sick with specific help, for example with trips to official offices and arranging preventive events.

The Eschenburg clinic specialises in treating alcohol and drug addiction. In addition to a specialist clinic and a specialist ambulance, the patients are supported by an adaptation facility in which they can train under real-life conditions in addition to their treatment in the clinic, to prepare

and stabilise them for re-entry into professional life.

"As a works doctor covering many companies, I am repeatedly confronted by staff with alcohol problems and staff who are seriously abusing alcohol", said Heinz-Dieter Schmidt at the cheque presentation ceremony, "Alcohol, drug and tablet abuse are illnesses that often remain undiscovered for a long time, constituting a hazard to the people affected and also to their colleagues." Addicts must seek professional help as quickly as possible to keep their job and prevent jeopardising themselves and others at work.

Helping addicts is a fixed component of

company health arrangements for Buderus, enshrined in a works agreement between the Works Council and company management. "Buderus Edelstahl helps the staff concerned by arranging prompt treatment after diagnosis by their doctor and agreement on how to proceed", says Schmidt. The Eschenburg clinic has been working very effectively with Buderus Edelstahl for years, and appreciates the after-care support the company provides. "The success of therapeutic outcomes has been well above average due to mutual cooperation", commented Schmidt, "and due to the professional reintegration management at Buderus Edelstahl enabling the workers concerned to generally return to their previous job."