

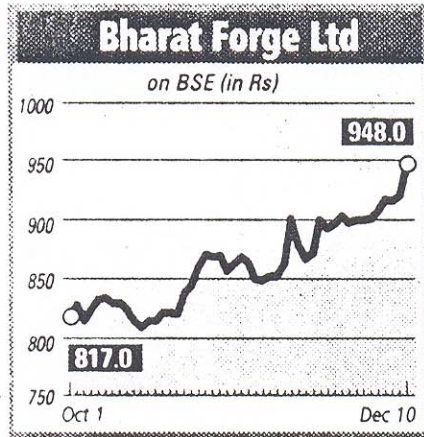
Mumbai, Sunday, December 12, 2004

Bharat Forge eyes US, China

OUR CORPORATE BUREAU
Mumbai, Dec 11

After Germany, Bharat Forge Limited is zeroing in on the US market. The company also has long term plans of setting up a manufacturing base in China.

“We are looking at opportunities in the US although nothing has fructified as yet. This could be possibly through an acquisition,” said Bharat Forge Limited executive director Amit Kalyani at a media briefing on Saturday. Bharat Forge is also in the midst of implementing a Rs 350 crore investment plan at its forging business in the Pune plant.



Bharat Forge, on Friday, announced its second acquisition in Germany when it bought over the entire stake in auto ancillary company CDP Aluminumtechnik GmbH & Co KG (CDP AT) for 6.3 million euro (around Rs 37 crore). The company has a turnover of

around Rs 200 crore and is an associate company of Carl Dan Peddinghaus GmbH which it acquired last year and subsequently re-christened CDP Bharat Forge GmbH).

Based on the existing base, the latest acquisitions revenues can be grown by 50% said Mr Kalyani. Also post acquisition, CDP Bharat Forge has added 40 more personnel to its initial manpower of 770. The company which posted a turnover of Rs 680 crore has clocked revenues of Rs 560 crore and a profit before tax of Rs 40 crore in the first nine-months of 2004. This follows an investment of around 5 million euros. ◆