

## Werthenbach's auto parts business will become part of HESS Automotive

### Strategic Focus on Expansion of Core Business

**Cologne, Bielefeld - February 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 – Focusing on their own core business has long been the scope of strategic developments of both companies, HESS Automotive and Werthenbach. With the planned takeover of Werthenbach Autoteile by HESS Automotive, both companies now want to consistently continue this path.**

With the planned sale of its sites for the auto parts business to HESS Automotive, Werthenbach is pursuing a focus on its own core business of industrial supplies. Hess in turn has also straightened out in recent years, their core business is auto parts distribution.

According to Philipp Hess, shareholder and CEO of HESS Automotive, the takeover is intended to find a solution that makes sense for everyone involved and that is based on the similar values of two family-owned businesses that have been on the market for around 90 years.

Importantly, employees working in this area will also benefit from the intended takeover. As many jobs as possible are to be permanently secured and maintained after the takeover.

"Werthenbach has been active in the automotive parts and industrial supplies business for almost 90 years. Both markets are extremely competitive and require constant innovation and investment in order to secure economic success and jobs. In the future, we want to concentrate on the industrial supplies division and have therefore looked for the best solution for a successful continuation of our auto parts division and found it with Hess", explains Michael Werthenbach, owner of the Werthenbach company.

"Our common interest at Werthenbach and Hess is to strategically focus on what we do best and at the same time secure as many jobs as possible with a meaningful expansion of our business area", says Philipp Hess, emphasizing the great value of this agreement.

With branches in Bielefeld, Braunschweig, Celle, Langenhagen, Lippstadt, Magdeburg, Münster and Northeim, HESS Automotive can expand its own business area north of the Ruhr area and beyond Minden into Lower Saxony.

As with the integration of Schwenker in Minden, investments are to be made into modern and scalable IT systems at the respective locations. In conjunction with sophisticated logistic processes and optimized workflows, this will ultimately result in significantly improved productivity. Step by step, all locations are planned to be transferred to HESS Automotive within a year.

**Corporate Contacts:**

HESS Automotive  
Silas Sachs

Widdersdorfer Straße 188  
50825 Köln

Tel.: +49 151 55250061  
Mail: [s.sachs@hess-gruppe.de](mailto:s.sachs@hess-gruppe.de)  
Net: [www.hess-automotive.de](http://www.hess-automotive.de)

WERTHENBACH  
Annette Schnitzler

Grafenheider Str. 101  
D-33729 Bielefeld

Tel.: +49 521 9768-0  
E-Mail: [presse@werthenbach.de](mailto:presse@werthenbach.de)  
Net: [www.werthenbach.de](http://www.werthenbach.de)

**Press Office:**

DIALOGmanufaktur  
Matthias Nowotny

Henry-Dunant-Straße 21  
72108 Rottenburg

Tel: +49 151 19564720  
Mail: [mno@dialogmanufaktur.de](mailto:mno@dialogmanufaktur.de)  
Net: [www.dialogmanufaktur.de](http://www.dialogmanufaktur.de)