

Press information



BITZER SE

Eschenbrünnlestraße 15
71065 Sindelfingen // Germany
Tel +49 (0)70 31 932-0
Fax +49 (0)70 31 932-147
bitzer@bitzer.de // www.bitzer.de

Unser Zeichen // Our Ref.

Abs. // Sender	Patrick Koops
Abt. // Dept.	Public Relations
Tel-Dw. // Ext.	+49 (0)70 31 932-43 27
Fax-Dw. // Ext.	+49 (0)70 31 932-5 43 27
E-Mail	patrick.koops@bitzer.de

BITZER and Wurm are shaping the future together

Remscheid/Sindelfingen, 13.11.2018. The refrigeration and air conditioning specialist BITZER and the automation expert Wurm have paved the way for a successful future together. On 8 November, both companies signed a joint venture agreement in which BITZER will be the majority shareholder of the newly established Wurm Holding GmbH from 1 January 2019. As a leading manufacturer of electronic system solutions for refrigeration, air conditioning and ventilation applications, all national and international Wurm companies will be integrated into the new holding company. The cooperation is still subject to the approval of the competition authorities.

As a managing partner, Dr Horst Peter Wurm will join the management of the new Wurm Holding GmbH and will step down from the operational management of the individual Wurm companies in mid 2019. In the holding company, he will supervise the long-term development and strategic orientation of the group in coordination with BITZER. No changes will be made to the management of the Wurm Group, which is made up of senior employees, or to any of its operational sites in Germany or abroad. 'It will even be business as usual for all of our customers who will keep the same representatives', says Dr Horst Peter Wurm.

Mutual profit and driving intelligent solutions

The people in charge at BITZER and Wurm have known one another well for over a decade and often exchange ideas about technological challenges in the refrigeration and air conditioning industry. 'We realised how much we could profit from one another technologically and stimulate the market in these challenging times', says Rainer Große-Kracht, member of the Management Board and Chief Technology Officer at BITZER.

By working together, both companies are gaining a strong strategic partner with which they can continue to shape technological developments in the refrigeration and air conditioning industry.

Press information



Together, BITZER and Wurm can provide their customers with new intelligent solutions and ensure the independence of two innovative family-run companies in the long term.



The Wurm Group is a leading provider of automation systems for refrigeration systems and technical building management in retail in Germany and Europe. Established in 1872 and based in Remscheid, Germany, the company generated sales of €55 million in 2017, employs more than 220 personnel and has decades of expertise in automation technology for commercial refrigeration. Wurm is also a leader in data transmission and is considered a pioneer in the sector. The group is successful with operating sites in Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Benelux.

The BITZER Group is the world's largest independent manufacturer of refrigeration compressors. BITZER is represented across the globe through distribution companies and production facilities for reciprocating, screw and scroll compressors, heat exchangers and pressure vessels. In 2017, 3,500 employees generated sales of €740 million.

Overview of images

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Press information



Image: BITZER and Wurm are shaping the future together. Pictured (from left): Rainer Große-Kracht (Member of the Management Board and Chief Technology Officer at BITZER), Dr Horst Peter Wurm (Managing Partner of the new Wurm Holding GmbH) and Frank Hartmann (Member of the Management Board and Chief Financial Officer at BITZER)