

Press release, 8 November 2016

Alliance Automotive Group buys Büge Autoteile GmbH & Co. KG, Lübeck, Germany, Büge Autoteile Nord GmbH & Co. KG, Flensburg, Germany, and Walter Auerbach GmbH & Co. KG, Bad Oldesloe, Germany (Büge Group).

Alliance Automotive Group (AAG) is pleased to announce the acquisition of all of the shares in the Schleswig-Holstein based Büge Group from the Büge family, which founded the company. The transaction is subject to the approval of the competition authorities.

The Büge Group is headquartered in Flensburg and Lübeck. It operates from a total of eight locations and supplies over 4,000 customers, most of them independent garages. With turnover of over €18 million, the company plays a leading role as a regional supplier of automotive spare parts in Schleswig-Holstein.

Thorsten Zeidler and Hans Peter Büge, the representatives of the family owners said “The sales focus of Alliance Automotive Germany GmbH (with its companies Coler and Busch), its substantial expertise in the support of independent garages and its position within an international group convinced the shareholders of the Büge Group that we have found in Alliance Automotive Group an ideal partner for the continued development of our companies thereby ensuring a successful future.” “I look forward to working with Alliance Automotive Group and will continue to serve as the managing director of the Büge Group,” Thorsten Zeidler added.

“We look forward to welcoming the Büge Group to the AAG organisation,” Jean-Jaques Lafont, CEO and co-founder of AAG, added. “This is the third company we have acquired in Germany, and along with Coler, Busch we now have an excellent footprint in the western part of the country. We plan to continue our growth strategy in this dynamic market.”

With turnover likely to total €1.85 billion in 2016, AAG is one of the largest companies in Europe supplying passenger and commercial vehicle spare parts in the independent aftermarket. AAG operates as Groupauto France, Precisium, Partners and Gef’Auto in France; as Groupauto UK, UAN and FPS in the United Kingdom; and as Coler GmbH & Co. KG and Busch Handelsgesellschaft mbH in Germany. The group supplies around 1,500 regional parts wholesalers and over 25,000 garages with more than 100,000 different parts for repair and maintenance. Headquartered in London, AAG is owned by the US private equity company Blackstone as well as by the company’s founders.

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