

Press release

Kistler Group acquires Vester Elektronik GmbH

Winterthur, 25 August 2017 – Kistler Group took over near Karlsruhe-based Vester Elektronik GmbH on 25 August. This acquisition – Kistler’s third one this year – adds a company that has successfully specialised in sensor technology and test automation to the group.

Innovative systems in process monitoring

Since its founding 50 years ago, the family-owned company Vester Elektronik GmbH has specialised in high-quality optoelectronic sensors for controls and process monitoring in the field of punching and forming technology. Testing and sorting facilities for the 100% examination of metal and hybrid parts complete the company’s product portfolio. Its products are primarily used in the punching and forming as well as turned parts and fastening sectors. The company is known for its innovative and well-engineered systems for the quality assurance and surveillance of punching and forming processes, as well as for the high level of continuity and quality from a single source.

Local operations with a global network

The takeover benefits the two companies and their customers: Vester Elektronik GmbH gains access to a global corporate structure and new resources aimed at increasing its business and developing new markets. With 1,800 employees the world over, the Kistler Group provides the necessary structures and processes for the company, which primarily operates in Germany, to grow. Kistler has branches in 58 locations in more than 30 countries, thereby providing the Vester portfolio access to a global market. Customers in turn will benefit from the Kistler Group’s global service and sales network. Outside managing director at Vester Frank Oppenländer will continue to lead the company and its 80 full-time staff members from the Straubenhardt facility. In the medium term, the site itself and its skilled workforce will be expanded.

Establishment of a centre of excellence for optical measuring technology

By taking over Vester, Kistler is not only acquiring decades of knowledge in the field of test automation and sensor technology: it also facilitates the establishment of a centre of excellence for optical measurement in Germany. “This new technology is the perfect addition to Kistler’s traditional measurement technology. It gives us access to new applications that enable us to meet the demands of new and existing customers even more effectively”, says Rolf Sonderegger, CEO of the Kistler Group.



CEO of the Kistler Group Rolf Sonderegger and the existing owners of Vester Elektronik GmbH, Ulrich Renger and Thomas Vester, are looking forward to successful completion of this acquisition (from right).

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About the Kistler Group

Kistler is the global leader in dynamic measurement technology for measuring pressure, force, torque and acceleration. Cutting-edge technologies provide the basis for Kistler's modular solutions.

Customers in industry and science benefit from Kistler's experience as a development partner, enabling them to optimize their products and processes so as to secure a sustainable competitive edge. The owner-managed Swiss company's unique sensor technology plays a key role in the evolution of automobile development and industrial automation, as well as in numerous emerging sectors. With a broad knowledge of applications and its absolute commitment to quality, Kistler is making an important contribution to the further development of current megatrends. This includes topics such as electrified drive technology, autonomous driving, emission reduction and Industry 4.0.

Some 1800 employees at 58 locations worldwide are dedicated to developing new solutions and offer customized service for individual applications. Since its founding in 1959, Kistler Group has grown along with its customers, generating sales of CHF 358 million in 2016. Approximately 10 % of this went back into research and technology—and thus into achieving better results for all our customers.

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