

Press release

Friedhelm Loh Group

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GROUP

Eplan – Rittal – Kiesling alliance now even more powerful

Friedhelm Loh Group takes over Kuttig

Kuttig Computeranwendungen GmbH, Troisdorf, one of the biggest Autodesk partners in Germany, is now part of the Haiger-based Friedhelm Loh Group. This will create Germany's first centre of excellence for mechatronic CAD (computer-aided design) and PLM (product lifecycle management) solutions within the Eplan – Rittal – Kiesling alliance.

Haiger, 20 June 2013 – The Kuttig takeover is the second software company in the Friedhelm Loh Group's portfolio, alongside Eplan. "The merger between Eplan, a leading specialist in engineering software solutions, and Autodesk expert Kuttig, means that we are now extremely well-placed to tackle the mechatronic requirements of the future and the increasingly important role played by virtual product development", explains Friedhelm Loh, CEO of the Friedhelm Loh Group.

Eplan – currently an Autodesk reseller – will be transferring its mechanics business to its new sister company Kuttig and focusing on the further integration of all related disciplines (mechanics, electrics and software) within the Group. As a result, Kuttig's Autodesk turnover will double, making it the third-largest Autodesk reseller in the German-speaking market, and setting it on track for Autodesk Platinum Partner status.

Eplan CEO Maximilian Brandl, who is responsible for integrating the two companies, views the acquisition of the successful Troisdorf-based systems house as another vital step in the Friedhelm Loh Group's development. The megatrends Mechatronics and Industry 4.0 are particularly significant in this connection: "To create genuine value-added for the customer, we

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need to optimise their entire process. Integrating the three main disciplines (mechanics, electrics and software) is pivotal to this process. Having the experts from Kuttig on board will significantly enhance our position and enable us to drive joint campaigns", explains Brandl.

The founder of the Troisdorf company, Klaus Kuttig, who will continue to head up the business, sees the takeover as an ideal opportunity to secure long-term prospects for the company and its 100-strong workforce. "The merger will strengthen us and broaden our product range, enabling us to take on significantly larger Autodesk projects whilst continuing to specialise in selected application areas."

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Captions

Friedhelm Loh.jpg: "The merger between Eplan, a leading specialist in engineering software solutions, and Autodesk expert Kuttig, means that we are now extremely well-placed to tackle the mechatronic requirements of the future and the increasingly important role played by virtual product development", explains Friedhelm Loh, CEO of the Friedhelm Loh Group.

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Friedhelm Loh Group

A successful global player, the Friedhelm Loh Group (F.L.G.) invents, develops, and produces customised products and system solutions. It is the world's leading producer of enclosures, power distribution, climate control and IT infrastructure; Europe's number one address for software solutions in machine and plant construction and industrial applications (Rittal International) and a source of end-to-end



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production competence with the modern materials steel, aluminium, and plastic (Lometal International). The family-owned company is now active worldwide with 14 production sites, more than 60 subsidiaries and 40 agencies. Still run by their owner, the entire group employs more than 11,000 people and generated revenues of about €2.2 billion in 2012. Further information at www.friedhelm-loh-group.com.

EPLAN Software & Service

EPLAN Software & Service develops engineering solutions designed to accelerate the product generation process. Interdisciplinary expert systems ensure maximum productivity and data continuity. The solution provider develops tailor-made PDM and PLM concepts and provides comprehensive services such as customising, consulting and training. Innovative development competence, a consistently practical approach and an international presence are the keys to its success. EPLAN is owned by Rittal International and part of the Friedhelm Loh Group, with over 11,000 employees worldwide and a turnover of EUR 2.2 billion in 2012. Continuity and investment security are the EPLAN philosophy. 35,000 customers with some 95,000 installations worldwide are supported by seven EPLAN branches in Germany and a presence in 50 countries. "EPLAN – efficient engineering.", the corporate motto, underlines the proficiency of optimised, efficient processes, which support companies in their quest for long-term competitiveness.

Kuttig Computeranwendungen GmbH

KUTTIG Computeranwendungen GmbH, which employs just under a hundred people, is one of the largest Autodesk partners in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, with offices in Troisdorf, Dortmund, Siegen, Aachen and Montabaur. It was recently awarded "Autodesk Factory Specialized" status. Factory design specialisation is granted to Autodesk partners with the requisite knowledge and experience in consulting, implementation and support for factory planning and layouting. <http://www.kuttig.com>