

PRESS RELEASE

**TRIGO TO JOIN FORCES WITH BÖLLINGER IN GERMANY  
WITH ARDIAN'S SUPPORT**

**July 5, 2016, Paris, FR – TRIGO Group, the international provider of operational quality management solutions for manufacturers, has signed an agreement with Franz Böllinger, Founder and Chairman of the BÖLLINGER GROUP, to acquire Böllinger, the Group's automotive quality assurance services subsidiary.**

This marks the latest step in TRIGO's strategy to continue reinforcing its international footprint, following its acquisitions of North America's PIC Group and Spain's Global Q in 2015. This transaction closely follows the acquisition of a majority stake in TRIGO by independent private investment company Ardian.

Since 1989, Böllinger has supported major German and international automotive manufacturers with quality services in their assembly factories and along their supply chain, both domestically and on overseas projects. Historically based in Baden-Württemberg, Böllinger, which today has an approximate annual turnover of €6m, has been particularly active with major German Original Equipment Manufacturers, such as Audi, Porsche, Daimler and BMW, as well as their suppliers. It provides these companies with quality inspection and quality assurance services as well as excellent standards and a long-term partnership approach. Böllinger clients will now be able to benefit from TRIGO's footprint in 22 countries to support their quality needs, either with their supply base or downstream in their international logistics platforms.

TRIGO, the global leader in quality inspection and quality assurance solutions for the automotive and aerospace industries, has been serving German automotive manufacturers across the world for the past 15 years. Until now its activities in Germany have been mainly in the aerospace industry, with offices in Bremen and Hamburg. By joining forces with Böllinger, TRIGO will be able to provide its automotive clients in Germany with a comprehensive portfolio of quality support services and a network of more than 150 quality professionals covering the whole of the country.

Benoit Leblanc, Executive Vice President Europe of TRIGO, said: "TRIGO is proud to join with Böllinger, which shares our values of operational excellence and integrity, to bolster our activities in the automotive sector in Germany. We are excited to welcome Böllinger's teams to our family and will work together with them to provide extra value-added services to TRIGO clients in Germany, as well as to Böllinger clients internationally."

Franz Böllinger, Founder and Chairman of the BÖLLINGER GROUP, added: "Joining TRIGO Group ushers in a new era for existing Böllinger clients, who will now be able to benefit from TRIGO's

significant geographic presence globally.”

The transaction is subject to the approval of the German competition authorities.

## **ABOUT TRIGO GROUP**

Founded in 1997, TRIGO is a multinational company providing operational Quality Management solutions for the manufacturing sector, especially in the transportation industries. With a team of more than 7,000 professionals present in 20+ countries across 4 continents, TRIGO offers a comprehensive portfolio of Quality Inspection, Engineering and Management Services all along the supply chain.

For more information, please visit [www.trigo-group.com](http://www.trigo-group.com)

## **ABOUT BÖLLINGER GROUP**

The BÖLLINGER GROUP, together with its brands HPP, KONCAST and INPECA, located at headquarters in D-74177 Bad Friedrichshall, is a specialist in aluminium sand casting, high-performance machining and 3D printing.

For more information, please visit [www.boellinger-group.com](http://www.boellinger-group.com)

## **ABOUT ARDIAN**

Ardian, founded in 1996 and led by Dominique Senequier, is an independent private investment company with assets of US\$55bn managed or advised in Europe, North America and Asia. The company, which is majority-owned by its employees, keeps entrepreneurship at its heart and delivers investment performance to its global investors while fuelling growth in economies across the world. Ardian’s investment process embodies three values: excellence, loyalty and entrepreneurship.

Ardian maintains a truly global network, with more than 430 employees working through twelve offices in Paris, London, Frankfurt, Milan, Madrid, Zurich, New York, San Francisco, Beijing, Singapore, Jersey and Luxembourg. The company offers its 490 investors a diversified choice of funds covering the full range of asset classes through Ardian Funds of Funds (comprising primary, early secondary and secondary activities), Ardian Private Debt, Ardian Direct Funds (comprising Ardian Mid Cap Buyout, Ardian Expansion, Ardian Growth and Ardian Co-Investment), Ardian Infrastructure, Ardian Real Estate and customized mandate solutions with Ardian Mandates.

[www.ardian.com](http://www.ardian.com)

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