

## COMMUNIQUÉ – ENGLISH

Konolfingen/Wikon, February 20, 2019

**Kern AG, Konolfingen and Hunkeler AG, Wikon, two traditional Swiss companies, have agreed to cooperate more closely in the future - creating synergies benefitting both entities.**

Kern and Hunkeler both offer finishing solutions for data centers and the digital printing industry. In the future, the two companies will be aligning parts of their product pallets. Kern will concentrate on its core solutions which are inserting, software, logistics, packaging and card processing. In the fields of unwinders and roll-to-cut-stack lines, Kern and Hunkeler decided to cooperate. The development and manufacturing of those products will be stopped at Kern, but the company will continue to be responsible for maintaining its installed base.

Hunkeler and Kern are also evaluating the possibility to source selected modules from each other. Hunkeler will not begin to offer inserting solutions and will keep relying on their existing partners in this field. The two sales and service organizations remain separate. Under this cooperation agreement, ownership of both companies will remain unaffected.

The Kern and Hunkeler families are equally delighted with this agreement and the entire Hunkeler team is pleased to welcome Kern as an exhibitor at the Hunkeler Innovationdays in Lucerne from February 25 to 28, 2019.

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## About Kern

For 72 years, Kern AG has developed and manufactured high-quality inserting systems, card processing solutions, digital printer pre- and post-processing technology, logistics- and packaging and ADF (Automated Document Factory) software. Characteristic features of the innovative Kern inserting systems are exceptional user friendliness, reliability, and potential application flexibility paired with modern technologies.

Since its foundation by Marc Kern in 1947, the company has remained a family enterprise; now, in its second generation, it is owned and managed by Uli Kern. With its roots in the Bernese village of Konolfingen, the Swiss company quickly became known beyond the country's borders.

Additional information: [www.kernworld.com](http://www.kernworld.com)

## About Hunkeler

Active in the printing industry since 1922, Hunkeler AG is an owner-managed family business and employs around 280 people around the world.

Hunkeler offers advanced pre and post solutions for digital high-performance printing systems as well as scalable quality assurance systems with web inspection and tracking. The customers are printing companies, banks and insurance companies, publishers, mailrooms as well as printing service providers. Worldwide representations and subsidiaries guarantee a partnership-based and competent support with regard to sales and service everywhere.

Additional information: [www.hunkeler.ch](http://www.hunkeler.ch)