



PRESS RELEASE

AVS Group celebrates 60th anniversary

Leverkusen (Germany), June 2021 - AVS Verkehrssicherung ("AVS"), a portfolio company of Triton Fund IV, celebrates its 60th anniversary this month. The company has its origins in Peter Berghaus GmbH, founded in June 1961 by Peter Berghaus in Kürten near Cologne as a retailer of electrical goods. At the beginning of the 1960s, the trained electrician developed the first radio traffic light and thus created the nucleus for AVS, today one of the largest traffic safety companies in Germany with 930 employees. Together with the leading providers of road safety services in Great Britain, Belgium and the Nordic countries, more than 3,100 experienced employees use their know-how to ensure safety on Europe's roads.

Pioneer in road safety

Peter Berghaus recognized very early on that as traffic volumes increased, so did the demand for safety on the roads. At a time when no one was thinking about traffic safety, Peter Berghaus could not let go of one vision: there should be no more injuries or even deaths on the roads. He worked tirelessly. All he needed was a self-built radio module and the stepping mechanism of a washing machine. "Back then, my mother first had to wash by hand again," Berghaus' son Dieter, now a member of the advisory board of the AVS Group, recalls his father's entrepreneurial beginnings. "If one out of ten ideas is successful, that's fine": Peter Berghaus continued to develop his company according to this credo. The company initially started in the family garage in Oberblissenbach, 25 kilometres north-east of Cologne, but grew quickly. After the development of the radio traffic light, more and more products were added - from crossing control devices to signage and road markings to the first mobile safety barriers developed in-house. They all contribute to securing construction sites in an increasingly professional manner.

Manufacturer and service provider in one

Early on, Peter Berghaus no longer limited himself exclusively to the development of products. He expanded his business model to include service offers and founded M+V GmbH in 1984: through this company he rented out the products he had developed and manufactured himself. Over the years, the AVS subsidiaries emerge from this.

Mobile safety barriers for every application

Peter Berghaus invested heavily in mobile safety barriers: in 1992 he offers a steel model for the first time. He thus laid the foundation for the ProTec series, which is used worldwide today: The products consist of a particularly safe steel-concrete combination, are easy to transport and assemble and are suitable for every construction site application.



Everything from a single source

Whether it's a small road crossing in an urban area or a major project on the motorway - we at AVS are the first to arrive on the construction site and the last to leave. Our clients include, in particular, public authorities and the construction industry. For them, we take on the complete planning and implementation of construction site safety. This includes comprehensive advice and the necessary approval procedure for all traffic safety equipment, as well as installation, maintenance, and dismantling. We set the highest quality standards for our products: Everything we offer our customers has been tested hundreds of times by our teams in the field. "What our clients appreciate about AVS is the experience and reliability of our employees. Pragmatic and service-oriented, we are always available for flexible requirements," says Andreas Schwingeler, COO of the AVS Group.

International expansion

Over the decades, AVS has expanded its presence in Germany and internationally, either by establishing new locations, integrating external partners or cooperating with long-standing partners in Europe. Today, the AVS Group has 35 locations throughout Germany and additional sites in Denmark and Latvia.

Our EU-certified products for traffic safety are in high demand. In 2018, the investment firm Triton invested in the AVS Group. "The company's innovative strength, strong ties with customers and potential in the face of increasing traffic volumes and increasingly dilapidated roads have convinced us to jointly set the course for further international growth. In addition, AVS has a very strong team of good employees, which is enormously important for the previous and also further growth," says Luc Hendriks, Operating Partner at Triton and Chairman of the Board.

With a new investor behind us, we are increasingly striving for further expansion abroad. Under Triton, the leading providers of security services in the area of road transport and other critical infrastructure from the UK (Chevron), Belgium (Fero Group) and the Nordic countries (Ramudden) did merge at the end of 2020. The local expertise, bundling of strengths in digitalization and ESG as well as the more than 3,100 experienced employees of the group set the course for further diversification and international growth. "AVS has played a key role in shaping the development of the traffic safety sector in Germany over the years through its pioneering spirit and innovative strength. Together with Chevron, Fero and Ramudden, this know-how will now also be used across national borders and contribute to the further growth of the entire group," adds Nadia Meier-Kirner, Investment Advisory Professional and Co-Head Business Services.

Impulse generator and networker

Road traffic is becoming increasingly complex, with growing demands on safety, compliance with standards and regulations. "With our targeted use of our products and services for road safety, we ensure that everyone gets through the danger zone of construction sites safely, and that people and the environment are protected and spared," emphasizes Dirk Schönauer, COO International. We are involved in various associations, committees and research groups in Germany and internationally and have a worldwide network of contacts for the improvement of road infrastructure.



Safe and clean roads

For us, sustainability means taking responsibility for people and the environment. We deal with a wide range of sustainability issues in order to always work in accordance with laws and standards and to comply with internal guidelines. To strengthen the sustainability of our company, we initiate activities based on various sustainability criteria, the so-called ESG criteria (Environment - Social - Governance). In terms of safety, we have expanded our employee training offering to include digital training opportunities and opted for new protective clothing to better meet the daily demands on the road. Our sites complete energy audits, alternative energy sources are retrofitted, and new buildings are equipped with state-of-the-art technology. The use of environmentally friendly materials is a central part of our value chain in production and service. Where people work for people and safety is paramount, a wide range of social activities for satisfied employees round off our ESG program.

AVS Group today and tomorrow

What began 60 years ago with the company Peter Berghaus GmbH and with the first radio-controlled construction site traffic lights is today a leading specialist provider of traffic safety services in Germany and Europe. AVS Group is headquartered in Leverkusen and offers all essential services related to road safety projects. In recent years, the service portfolio has been supplemented by in-house expertise in maintenance & control driving, marking work and digital solutions such as LED technology and digital congestion warning systems. "Digitalization has long since arrived in technical road safety - we ensure that there is less congestion, accidents and emissions on the roads through intelligent, networked road safety solutions. We want you to not even notice the roadworks by making traffic flow more predictable, stress-free, safe and environmentally friendly." This is how Hendrik Hucke, CEO of the AVS Group, describes the vision - according to which all employees act under the motto: "We bring safety to the road".

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