

Press release

Niederweningen, 26 January 2011

Strengthening the partnership with Rauch Landmaschinenfabrik, Germany

Bucher Industries is acquiring a 24% minority interest in German-based Rauch Landmaschinenfabrik GmbH for its Kuhn Group division. Rauch is a specialist in fertiliser and winter maintenance spreaders as well as pneumatic seed drills. The company employing 300 people generated sales of EUR 42 million for the 2009/2010 financial year. The interest will be in the form of newly issued capital. The parties have agreed not to disclose the price.

Tillage, seeding and fertilisation are key processes to increase the efficiency of agricultural production. Kuhn and Rauch started working together years ago in a partnership based on the complementary expertise of the two companies. While Rauch is a recognised metering and spreading specialist, Kuhn's expertise lies in tillage, seed drilling and its strong, global sales and distribution network. Bucher's acquisition of an interest is designed to further strengthen the established collaboration in Europe and lay the foundation for successful expansion into countries further afield, particularly in North and South America.

Rauch Landmaschinenfabrik GmbH is a successful family-owned company based in Sinzheim, Germany. By concentrating clearly on its core "metering and spreading" technologies, continuously investing in the business and focusing strongly on the needs of farmers and contractors, Rauch became a European leader in fertiliser spreaders. Together with Kuhn, it entered the market for seeding machinery and has continuously expanded this product line. The three managing directors, members of the Rauch family, run the company with great foresight, the highest standards of product quality and a long-term industrial focus.

Typical of the company's culture is that, in the midst of the recession, Rauch combined its production facilities, previously located at several sites, in one new, state-of-the-art plant at Baden Airpark. Bucher's interest will not affect the management of the business. Operating profitably even in the year of recession, the company generated sales of EUR 41.8 million for the 2009/2010 financial year, ended on 31 July 2010, with 300 employees.

The acquisition of a 24.24% minority interest is still subject to the approval of the German competition authorities. The deal is expected to be completed in early 2011.

Kuhn Group is the world's leading manufacturer of specialised agricultural machinery, with focus on hay and forage harvesting, livestock feeding, bedding and tillage. It has manufacturing facilities located in France, the Netherlands, the USA and Brazil. Kuhn Group markets its products on five continents and generated sales of CHF 948 million in 2009 with some 3 150 employees.

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Simply great machines

In 2007, Bucher Industries celebrated its 200th anniversary commemorating its successful evolution from a blacksmith's shop to a global technology group with leading market positions in speciality areas of mechanical and vehicle engineering. The company's operations currently include specialised agricultural machinery, municipal vehicles, hydraulic components, manufacturing equipment for the glass container industry, and wine and fruit juice production equipment. Bucher Industries' shares are traded on the SIX Swiss Exchange (SIX: BUCN). More information can be found at www.bucherind.com.