

## **Press Release**

### **JOST acquires Rockinger in Munich**

Neu-Isenburg, 18.1.2001 – With effect from 1.4.2001 JOST Holding GmbH is taking over Rockinger Spezialfabrik für Anhängerkupplungen GmbH & Co in Munich and Rockinger Anhängerkupplungen GmbH in Wechmar from the Rockinger family and Deutsche Beteiligungs AG. Rockinger Vertriebs GmbH, which is responsible for the after-sales in Germany and Poland, will join the JOST group as of 1.1.2002. Together with Rockinger, JOST will further increase its lead in the market for components, modules and systems for tractors and trailers.

Rockinger was founded in 1875 in Munich and is a manufacturer of towing hitches, fifth wheels and couplings for farming and forestry vehicles, with two factories in Germany. Rockinger is the global leader in the field of towing hitches for commercial vehicles.

JOST has been a well-known manufacturer of truck and trailer products since 1952. Today, JOST is the world leader in its field - in particular fifth wheel couplings and telescopic landing gear. JOST develops, manufactures and markets its products for tractors, semitrailers, trailers and components for intermodal transport for the global market at 13 locations across all continents. The investors of the ALPHA group took over a majority stake in JOST in 1998.

"By taking over Rockinger we are extending our product range with additional high-quality products as a means of satisfying our customers' stringent demands for quality in the field of articulated vehicles. This acquisition also serves to strengthen our competitiveness and to further develop our company," said Lars Brorsen, Chairman of the Management Board.

Rockinger's Director, Roman Malisch, is also positive about the development: "With their complementary strengths the amalgamation of the two globally-renowned brands Rockinger and JOST puts this group in an excellent competitive position. It provides our customers with a comprehensive range of top quality products and gives our employees a future with good prospects."

Total sales of the new group will be more than DM 500 million. The Rockinger brand will continue to be managed separately within the JOST group.

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