

## **VGP develops new business park in Wiesloch/Walldorf**

**Düsseldorf/Wiesloch/Walldorf, 14.01.2021** – Today, the VGP Group, a European provider of high-quality logistics and commercial real estate, presented first plans for the newly to be developed industrial and business park at Wiesloch/Walldorf near Heidelberg at the headquarters of Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG.

The park will be built on an area of around 130,000 m<sup>2</sup>. VGP acquired the property from the traditional company Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG at the end of December 2020. The area in Wiesloch/Walldorf impresses with its excellent connection to the transport infrastructure and its strategic favorable location in the Rhine-Neckar metropolitan region near the cities of Heidelberg, Speyer and Mannheim.

For Jan Van Geet, the CEO of VGP, the acquisition of the property is another important milestone in the company's expansion: "With the acquisition of this unique property, we are continuing our road to success in Germany." Van Geet appreciates the trust that has been placed in VGP by the two cities of Wiesloch and Walldorf: "VGP was received very warmly by the local municipalities. We will do everything we can to be a good neighbor." "We believe that converting existing industrial areas into new commercial areas makes a lot of sense in terms of sustainability", continues Van Geet.

VGP plans to strategically realign the currently still brownfield area and develop it in accordance with the city's plans. The first building applications are to be submitted as early as February 2021. Subject to all approvals, the construction of the first buildings is to begin in 2021 and will offer almost 70,000 m<sup>2</sup> of lettable space after completion. VGP always strives for a diversified tenant structure in its parks. Thus, the park in Wiesloch/Walldorf will not only be aimed at customers from the manufacturing and production sector, but will also offer tailor-made solutions for large companies and rent out small units of approx. 1,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

Darius Scheible, one of the two managing directors of VGP in Germany, is very pleased with the group's commitment: "We are delighted that we are developing our first park here in Baden-Württemberg and, thus, can contribute to economic development in the region. Based on experience with comparable projects, we expect that around 300-500 jobs will be created here after completion."

VGP takes sustainability seriously. All properties built by VGP meet the requirements for energy-efficient and sustainable construction. Daniel Sigmann, also Germany CEO of VGP group, emphasises that these parameters will also play an important role in Wiesloch/Walldorf: "We will base the development of the park on the requirements for energy-efficient and sustainable construction of the German Sustainable Building Council and aim to obtain a DGNB Silver certification for the park. The roofs of the to be developed halls are to be equipped with photovoltaic systems."

The seller of the site, Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG, is also convinced of the planned project approach: "As part of our transformation, we are consistently positioning Wiesloch/Walldorf as a location for research, development and production of sophisticated and forward-looking high-end technology solutions. For us it is crucial that on the now sold site, which we no longer need, something new and forward-looking is created quickly with the modern commercial and industrial park of the VGP Group - with qualified, good jobs for the people in the region and with synergies with Heidelberg's capabilities," says Rainer Hundsdoerfer, CEO of Heidelberg Druckmaschinen AG.

Support for the newly emerging VGP Park also comes from Dirk Elkemann, Mayor of the City of Wiesloch, and Christiane Staab, Mayor of the City of Walldorf: "After initial discussions, we are very confident that we have found a competent and professional partner in VGP. Together we will set up an outstanding project for our mid-sized centre."

The project will be the 32nd park of the VGP Group in Germany. VGP is already represented in the region in Frankenthal and Bobenheim-Roxheim. In Europe, the family-owned company, which is based in Antwerp, Belgium, now operates 77 parks in twelve countries.

Sustainability and energy efficiency are key parameters for the commercial properties developed by VGP. The company has launched and implemented numerous initiatives in recent months. These include the launch of VGP Renewable Energy, a new separate business unit wholly owned by VGP N.V., to use the available roof space on VGP parks for photovoltaic systems and modern energy technologies. The company aims to certify all newly constructed buildings with the DGNB (German Sustainable Building Council) / BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) certification. In 2019, the VGP Foundation was also established.

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR POTENTIAL RENTERS

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## About VGP

VGP is a pan-European developer, manager and owner of high-quality logistics and semiindustrial real estate. VGP operates a fully integrated business model with capabilities and longstanding expertise across the value chain. The company has a development land bank (owned or committed) of 7.48 million m<sup>2</sup> and the strategic focus is on the development of business parks. Founded in 1998 as a family-owned real estate developer in the Czech Republic, VGP with a staff of around 300 employees today owns and operates assets in 12 European countries directly and through its joint ventures VGP European Logistics, VGP European Logistics 2 and VGP Park München. As of June 2020, the Gross Asset Value of VGP, including the joint ventures at 100%, amounted to €3.23 billion and the company had a Net Asset Value (EPRA NAV) of €1,079 million. VGP is listed on Euronext Brussels and on the Prague Stock Exchange (ISIN: BE0003878957).

For more information, please visit: <http://www.vgpparks.eu>

## **About Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG**

Heidelberg Druckmaschinen Aktiengesellschaft is a reliable and highly innovative partner to the global printing industry. For more than 170 years we have stood for quality and future viability. With a market share of more than 40 percent for sheet-fed offset presses, the company was able to consolidate its position as the printing industry's market and technology leader in the current financial year as well. Consolidated sales amounted to almost € 2.35 billion in the financial year 2019/2020. Together with the sales partners, around 11,000 employees in total at 250 production sites in 170 countries around the globe ensure the implementation of our customers' requirements and our continuous development on the market.

For more information: [www.heidelberg.com](http://www.heidelberg.com)