

## PRESS RELEASE

### St. Nicholas Day coffee event at the Arntz Optibelt Group

# Höxter, 6 December 2023. At the Arntz Optibelt Group's traditional St. Nicholas Day coffee event for former employees, the company honoured colleagues who were celebrating long-service anniversaries this year.

The Group's annual St. Nicholas coffee event took place at the headquarters in Höxter. The Chairman of the Management Board (CEO), Reinhold Mühlbeyer, took the opportunity to talk about the 2023 financial year and the future focus of the Arntz Optibelt Group.

The weak economic conjecture with only slowly decreasing inflation rates, rapidly growing interest rates and a decline in demand among many market participants has affected the Arntz Optibelt Group, and still does today. The 2023 turnover will therefore be slightly below the 2022 figures. We will however continue to push strategic projects. The further development of our global production capabilities and sales points as well as investments in digitalisation and sustainability will continue to strengthen our position on the market.

However, we are called to tackle not only the challenges facing our business but also to address the issues facing society as a whole. This is why this year, the Arntz Optibelt has decided to support non-profit organisations in the region.

#### Honouring long-standing employees

This year again, the Arntz Optibelt Group was able to honour numerous long-serving employees from all divisions of the company for their dedication. In 2023, a total of 50 employees are celebrating their company anniversary at the Arntz Optibelt Group in Höxter. Four of them can look back at an impressive 40 years of service with the company: Karl-Heinz Koch, Karl-Josef Sigges, Rudolf Kaczmarek, and Elisabeth Finke. A total of 17 employees can look back on a quarter of a century at the company in Höxter, while another 29 employees have been with the company for ten years.

#### **Apprenticeship start 2023**

The training of its own skilled personnel and managers is one of the aspects that stands out in the corporate history of Optibelt. Starting early in August, the new apprenticeship year 2023 began with 15 apprentices and work-study students at the Höxter site. In addition to the range of apprenticeships on offer, the corporate group offers exciting job opportunities in a wide variety of specialist fields.

#### **About Optibelt**

The Arntz Optibelt Group is one of the leading global manufacturers of high performance drive belts and develops sophisticated drive and product solutions for use in mechanical engineering, the automotive industry, agricultural machinery, household appliances and the medical sector. The familyrun company controls eight production sites in six countries from its headquarters in Höxter and maintains its own logistics and sales centres in Europe, North and South America, Asia, North Africa, Australia and New Zealand. Worldwide more than 2400 employees provide the best possible service, excellent customer proximity and the highest quality and safety standards.

https://www.optibelt.com/

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Image: Photo credit: Arntz Optibelt Group.

<u>Caption:</u> This year, numerous employees were honored again.