



COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

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Watts Tyre Group announce acquisition by Trelleborg A/S

Watts Tyre Group have been acquired by Swedish group Trelleborg A/S in a deal announced to the Swedish Stock Market on 24.11.2010.

Watts Tyre Group Chief Executive Jean Paul Mindermann commented “this is a very significant move which secures the long term future of Watts in the industrial tyre market. Trelleborg are a business based on the highest principles and ethics whilst our respective geographic portfolios make this an excellent fit for two global businesses.”

“When we took control of Watts Tyre Group via a management buyout in 2009 the intention was to secure the business, attract investment and grow whilst retaining a focus on the industrial tyre and wheel market – this strengthens all of those as well as giving the business the financial backing of being part of a major multinational company.

The last 12 months have seen us grow the business organically whilst retaining profitability in the face of the worst global financial crisis in 70 years. We have successfully launched our service division Interfit which will now develop further internationally. Myself and my fellow board members will remain with the organisation in key management roles; the success of Watts Tyre Group was built on the three pillars of world class staff, products and customers and we aim to maintain that whilst providing continuity wherever possible.”

The deal is subject to regulatory approval and is expected to be concluded in Q1 of 2011.

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