



GEA completes additional measure to optimize the Business Area Solutions

In November, GEA sold de Klokslag to Evert Untema and Jan Dijkema. De Klokslag, which is one of Europe's leading manufacturers of large-scale plants for hard and semi hard cheese, has roughly 80 employees and, according to the latest figures, generates an annual revenue of around EUR 15 million.

The parties have agreed not to disclose any details of the transaction. Apart from this divestment, there are currently no plans to sell any other companies within the cheese processing segment. GEA will continue providing process solutions for cheese producers.

"Following detailed analysis as part of the ongoing restructuring of the current Business Area Solutions, we decided to sell the de Klokslag. In light of their current business model, we expect greater potential for a more successful development of the business for all parties involved, independent of the Group. We have thus completed a further measure for the sustainable optimization of the Business Area Solutions," said Stefan Klebert, CEO of GEA Group Aktiengesellschaft. ♦

Helmut Korthöber named Chief Service Officer of GEA Farm Technologies division

The new three-member Management Board of the GEA Farm Technologies division have all officially been appointed: Peter Lauwers will transfer from Atlas Copco to GEA on February 1, 2020, and assume the position of CEO. He will be joined by Helmut Korthöber, who assumed the newly created position of Chief Service Officer (CSO) for GEA Farm Technologies division as of November 1, 2019. Erkul Basaran, who has worked successfully for GEA for more than eight years – most recently as Head of Finance – was appointed CFO of the division already in September of this year.



Helmut Korthöber, Chief Service Officer (CSO), GEA Farm Technologies division.

The new GEA divisional structure, which has been introduced gradually since October 1, will take effect officially on January 1, 2020. Each of the five divisions will be led by a Management Board consisting of a CEO, a CFO and a CSO. The creation of the CSO function for each division underlines GEA's commitment to customers and their service needs, with the service business contributing roughly 31 percent to GEA's overall sales in 2018.

The 51-year-old Korthöber who is married and has three children, studied at the University of Kiel where he graduated with a degree in agricultural engineering in economics and social sciences. Korthöber comes from the globally active agricultural machinery manufacturer John Deere, where he held various sales positions beginning in 1997, and most recently Director Marketing and Strategic Planning since 2014, gaining extensive sales management experience in various European countries. ♦