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KS Kolbenschmidt and Riken form strategic Global Alliance

KS Kolbenschmidt GmbH, a company of German Rheinmetall AG and Riken Corporation (“Riken”), market leaders in piston and piston ring technology respectively, announce that they are forming a global strategic alliance for the sales, engineering and development of power cylinder systems.

The joint development of power cylinder systems will be orientated towards the reduction of CO₂ emissions, the improvement of reliability and the reduction in the total cost of ownership for light and heavy duty engines, in both automotive and industrial markets. KS Kolbenschmidt and Riken will be coordinating and where required, combining their regional sales, engineering and technical support functions to optimize power cylinder system solutions for their joint, global OEM customer base.

KS Kolbenschmidt and Riken are building on their already existing partnership in India, where both companies are joint-venture partners in Shriram Pistons and Rings Limited, to include co-operation in China, where they have signed a Letter of Intent to form a piston ring joint-venture based at an existing Riken facility in Wuhan, Hubei province.

About KSPG

The KSPG Group (Kolbenschmidt Pierburg), which represents the Mobility sector within the Rheinmetall Group, has annual sales of €2.45 billion (2014) and ranks among the 100 biggest auto-industry suppliers worldwide. Some 11,000 employees at around 40 production plants in Europe, the Americas, Japan, India and China develop and manufacture components, modules and assemblies for the drive systems of present and future vehicles.

This first-tier supplier, present on the international automotive markets, consists of three divisions: Hardparts, Mechatronics, and Aftermarket. Clustered under the Kolbenschmidt brand is the business of KSPG's Hardparts division comprising car and commercial vehicle pistons, large-bore pistons, engine blocks, cylinder heads, and structural parts in aluminum. Also included are other castings, plain bearings and continuous castings.

Under the Pierburg brand, KSPG's Mechatronics division specializes in modules and assemblies for emission control, solenoid valves, actuators and valve train systems, oil, water and vacuum pumps for cars, trucks and offroad vehicles.

Last but not least, under its Motorservice brand the Aftermarket division embraces the global aftermarket business in group brands and other products in over 130 countries. As a foremost supplier of engine components Motorservice offers its customers an extensive lineup of engine parts all from a single source.

About Riken

Riken Corporation is a publicly traded company with its headquarters in Tokyo and annual sales of JPY75billion (2013). The company was founded in 1927 and produces a broad portfolio of products, with an emphasis on engine and vehicle components, including piston rings, seal rings, camshafts, valve seats/lifters and chassis castings. Riken Corporation has about 4,000 employees worldwide, with 9 off-shore manufacturing operations in 8 countries outside of Japan.