

### **BENTELER successfully closes fiscal year 2021, current focus is on mitigating economic impact of Ukraine conflict**

- **2021 successfully mastered: BENTELER significantly increases revenue and EBITDA.**
- **Transformation and improvement programs consistently driven forward in both divisions: Product range optimized and footprint adapted.**
- **Next phase of the BENTELER transformation: continuous improvement of competitiveness, product portfolio and processes.**
- **Outlook 2022: Effects of Ukraine conflict uncertain, BENTELER responds with agility and resilience – focus is on maintaining supply chains as best as possible and supporting affected people.**

**Salzburg / Paderborn, March 29, 2022.** BENTELER successfully mastered the challenging year 2021 - characterized by price increases in energy and material costs, the global semiconductor shortage and high market volatility. Despite the market conditions, the company significantly increased both sales, from 6.4 to 7.3 billion euros, and EBITDA, from 160 million euros to around 330 million euros, in 2021 compared to the previous year.

Ralf Göttel, CEO of the BENTELER Group, summarizes the year 2021: "The past year was characterized by a volatile market environment. What we experienced during this time was certainly not included in any annual planning. Not even in ours. Nevertheless, we have proven ourselves to be a relevant partner to the automotive industry. Our customers trust us and awarded us a record level of order intake in the previous year. At the same time, we successfully continued our transformation. We further strengthened our core competencies by optimizing our product portfolio, processes and global footprint accordingly. BENTELER gained speed by working both internally and in new collaborations with external partners. We are using this momentum to respond quickly and flexibly to changes in the market and new customer needs."

#### **Focus of the next phase of transformation: continuous improvement of competitiveness, product portfolio and processes**

BENTELER initiated a comprehensive transformation program in 2018 with the aim of achieving long-term profitable growth by significantly increasing efficiency and competitiveness throughout the company. Following, at the end of 2020, the successful refinancing agreement that will run until 2024, the company's focus is on the operational implementation of the agreed measures. In the past year, these included the rapid implementation of countermeasures for unexpected challenges such as the microchip crisis, coronavirus or rising inflation, short-term flexibilization of personnel costs and tighter cost control.

As Ralf Göttel points out: "In 2021, we have shown that we can adapt quickly and flexibly to a

disruptive market environment. We have strengthened our position as a relevant, reliable partner to the industry. Thanks to the consistent transformation of recent years, we can now focus on moving into a phase of continuous improvement."

### **Outlook 2022: Effects of the Ukraine conflict uncertain, BENTELER responds with agility and resilience**

The company has been able to increase its resilience by consistently implementing its transformation program. This ability helps in volatile markets and in the event of disruptions. The war in Ukraine is the latest, shocking example. "We are all following the current situation with deep sorrow. War only knows victims. We condemn acts of war, stand by basic democratic and constitutional principles and live our humanistic values. My special thanks – on behalf of the entire company – go to all BENTELER employees. Many have committed themselves in different, spontaneous and unbureaucratic ways to help the victims of this war," says Ralf Göttel.

The war has direct economic effects on BENTELER as well. In many cases, supply chains in the automotive industry have been interrupted. This affects customer call-offs and thus production at BENTELER plants – especially in Europe. The company is working intensively to mitigate these effects.

"Stable political conditions are a basic prerequisite for successful economic activity. If this is not, or no longer, the case, agility, flexibility and resilience are required," says Ralf Göttel: "We are working on strengthening these capabilities. In doing so, we can rely on our employees. Together as a team, we will master the challenges ahead – from transformation to digitization to sustainability. We want to shape a culture that is characterized by our corporate values – the courage to break new ground, the ambition to strive for top performance every day, and respect in our interactions with one another. I see this as a very important contribution to the future. For ourselves, for our customers, for society."

#### Photo and caption:

Ralf-Goettel\_BENTELER-CEO.jpg: Ralf Göttel has been Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the BENTELER Group since April 2017. He recently extended his contract until 2026.

## Press release

**Contact:**

BENTELER Group  
Birgit Held  
Vice President Corporate Communications/Marketing  
Phone: +49 89 3740 8137 / Mobile: +49 162 2427 264  
E-Mail: [public.relations@benteler.com](mailto:public.relations@benteler.com)

Harald Weber  
Head of Media Relations  
Tel.: +43 662 2283 101047 / Mobile: +43 664 8235 605  
E-Mail: [public.relations@benteler.com](mailto:public.relations@benteler.com)

**About BENTELER**

BENTELER is a global company serving customers in automotive technology, the energy sector and mechanical engineering. As metal processing specialists, we develop, produce and distribute safety-related products, systems and services worldwide. In the 2021 financial year, Group revenues were €7.285 billion. Under the management of the strategic holding BENTELER International AG, headquartered in Salzburg, Austria, the Group is organized into the Divisions BENTELER Automotive and BENTELER Steel/Tube. Our around 25,000 employees at 92 locations in 27 countries offer first-class manufacturing and distribution competence – all dedicated to delivering a first-class service wherever our customers need us. BENTELER. The family of driven professionals. Since 1876.

[www.benteler.com](http://www.benteler.com)



**About BENTELER Automotive**

BENTELER Automotive is the development partner for the world's leading automobile manufacturers. With around 22,000 employees and more than 70 plants in about 25 countries we develop tailored solutions for our customers. Our products include components and modules in the areas of chassis, body, engine and exhaust systems, as well as solutions for electric vehicles.