

The Swiss Automotive Group and the AUTONET Group have joined forces for the future

Cham/Satu Mare, 11 December 2015 – **The Swiss Automotive Group (SAG) has acquired a stake in the AUTONET Group, which operates in eastern Europe. The previous owners of the AUTONET Group as well as the existing management will remain in their current positions.**

SAG has acquired a stake in the AUTONET Group, which is active in the independent automotive spare parts market and focuses on the Romanian and Hungarian markets. The major objective is to reinforce the Group's leading position in the Romanian market and to continue its strong growth in the Hungarian market. The package of services offered to customers will further be expanded. The AUTONET Group will continue to operate under its brand names that are very well-known in eastern Europe: Autonet, Lubexpert, Forsius, Garage Assist and Network Systems.

The previous owners of the AUTONET Group will continue to own a stake in the Group for the long term. They will work together with the existing management team to ensure the Group's successful further development.

Both Groups operate independently in their existing markets.

The transaction is subject to approval by anti-trust authorities.

About SAG

With an annual turnover of more than CHF 500 m, the Swiss Automotive Group is one of the largest suppliers of spare car parts in Europe. It serves its customers via its independent subsidiaries Derendinger AG, Technomag AG, Matik AG, E. Klaus AG and Wälchli & Bollier AG in Switzerland, Derendinger Handels GmbH in Austria, Matik Handels GmbH and Hella Ersatzteilhandel GmbH in Austria and Slovenia, as well as Remco Belgium NV in Belgium with over 500 delivery vehicles and more than 100 branches. As a single supplier for all requirements, it offers original replacement parts for motorcycles, cars and commercial vehicles of all brands and models as well as all services in the garage trade. The range of products includes 250,000 different items. The Swiss Automotive Group employs over 2000 members of staff.

About AUTONET

Autonet is one of the leading distributors in the independent automotive aftermarket in Eastern Europe. The Autonet Group employs around 1,500 people and has an annual turnover of more than EUR 270 million. The group includes the companies Autonet Import Romania, Hungary and Slovenia (spare parts and services for garages); Lubexpert Romania, Hungary and Slovakia (lubricants); Forsius (paints for motor vehicles); Garage Assist (workshop equipment); Network Systems (IT services). Customers are supplied from 3 distribution centres and 61 stores several times a day. More than 400 customers are actively included in the 11 different Autonet workshop concepts. Autonet was founded in June 1996 and will celebrate its 20th anniversary next year.

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