Press release

ALPLA Werke Alwin Lehner GmbH & Co KG

**ALPLA: biggest acquisition in the history of the company**

Boxmore Packaging, with headquarters in Johannesburg, South Africa, will become a fully owned subsidiary of the Austrian packaging specialist ALPLA

*Hard/Johannesburg, 7 July 2017 – ALPLA, a leading provider of plastic packaging worldwide, has bought an African market leader in the form of Boxmore Packaging. The company, headquartered in Samrand, Johannesburg, specialises in PET pre-forms, PET bottles and closures, and currently employs around 1,000 members of staff at nine locations.*

‘The African continent is an attractive growth market for us. With the purchase of Boxmore Packaging, we now also have a broad basis for entering the market in South Africa, in addition to our activities with ALPLA TABA in North Africa’, says ALPLA CEO Günther Lehner. ALPLA has acquired 100% of Boxmore Packaging. All employees and locations are being taken on by ALPLA, although it has been decided that the management structure will remain the same. The current board, under the leadership of Len Engelbrecht (Boxmore CEO), will continue to manage the existing Boxmore business, and in addition, take on responsibility for the integration and management of the existing ALPLA SA business. For the foreseeable future the company will continue to operate under the existing name as a member of the ALPLA Group.

**Leaders in South Africa**Founded in 1995, Boxmore Packaging is seen as the market leader for PET pre-forms and bottles (ISBM technology), as well as closures, in southern Africa. Its headquarters are located in the industrial zone of Samrand near the South African city of Johannesburg. Around 1,000 employees currently manufacture approximately 4 billion of the aforementioned products each year at nine production locations. The customers of Boxmore Packaging are situated in more than 20 African countries, as well as on the islands in the Indian Ocean.

‘Both the products and customer structure of Boxmore Packaging suit our corporate structure very well’, emphasised Christoph Riedlsperger, ALPLA’s Regional Director for Africa, Middle East and Turkey. The active customer base includes numerous international consumer goods companies and long-term customers of ALPLA, but also local customers previously unknown to ALPLA. ‘With this acquisition, the biggest in the history of the company, we are taking a significant step towards our targets on the African continent,’ says Günther Lehner.

Len Engelbrecht is delighted with this strategic partnership saying, “Our combined ambition to prioritise growth in Africa is a very exciting opportunity and one that we’ll be exploring through Boxmore’s current footprint, and existing relationships in Sub-Saharan Africa.”

The takeover was signed on 5th of July 2017, implementation remains subject to the required legal and regulatory approval by the competition authorities. The contract parties have reached a confidentiality agreement regarding the financial details.

**ALPLA in Africa**

ALPLA has operated a production location in Johannesburg since 2014. At the end of 2015, ALPLA took over the Egyptian location of Argo S.A. in El Obour. In March 2016, ALPLA strengthened its market presence in North Africa and the Middle East through a joint venture with the Egyptian Taba Group. Since early 2017, the company has operated under the name ALPLA TABA. In spring 2017, ALPLA TABA opened a new location in 10th of Ramadan City that meets state-of-the-art production standards. With the locations of Boxmore Packaging, ALPLA now owns 13 production facilities in Africa.

**Further information:** [**www.alpla.com**](http://www.alpla.com)

**Fact box:**

Company: Boxmore Packaging

Headquarters: Samrand, Johannesburg – South Africa

Foundation: 1995

Locations: 9 (1 Mauritius (Indian Ocean), 1 Zambia, all others
 in South Africa)

Employees: 1,000

Products: Specialised in plastic packaging, in particular PET pre-forms, PET bottles and closures for drinks bottles

Market segments: Mainly for drinks, but also food, home and personal care, pharmaceutical products, chemicals

Technologies: ISBM and injection moulding

**About ALPLA:**

ALPLA is one of the leading companies in the field of packaging solutions and is renowned throughout the world for producing plastic packaging of the highest quality. Around 18,300 employees at 172 locations across 45 countries produce high-quality packaging for brands in the food, beverage, cosmetics and cleaning industries. ALPLA celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2015.

**Image texts:**

**ALPLA-Akquise-Boxmore-Afrika.jpg:** ALPLA, leading global provider of plastic packaging, acquired full ownership of the company Boxmore Packaging, headquartered in Samrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, at the start of July 2017. Len Engelbrecht (CEO Boxmore), Günther Lehner (CEO ALPLA) and Christoph Riedlsperger (Regional Director for Africa, Middle East and Turkey ALPLA), from left to right.

**ALPLA-Akquisition-Boxmore-Engelbrecht-Lehner.jpg:** Len Engelbrecht, CEO Boxmore (left), and Günther Lehner, CEO ALPLA (right).

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