

PRESS RELEASE

Bactoforce acquired by Dutch quality assurance specialist

Bactoforce, the European market leader for integrity inspections in the liquid food sector, joins forces with QLIP, a Dutch specialist in quality assurance & control in the dairy industry. The acquisition marks an important strategic milestone for QLIP in expanding its service portfolio and geographical footprint in Europe, while at the same time strengthening Bactoforce in its continued growth.

On March 1st 2022, QLIP's mother company MLZ Holding acquired the majority of the shares in Bactoforce International A/S and is thereby taking a step forward in creating a TIC company (Testing, Inspection, Certification) dedicated to serving the liquid food industry in Europe and beyond.

Having both their origins and main activities in the dairy sector, the two companies share important characteristics, while at the same time having each their unique strengths. This combination is a perfect match and a strong foundation for both companies' future ambitions and the expectation is also that significant strategic synergies can be realized over the coming years.

Digitalization, application of digital technologies and data-based customer value propositions is becoming increasingly important as a TIC service provider in the food industry. QLIP has over the past 10 years built up strong IT competences on the basis of its current role in supply chain in the Dutch dairy industry and can use this competence to bring Bactoforce several steps forward on this digital journey.

Bactoforce has over the past 25 years built up a broad customer portfolio in the European liquid food sector. The strategic target is focused on continued growth and market expansion, and from a QLIP perspective this market presence will become an important stepping stone for increasing its geographical footprint.

The operating activities will continue under the existing organizations, name and branding.

The acquisition also marks the exit for two of the existing owners in Bactoforce, Eigil Appel Pedersen (founder and chairman) and Jørgen Haaning Andersen.

Statements

Eigil Appel Pedersen, Chairman/ Founder (Bactoforce):

“Bactoforce was started nearly 30 years ago and has over the years developed from a one-man company in Silkeborg to an international organization. I am pleased to see that the activities can be strengthened and further developed in the hands of a company that is equally devoted to ensuring quality in the dairy and food industry”

Jan Bobbink, CEO (QLIP & MLZ Holding):

“Bactoforce is the right fit for QLIP’s strategy. Bactoforce is a unique market leading company in integrity inspections which strengthens QLIP’s inspection services and expands our business scope in Europe. Bactoforce and QLIP are both independent service providers, the ideal combination to support stakeholders in the liquid food processing sector, in securing and strengthening their quality assurance & control and the prevention of food safety risks”.

Nils Jacob Haaning, CEO (Bactoforce):

“In joining the QLIP organization, Bactoforce becomes part of a financially strong, competent and ambitious TIC company with the roots in the same industry as ourself. I see this as an opportunity to develop the business concept and activities to the benefit of our customers, while at the same time providing exiting new perspectives for our employees. I look forward to growing the company further in partnership with QLIP”.

Facts

QLIP (based in Zutphen, Holland) is specialized in quality assurance & control through offering testing, inspection and certification services to the dairy sector predominantly in Holland. The services are focused on the entire dairy supply chain from the farms, during the transport of raw milk and processing of milk in dairy processing facilities to the final dairy products in the store. The company employs 265 people.

Bactoforce (based in Silkeborg, Denmark) is specialized in offering integrity inspections of processing equipment in the liquid food industry to participate in ensuring product quality by providing information about the hygienic condition of production equipment such as tanks, heat exchangers, pipes, etc.

The company employs approximately 60 people internationally and have activities mainly across Europe.

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