

**PRESS RELEASE**

From VTK A/S and Aktum A/S

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## VTK A/S acquires Aktum A/S and strengthens both companies' positions in the Danish market

VTK A/S has entered into an agreement to acquire 100% of the shares in Aktum A/S. The acquisition brings together two companies that complement each other well, both geographically and in terms of product range.

VTK A/S currently has a particularly strong position in Jutland, while Aktum A/S has a particularly strong position on Zealand. The combination therefore gives the two companies an even stronger overall geographical presence and an even better platform from which to serve customers throughout Denmark.

At the same time, there is significant overlap in the companies' product ranges and supplier bases. Both companies offer a broad range of consumables to professional customers, but with different areas of particular strength. Aktum A/S has a particularly strong position in consumables for, among others, the HoReCa segment and public institutions, while also holding a solid position within cleaning and other hygiene solutions. VTK A/S has a particularly strong position in consumables for cleaning and other hygiene solutions, while also holding a solid position in consumables for, among others, the HoReCa segment.

The combination therefore creates the basis for an even broader product range and a stronger overall platform for the companies' customers.

**Kristian Hermann Kristiansen, CEO of VTK A/S, comments:**

*"Peter Bergman and I have had many good and constructive conversations over the past couple of years, and along the way it has become clear that VTK and Aktum share many of the same values. This applies to our approach to customers, the way we run our businesses and our ambitions for the future.*

*VTK and Aktum are both strong companies in their own right, each with their own strengths, but together we can become even better. For our customers, this means that we can leverage the expertise and strengths of both companies across the combined business, offer an even broader product range and provide an even stronger overall service.*

*We can learn from each other and build on what already works well in both companies – and that is what I am particularly looking forward to,"* says Kristian Hermann Kristiansen.

Over many years, Aktum A/S has built a strong business and close relationships with both customers and suppliers. It has therefore been important to Peter Bergman to find a new owner capable of carrying the business forward and continuing its development.

**Peter Bergman, CEO of Aktum A/S, comments:**

*"For me, it has been important to find a company that shares Aktum's core values – both in relation to customers and employees. VTK is not only an exceptionally well-run company, but also a 100% Danish-owned family business, and this has been an important factor in my decision to sell to VTK.*

*I look forward to being part of the combined business and helping to build further on the strong foundation that has been created in both companies, thereby creating an even better and stronger future for the combined company.*

*At the same time, I am very conscious that a merger also means changes for some of Aktum's employees, and naturally this is not without some sadness. However, this does not change my belief that VTK is the right owner to take Aktum forward and create a strong shared foundation for the future."*

Following the acquisition, Aktum A/S's activities will gradually be integrated into VTK A/S. The ambition is to combine the best of the two companies and create an even stronger supplier of consumables to professional customers across a wide range of industries.

**For further information:**

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