

PRESS RELEASE

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**Growth market Smart Factory:****Acquisition of AXOOM expertise and partnership with TRUMPF strengthens GFT's industry strategy**

- Industry experts of TRUMPF subsidiary AXOOM became part of GFT as of 1 July 2019
- Partnership with high-tech company TRUMPF focusing on further development of machine software solutions for growing Smart Factory market
- Acquisition underlines GFT's investment strategy, accelerating and broadening the company's industry drive
- Germany is core location for diversification in industrial sector; AXOOM's site in Karlsruhe to become a further GFT location
- GFT's in-depth IT and industry expertise assisting companies in various industrial segments with the digitalisation of their business

Stuttgart, 2 July 2019 – GFT Technologies SE today announced an agreement to acquire the expertise of TRUMPF subsidiary AXOOM and enter into a development partnership with TRUMPF. With effect from 1 July, GFT took over AXOOM's experts in Karlsruhe with their cross-segment IT and industry expertise. Moreover, GFT's long-standing cooperation with TRUMPF has been strengthened by the establishment of a development partnership.

This strategic milestone represents an acceleration of GFT's industry drive and an expansion of its industrial expertise, as well as the addition of a new location in Karlsruhe. GFT's in-depth IT and industry expertise will assist companies in various industrial segments with the digitalisation of their business. GFT offers comprehensive consulting and implementation services in the field of future-oriented technologies – from cloud engineering to artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things for Industry 4.0.

Joint projects with TRUMPF will focus on the rapid further development of machine software to facilitate the implementation of networked production and Smart Factory solutions. TRUMPF will also continue to use the AXOOM brand in this context.

Industrial sector is a growth market for GFT

GFT's growth strategy includes a diversification of its sector and client structure. The main focus here is on the industrial sector, in which GFT already works together with key clients.

Marika Lulay, CEO of GFT Technologies, states: "The acquisition of the AXOOM team is part of our investment strategy for the expansion of industry expertise, whilst the development partnership with TRUMPF will pave the way for a faster and broader expansion of our industry offering. This drive, by the way, will be spearheaded from GFT's core location in Germany."

In addition to Stuttgart, AXOOM's site in Karlsruhe will become a further location for GFT, with close proximity to customers in the south of Germany.

TRUMPF focusing on machine connectivity at its main base in Ditzingen

TRUMPF itself plans to focus on the business of its own customers and industrial IoT processes. The further development of machine connectivity and platform activities will therefore be pooled in future at its main base in Ditzingen. Some of these solutions were previously developed by its subsidiary AXOOM in Karlsruhe.

Mathias Kammüller, CDO of TRUMPF, states: "We are convinced that this reorganisation of TRUMPF and the development partnership with GFT will enable us to implement our digital ambitions in sheet metal manufacturing even faster and more effectively, while also expanding our proven expertise in industrial IoT and Smart Factory solutions more swiftly."

New GFT employees offer numerous opportunities for in-depth client consulting

By becoming part of the entrepreneurially-minded GFT Group, the acquisition offers a wide range of opportunities for the AXOOM experts. They can provide in-depth consulting in the industrial sector and develop solutions and client implementations in the field of pioneering technologies – from cloud engineering to artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things for Industry 4.0 and blockchain.

"Like Industry 4.0 technology itself, we are developing fast. The AXOOM employees combine innovative IT expertise with industry know-how. I am delighted to welcome them into our global team and offer their extensive and comprehensive consulting expertise to our clients," added Marika Lulay.

About GFT:

GFT is driving the digital transformation of the world's leading financial institutions. Other sectors, such as industry and insurance, also leverage GFT's strong consulting and implementation skills across all aspects of pioneering technologies, such as cloud engineering, artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things for Industry 4.0, and blockchain.

With its in-depth technological expertise, strong partnerships and scalable IT solutions, GFT increases productivity in software development. This provides clients with faster access to new IT applications and innovative business models, while also reducing risk.

Founded in 1987 and located in 13 countries to ensure close proximity to its clients, GFT employs over 5,000 people. GFT provides them with career opportunities in all areas of software engineering and innovation. The GFT Technologies SE share is listed in the Prime Standard segment of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange (ticker: [GFT-XE](#)).

www.gft.com

About TRUMPF

The high-technology company TRUMPF offers production solutions in the machine tool and laser sectors. It is driving digital connectivity in manufacturing industry through consulting, platform and software offers. TRUMPF is the world technological and market leader for machine tools used in flexible sheet metal processing, and also for industrial lasers.

In 2017/18, the TRUMPF Group – which has about 13,400 employees – achieved sales of 3.6 billion euros. With over 70 subsidiaries, it is represented in nearly all the countries of Europe, North and South America, and Asia. It has production facilities in Germany, France, Great Britain, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Poland, the Czech Republic, the USA, Mexico, China and Japan.

For more information about TRUMPF go to www.trumpf.com

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