



## PRESS RELEASE

### *The most exciting annual review 2019*

**Spangenberg**, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019: As the end of the year approaches, we have taken the time to review our business and the highlights of the year 2019 so that we can arm ourselves to face the coming challenges and prepare even more carefully for the future.

#### ***Saw blade innovations are the heart of the WIKUS saw factory***

In 2019 WIKUS continued to come up with innovations for the industry – these focus on the requirements of the market, both with respect to the products and also digital services. At the beginning of the year, we participated at the Intec in Leipzig and launched the all-rounder [PRIMAR® M42](#) with its inexpensive price-performance ratio in the [Level-1-segment](#) of the universal standard band saw blades. Due to its variable tooth pitch, the band saw blade is suitable for a wide range of smaller and medium workpieces. The trade journal [MM Maschinenmarkt](#) bestowed a special honour on the [PRIMAR® M42](#) nominating it as the top band saw blade of the year.

The next product highlight will be launched in September: For the first time, [CUBOGRIT®](#) offers users a CBN-studded band saw blade technology, including the hard alloys produced in a 3D printing processes and tempered iron materials of up to 70 HRC allowing them to saw efficiently.

#### ***Digital services round off the portfolio***

Band saw blade innovations are the heart of the WIKUS saw factory. Also, we are continuously working on taking important steps toward digital services. We launched our new user-oriented website in July to enable the optimum product for every specific application to be found quickly, whilst also offering a wide range of practical tips to further enhance efficiency in the company.

In November, WIKUS launched [Wlstore](#) as a further RFID-based digital service solution for automated and dynamic replacement processes. The service reduces process costs in purchasing and logistics and allows transparent, daily overviews of inventory levels and consumption analyses.

WIKUS also increased its activities in the social networks by regularly posting new content on [LinkedIn](#) and product videos and tech tips on [YouTube](#).

### ***Innovation in the company culture***

WIKUS also attaches great importance to further development and innovation even with respect to its company culture. About a year ago, our employees moved into the [new company headquarters](#) and have enjoyed an open and interactive co-working atmosphere since then.

This is one of the reasons that the magazine [Stern](#) recognised WIKUS as a 'company with a future'. The categories corporate focus, employer profile, digital transformation, demography management were assessed. WIKUS also reached the final of the competition '[Entrepreneur Of The Year 2019](#)'. EY, the audit and consultancy company, awarded prizes to the best owner-operated companies in Germany.

It is also extremely important to WIKUS to contribute to social activities in the region which is why it sponsors the [International Jumping Tournament CSI\\*\\*\\*](#) and other projects.

### ***Outlook for the year 2020***

2020 also looks set to be exciting: WIKUS will be attending the most important fairs, namely the Tube, AMB and the ALUMINIUM 2020, and will therefore be right in the thick of things in the industry.

Training courses remain important for WIKUS' customers and partners because they enable them to work efficiently and keep up with the state of the art. Therefore, WIKUS will be further expanding the now one-year old [Wikademy](#) in 2020. The academy teaches knowledge and offers training relating to WIKUS products and sawing for all levels of expertise, be it for beginners or experts.

WIKUS will also be reworking the career section of its website to allow it to continue recruiting the best talent in the region, because it knows that promoting junior staff is essential for its future growth.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2020!

*Please note: Our company is closed from 21st December to 1st January.*

## **About WIKUS**

**WIKUS – HIGHEST QUALITY „MADE IN GERMANY“**

*WIKUS is one of the world leaders in the metal cutting sector and Europe's largest manufacturer of band saw blades. Users from the following most varying fields trust in the highly efficient solutions offered by WIKUS: steel production, steel trade, foundries, machine and tool construction, aerospace, automotive, construction or energy industry.*

*Since 1958, WIKUS-Sägenfabrik from the North Hessian Spangenberg guarantees highest standards in the production of high-tech band saw blades with high-quality raw materials, up-to-date manufacturing methods and continuous quality assurance. At the same time, the family-run business sets leading product and technology trends with its innovative power on the market. In addition to the high performance product range, WIKUS offers comprehensive services which are adapted to each product. Partner companies as well as sales and service companies all over the world offer competent, personal support on-site.*

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