

Lekolar Group and Heutink join forces

Lekolar Group, the Nordic market leader in creative and educational products, has entered into an agreement to join forces with the Dutch market leader in educational products, Heutink. Following the transaction, Heutink will become a part of the Lekolar Group but continue to operate as a separate business unit keeping its strong brand. The combination of Lekolar and Heutink establishes the Lekolar Group as the most comprehensive platform of creative and educational products in Europe.

Lekolar Group has entered into an agreement to acquire Heutink, the leading supplier of learning content, materials and furniture on the Dutch education market. The company, with more than 100 years of expertise in education, is based in Nijverdal, the Netherlands. In addition to its strong Dutch market presence, Heutink serves over 80 countries worldwide with its iconic educational brands Nienhuis Montessori and Educo.

– Teaming up with Heutink represents a major milestone towards our ambition of becoming the European premier source of inspirational and sustainable solutions for creative and playful learning. Heutink is a market leader in the Netherlands with deep pedagogic insight, great products and high entrepreneurial drive and innovation. We share a passion to help teachers and pupils to blossom by igniting their passion to learn. We also share high ambitions in the areas of sustainability, quality and safety. Together, by sharing complementary strengths and making use of our joint scale, we can create unbeatable value to customers, says David Persson, CEO Lekolar Group.

Heutink will continue to operate under its well-renowned name and identity as a separate business unit of the Lekolar Group under the leadership of CEO Henk Fokke. The Heutink office and logistics center will remain in Nijverdal, the Netherlands. Following completion of the deal, the Heutink family will become a significant minority shareholder in Lekolar Group and Daniel de Jonge, Commercial Director of Heutink, will join the Lekolar Group Board of Directors.

– It is our wish to secure the future of Heutink and our employees for the next 100 years. We are convinced that we have found a like-minded partner in Lekolar to make this possible, says Henk Fokke, CEO of Heutink.

– Since the beginning of Heutink, our mission has been to provide as many children as possible with the best school materials and promote equal education opportunities. By joining forces with Lekolar, our reach becomes even greater and together we take the next step in accomplishing this mission, says Jessica Heutink, Owner of Heutink.

The transaction is expected to be completed in the summer of 2024, following approval by the regulatory authorities.

For additional information:

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Henk Fokke, CEO Heutink Group, h.fokke@heutink.nl

About Lekolar Group

Lekolar Group, headquartered in Osby Sweden, is the Nordic market leader in creative and educational products. Under the common mission of igniting the passion to create and joy to learn, Lekolar Group operates three business units:

- Lekolar - Nordic market leader in learning materials and learning spaces for educators (B2E)
- Panduro - Nordic and Benelux omnichannel market leader in arts & craft (B2C)
- Playbox - A leading producer and wholesaler of arts & craft products (B2B)

In 2023, the company's revenues amounted to ca. €260m. Since 2017, the company is majority owned by Nalka Invest AB.

Read more at lekolargroup.com

About Heutink

Heutink, a family business based in Nijverdal, operates internationally as a comprehensive supplier for education, childcare, and parents. Its mission is to bring out the best in every child in terms of education and development. Heutink advises, supports, and inspires teachers to make the right choices regarding teaching methods, creative, play, and developmental materials, furniture, and ICT solutions. Additionally, Heutink is the global leader in Montessori materials, which are produced at its own manufacturing site in Sri Lanka. Heutink's own Educo products are sold in over 80 countries.

The company generates a revenue of €235m and employs 740 staff members.

For more information, visit www.heutink.nl

Attachments

Lekolar Group and Heutink join forces