

ALEXANDER HARTLIEB RETURNS AS HEAD OF HESS



La Gaude, September 17, 2024 - Le GROUPE RAGNI is proud to announce the return of Alexander Hartlieb as Managing Director of HESS GmbH Licht + Form. This return marks a pivotal moment for the company, highlighting the momentum and optimism instilled by everyone's efforts since the acquisition by GROUPE RAGNI last December. Since the opening of this new chapter, the French group has also acquired LEC, another leader in public lighting, further

strengthening its position in the European market and demonstrating its rising prominence in the sector.

STRATEGIC ACQUISITIONS

In December 2023, GROUPE RAGNI, a major French player specializing in public lighting solutions and connected technologies, made a strategic acquisition by purchasing HESS GmbH Licht + Form, a leader in public lighting in Germany. This acquisition also included the historic VULKAN brand, a pioneer in public lighting since 1898. This purchase allowed GROUPE RAGNI to strengthen its position in the European market, particularly in German speaking countries, and expand its international footprint. A few months later, GROUPE RAGNI continued its expansion by acquiring LEC, a Lyon-based specialist in architectural lighting since 1976, further consolidating its presence and influence in the public lighting industry.

THE RETURN OF AN INDUSTRY AND MARKET EXPERT

Alexander Hartlieb, who led HESS for four years, had taken on new professional commitments before learning about the acquisition of HESS by GROUPE RAGNI. His return is a powerful testament to the company's success and transformation since the acquisition. The work done by the HESS and RAGNI teams has rekindled his enthusiasm and passion to lead the company to new heights.



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Stéphane RAGNI, Chairman of the Management Board of GROUPE RAGNI and Sales Director for France, states: *"The return of Alexander Hartlieb is an extremely positive sign regarding the direction we have taken since the acquisition. His decision to return is a vote of confidence and recognition for the work our teams have accomplished."*

Jean-Christophe RAGNI, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of GROUPE RAGNI and Export Sales Director, adds: *"Alexander Hartlieb brings invaluable experience and a clear vision that aligns perfectly with our commitment to innovation and excellence. His return is a fantastic opportunity to strengthen our leadership position in the European public lighting market."*

A BRIGHT AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Since the acquisition, GROUPE RAGNI has worked tirelessly to integrate HESS GmbH Licht + Form, sharing common values of quality, innovation, and customer satisfaction. Alexander Hartlieb's return underscores the effectiveness of the actions taken and reinforces the group's ambition to create even stronger synergy between our entities.

Jean-Christophe RAGNI RAGNI concludes: *"We are confident that the return of Alexander Hartlieb will bring a positive dynamic and allow HESS to continue its development with even greater vigor. Together, we are ready to meet the challenges of the market and continue to successfully innovate for our customers."*

GROUPE RAGNI and the HESS team are delighted with this strategic and promising return. Alexander Hartlieb will resume his new duties as Managing Director by February 2025 at the latest, ready to write a new chapter of success and excellence with the entire team.



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About GROUPE RAGNI:

GROUPE RAGNI brings together experts in public lighting and connected technologies. Founded in 1927, RAGNI, the parent company of GROUPE RAGNI, is a family business now led by the 4th generation. In 2015, the company from the French Riviera partnered with NOVÉA ÉNERGIES, an expert in autonomous public lighting since 2007. In 2022, a third entity, SEV®, was added, providing solutions dedicated to territories looking to connect their infrastructures. In December 2023, the group acquired HESS and VULKAN, two German references in design and functional public lighting. Finally, in June 2024, GROUPE RAGNI integrated LEC, an iconic Lyon-based company specializing in urban lighting (architectural buildings, public pathways, tunnels, handrails, etc.) by LED since 1977. Present in 60 countries, nearly 30 distributors offer our brands worldwide. GROUPE RAGNI also has foreign subsidiaries dedicated to their markets: Ragni Lighting in the United States, based in Denver, Colorado, two subsidiaries in Africa, respectively established in Ivory Coast and Senegal, as well as a RAGNI GROUP Latam subsidiary based in Panama. In France, the Group relies on a network of 15 commercial agencies throughout the country. Its mission? To facilitate access to light for the comfort and safety of people while ensuring respect for biodiversity.

These six brands share the same vision of the profession: to assist territories in their energy and ecological transition for a bright and sustainable future. Thanks to its comprehensive value chain expertise, the Group puts its expertise at the service of communities seeking optimization through an innovative offering of products and services mainly dedicated to intelligent and connected public lighting, but also environmental solutions dedicated to water management, public buildings, mobility, and energy. With its experience and values of passion, creativity, and proximity, GROUPE RAGNI stands out for its agility, culture of support, product quality, and commitment to preserving life.

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About Hess:

Hess GmbH Licht + Form, based in Villingen-Schwenningen, Germany, is one of the leading manufacturers of designer outdoor lighting and quality urban furniture. With the Vulkan brand, Hess offers a unique "one-stop-shop" product portfolio - from technically efficient lighting to intelligent and multifunctional luminaires. As a premium supplier, Hess meets all lighting design requirements in public and private spaces as well as in exterior object lighting with a very diverse offering. Vulkan perfectly complements the offer with technically efficient outdoor lighting. Hess also provides perfectly matching and high-quality furniture. The ideal combination of lighting and furniture allows for comprehensive concepts and individualized special solutions in city and open space design. Vulkan, founded in 1898, is one of the oldest brands in the European lighting industry.

Follow us on LinkedIn: @Hess GmbH Licht + Form

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