



## **RIO DIGITIZES VOLKSWAGEN GROUP LOGISTICS**

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- **RIO and Volkswagen Group Logistics plan to develop a digital solution for the Volkswagen Group's transport logistics**
- **Aim of the cooperation: significant savings amounting to millions of euros**
- **RIO enters the world of forwarders: Products to be available on the market in the future**

**Wolfsburg/Munich, 2 October 2019. RIO, the digital brand of the TRATON GROUP, plans to support Group Logistics of the Volkswagen Group in digitizing their processes. The collaboration aims to make significant savings with more transparent and efficient processes.**

Volkswagen Group Logistics GmbH & Co. OHG is one of the logistics companies in Germany with the highest turnover. In Europe alone, it coordinates a daily average of 18,000 truck transports in an extensive network of suppliers, production sites, sales markets and dealers. Group Logistics is managing a constantly increasing flow of materials and goods together with 13 Group brands and requires an efficient and future-proof IT solution to meet this challenge. Thomas Zernechel, Head of Volkswagen Group Logistics: "There is a huge amount of complexity involved in our business. The planned cooperation with RIO will allow us to push ahead with digitization in the transport sector and gain more transparency. This will enable us to optimally control and continue to finely tune our business to perfection. Optimising utilisation by further reducing empty runs and idle times will also help us to achieve our climate protection goals."

More than 150 forwarders work with the Volkswagen Group. In the future, each truck in this network is to be registered in the same digital environment.

### **Digital services for inbound and outbound logistics**

TRATON subsidiary RIO will create the basis for these digital services. The brand has been developing a cloud-based logistics platform since 2016 to support all parties of the delivery chain in digitizing their business. RIO is manufacturer-independent and can therefore be used in all truck brands. RIO is now to develop tailor-made services for Volkswagen Group Logistics, which will make the supply of parts at sites of the Volkswagen Group (inbound logistics) and the delivery of fully assembled vehicles (outbound logistics) more efficient. This includes tracking consignments as well as integrating different systems to collect and use data efficiently – for example, for supply management, freight billing and container control. Matthias Braun, Head of Material Logistics Digitalisation at Group Logistics: "Cloud-based digital solutions based at the interface between freight and forwarder have the potential to significantly increase our efficiency. RIO's digital expertise and open approach makes it the ideal partner for us. We are also going on this platform with our volume to send a signal to the market. We hope that others will follow suit so that logistics based on transparent processes will become more efficient for everyone."

### **The forwarder market as "logistics in the premium class"**

RIO CEO Jan Kaumanns explains, "The forwarders' world is the premium class of logistics. Its complex delivery chains need a smart product to bring all the participants into the same digital environment. At RIO, we are very happy to accept this challenge. As telematics OEM of MAN and with the RIO-Box as a brand-neutral, retrofittable component, RIO is in an excellent position to bridge the gap between the control tasks of Group Logistics and implementing the tasks of transport logistics on the road." For RIO, this cooperation opens up the market for solutions that are initially tailor-made for the automotive sector. With an eye to the future, they should, however, form the basis for all forwarding relevant services. Kaumanns continues, "We are proud to be contributing our digital competence to a partnership with such an important player on the market and are looking forward to the collaboration."



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### **Next steps**

RIO and Volkswagen Group Logistics are also planning a lasting corporate partnership that goes beyond the technical cooperation. “The logical step for us is to conclude a permanent master agreement with Volkswagen Group Logistics that will put our collaboration on a solid basis as quickly as possible,” says Jan Kaumanns.

This press release and additional material can be found at:

[https://traton.com/en/newsroom/press\\_releases/press\\_release\\_02102019\\_3.html](https://traton.com/en/newsroom/press_releases/press_release_02102019_3.html)

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**About RIO:** The TRATON GROUP launched its digital brand RIO in 2016, an open, cloud-based solution for the entire transportation and logistics ecosystem. RIO offers a package of digital services that interconnects everyone involved in the supply chain on a unified platform. Previously, it often was not possible to utilize data transparently in the transportation industry because different companies used different stand-alone solutions. RIO offers a cloud-based solution that can be used with any make of vehicle. RIO won the 2017 Frost & Sullivan New Product Innovation Award for this innovative technology. RIO’s innovation laboratory X-Lab was named Top Company Builder 2018 by Capital magazine.