



## PRESS RELEASE

### Sweco and VK architects+engineers® will join forces.

**Together, we will tackle the challenges of our planet.**

Engineering and architecture firm Sweco acquires sector peer VK architects+engineers® through a Share Purchase Agreement. By joining forces, we can better cope with the successive social, ecological and technological changes. Together with our clients we co-create solutions that transform societies.

Erwin Malcorps, Managing Director of Sweco Belgium, explains: "The world is in transition. Megatrends such as the energy transition, urbanisation and digitalisation can no longer be ignored in our society. As a consequence, we experience a growing need for an integrated approach when designing future proof projects. This requires specialised knowledge of different disciplines, the agility to keep up with the latest developments and smooth mutual cooperation. That is why it is so important to find a suitable partner who shares the same passion. With VK architects+engineers®, we have a perfect 'match'. It's great to see how sustainability and innovation are so well woven into our business and corporate model. Transforming Society Together is our common goal."

VK architects+engineers® is a multidisciplinary design agency with "out of the box" and long-term thinking in its genes. For the past 70 years, they used their ingenuity and multidisciplinary teams to design sustainable solutions. The firm offers architectural, and engineering design solutions on an international scale, with offices in Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, UK and Vietnam. The group has a consolidated turnover of approximately 70 million euro (2021) and employs approximately 600 architects and engineers.

"Together with Sweco we will remain frontrunners in the domain of sustainable buildings and structures. We have the best talents with in-depth expertise on board to realise this. Our ambition to be a full lifecycle partner is in line with Sweco's guiding principle 'Sustainability by design'. We also notice many similarities in terms of corporate culture, with initiatives that clearly make a difference in terms of personal development, knowledge sharing and open communication. Moreover, the European dimension of the entire group, the cross border opportunities and the decentralized way of working really appeal to us. We look forward to continue building a sustainable future with our designs," concludes Paul Corbeel, CEO of VK architects+engineers®.

The transaction is subject to the approval of the Belgian Competition Authority, which is expected in the first half of 2023.

#### **A future-oriented 360° offer**

This transaction will allow both companies to combine their strengths and expertise in engineering and architecture. Moreover, the challenges our society is facing, are becoming more complex and urgent. It is more important than ever to realise a greater impact for the benefit of the energy and societal transition.

We commit to provide maximum support to our clients with recognised expertise, always thinking a few steps ahead. We embrace the full lifecycle approach by fully engaging in strategic partnerships with clients and stakeholders throughout the entire lifecycle of our realizations, even after the construction phase. This generates intrinsic added value for our clients and society.

Sweco uses innovative and sustainable urban development to tackle the challenges of urbanisation and the complexity of climate change while also improving cities' mobility, social inclusion and economic development.

#### **What does this agreement mean in concrete terms?**

The completion of the transaction remains subject to regulatory approval by the Belgium Competition Authority, which is expected within the first half of 2023. Until the closing of the transaction, Sweco and VK architects+engineers® will continue to operate as independent companies. Our clients will receive the same high quality service from the same contact persons within the current teams.

Sweco will also take over all shares of the VK architects+engineers® subsidiaries. These include design firm Infranea (3D design, BIM services and VR simulations), architecture and engineering firm DENC (logistics, industrial and commercial real estate) and engineering firm One Simulations (CFD simulations) from the Netherlands, as well as the Belgian firms Van Looy Group (logistics projects) and Exilab (laboratories and cleanrooms). Betic Ingénieurs-Conseils (various building projects) and EKOpplan (technical engineering and water management engineering) from Luxembourg and UK-based AD Architects are also part of the transaction.

**For more information please contact:**

Erwin Malcorps, Managing Director Sweco Belgium, +32 473 888 202, [erwin.malcorps@swecobelgium.be](mailto:erwin.malcorps@swecobelgium.be)

Paul Corbeel, CEO VK architects+engineers® , +32 475 982 031, [paul.corbeel@vk-architects-engineers.com](mailto:paul.corbeel@vk-architects-engineers.com)

Geert Cools, Communication Advisor, Sweco Belgium, +32 473 871 509, [geert.cools@swecobelgium.be](mailto:geert.cools@swecobelgium.be)

Laura Taeymans, Communication Manager, Sweco Belgium, +32 475 782 118, [l.taeymans@swecobelgium.be](mailto:l.taeymans@swecobelgium.be)

Sabine Janssens, Director Marketing & Communication VK architects+engineers®, +32 473 994 310, [sabine.janssens@vk-architects-engineers.com](mailto:sabine.janssens@vk-architects-engineers.com)

**About Sweco**

Sweco plans and designs the sustainable communities and cities of the future. Together with our clients and the collective knowledge of our 19,000 architects, engineers and other specialists, we co-create solutions to address urbanisation, capture the power of digitalisation, and make our societies more sustainable. Sweco is Europe's leading engineering and architecture consultancy, with sales of approximately EUR 2.2 billion. The company is listed on Nasdaq Stockholm.

<https://www.swecobelgium.be/>

**About VK architects+engineers®**

VK architects+engineers® is a multidisciplinary design agency with "out of the box" and long-term thinking in its genes. For the past 70 years, they used their ingenuity and multidisciplinary teams to design sustainable solutions. Proof points are the many projects in healthcare, industry, infrastructure and buildings. The office has grown to more than 600 employees, spread over Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Vietnam and the United Kingdom.

[www.vk-architects-engineers.com](http://www.vk-architects-engineers.com)

brandportal: [brand.vk-architects-engineers.com](http://brand.vk-architects-engineers.com)

