

**Stuttgart, 4 June 2018**

## **Wintergerst accompanies the sale of the mechanical engineering firm, Gabler GmbH & Co. KG during an international bidding process**

**Wintergerst Sozium für Unternehmer-Beratung has been able to arrange the sale of the operating arm of Gabler GmbH & Co. KG, an innovative mechanical engineering firm, to a Swiss investor within the framework of an exclusive sales process. The location near Karlsruhe and all 55 jobs will be retained under the terms of the deal and developed in future.**

The manufacturer of plant and specialist machinery, which focuses on the design and construction of plant and machinery and entire production lines for the food, chemicals and pharmaceuticals industries, chewing gum in particular, was stabilized by the preliminary insolvency administrator Holger Blümle from Schultze & Braun after an application for insolvency was filed at the beginning of February. The company has since been operated without any further changes. In parallel, an exclusive engagement was issued to Wintergerst Sozium für Unternehmer-Beratung to search for potential investors for the company.

Jörg Mayer from Wintergerst Sozium für Unternehmer-Beratung led the tightly managed process to a successful conclusion within the shortest possible time frame, which was further restricted by the framework

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conditions specific to an insolvency in this industry. In addition to other serious bidders, the successful investor finally offered the most attractive solution for the future of the company. The operating activities passed to a new company founded by the investor, effective 1 April 2018. In the course of the acquisition, Patrick Gabler took over the management of the operation from his father, Tilo Gabler.

“We are happy that this innovative, family-run business can be continued now that the investor search has been successfully concluded and that a positive solution has been found for the creditors, customers, employees and the Gabler family itself in the form of an international investor. Gabler is a hidden champion worldwide for single-source mechanical engineering solutions and has driven forward the use of digital technologies in development, production and assembly since day one,” says Bernd Grupp, the engagement partner from Wintergerst.

“With this investor-backed solution, the technology hub of Karlsruhe has managed to keep an important innovative high-tech company in the region,” beams Holger Blümle, the insolvency administrator. “Gabler is an absolute specialist in highly sophisticated plant and machinery, particularly machines for producing chewing gum and other confectionery, but also pharmaceutical products. With the entry of the investor, Gabler now has a chance to start over.”

**Law firms/business consultants involved in the M&A process:**

Insolvency administrator: Schultze & Braun (Holger Blümle, Dr. Jürgen Erbe)

M&A consultants: Wintergerst Societät für Unternehmer-Beratung (Bernd Grupp, Jörg Mayer (Lead), Jonathan Plappert)

**About Wintergerst Societät für Unternehmer-Beratung**

*Wintergerst Societät für Unternehmer-Beratung GmbH & Co. KG, Stuttgart and Hamburg, is a firm of consultants that is specialized in serving middle market family-owned companies. The focus lies on assisting corporate transactions, restructuring business models, optimizing the structure of financing and structuring solutions for succession issues. It regularly draws on industry experts with many years of experience in the respective industry. [www.wintergerst.com](http://www.wintergerst.com)*