



## PRESS RELEASE

Great Plains Manufacturing Inc. and Kverneland Group are progressing in achieving synergies and it has been decided to integrate the Great Plains sales and distribution in Western Europe as well as Poland and Hungary into the Kverneland Group's sales companies.

# June 2017, Klepp, Norway

The two sister companies Kverneland Group and Great Plains are progressing in achieving synergies for the benefit of their end customers and distribution partners. The aim being to strengthen the product line-up and customer benefits through proactive cooperation within R&D and other functions. Combined the two companies have a global reach and a significant resource pool that are being deployed to develop leading arable implement systems providing efficient operations and low cost of ownership for the customers.

In Western Europe, Poland, and Hungary the Great Plains sales and distribution will be integrated into the strong footprint and infrastructure of the Kverneland Group with the aim to further strengthen the total offering to the end customers and distribution partners. By this measure the Great Plains customers and partners will be supported by the significant resources of the Kverneland Group in Western Europe, Poland, and Hungary within sales, service, spare parts and product support. By taking on the Great Plains products the Kverneland Group sales organisation will further strengthen its product-line up for arable farmers.

It will be a gradual integration process and until further notice the business with Great Plains dealers and customers will be done according to the current business model and principles. Both dealers and end customers will be informed well in advance about the future business set-up including sales, product, service, and parts support.

Mr. Dai Watanabe, President and CEO of Kverneland Group is pleased that there is a positive progress in the synergy activities between Great Plains and Kverneland Group. He is also convinced that the integration of Great Plains into the Kverneland Group sales organisation in Western Europe will give strong benefits for the end customers and dealers. According to him this measure will further strengthen the company's position as a Provider of Intelligent and Efficient Farming Systems.





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#### **About Kverneland Group**

Kverneland Group (Kverneland AS) is a leading international company developing, producing and distributing agricultural machinery and services. Strong focus on innovation allows us to provide a unique and broad product range with high quality. Kverneland Group offers an extensive package of systems and solutions to the professional farming community. The offering covers soil preparation, seeding, forage- and bale equipment, spreading and spraying. For more information on Kverneland Group visit <a href="https://www.kvernelandgroup.com">www.kvernelandgroup.com</a>

### About Great Plains Manufacturing, Inc.

Great Plains Manufacturing, founded in 1976, employs over 1,300 people worldwide. It encompasses five divisions: Great Plains Ag, which manufactures seedbed preparation, nutrient application, and seed placement equipment, and other farm implements; Land Pride, which manufactures grounds maintenance tools such as mowers, rototillers, rotary cutters, and dirt-working equipment; Great Plains International, which sells the company's products worldwide; Great Plains Trucking, which operates a nationwide fleet of flatbed trucks; and Great Plains Acceptance Corporation, which finances the company's products. Now a Kubota company, Great Plains Mfg., Inc., is headquartered in Salina, Kansas. For more information on Great Plains, visit www.greatplainsmfg.com.

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