

Press release

From zero to “SDAX” in 15 years: VERBIO celebrates the fifteenth anniversary of its stock exchange listing

- New episode of the #strohklug podcast with VERBIO founder and CEO Claus Sauter: looking back over 15 years on the stock exchange and outlook on new projects
- Claus Sauter: “There have been highs and lows, but the trend indicates growth”
- EUR 300 million investment programme announced

Leipzig, October 15, 2021 – VERBIO is celebrating the anniversary of its stock exchange listing. On October 16, 2006, five years after the commissioning of the first biodiesel plant at the Bitterfeld location, VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG completed its initial public offering (IPO). Since December 2020 the shares in Europe’s leading bioenergy manufacturer have been included in the SDAX, and the value of the Company has increased approximately five-fold within twelve months. “It was a big moment in Frankfurt in the autumn of 2006 when we watched as trading commenced in the VERBIO shares. Weeks of hard preparation lay behind us. New challenges associated with our presence on the capital markets lay before us. We had big plans. The route to get to that point was not always easy, but since then we have done well and we have been successful. Now, new exciting times lie ahead of us – politically, in climate policy, and in society as a whole. We finally have the opportunity to prove the capabilities of the green technologies that we have developed,” said Claus Sauter, VERBIO AG founder and Chairman of the Management Board.

Initial public offering 2006: old structures make life difficult for renewables

To stop consuming fossil fuels and turn to renewable CO₂-efficient, sustainable solutions: this was the vision shared by VERBIO founder Claus Sauter, Dr.-Ing. Georg Pollert and their team. “When VERBIO entered the market, a lot of people regarded us as “ecology freaks”. Back then, politicians also had big plans for climate protection, but their implementation into legal requirements and the definition of concrete CO₂ reduction targets was half-hearted and lacked ambition. Initially there was only a limited market for our products, and a large amount of scepticism among consumers. Today, things are very different. Society has changed. There have been generational changes in leadership structures, and there is a new awareness in industry; even the oil industry now demands that governments impose stricter CO₂-saving requirements. We were convinced about our approach from the start, and we have consistently followed through on this, despite the highs and lows. Looking back, our determination and our enthusiasm have proved to be spot on,” added Claus Sauter.

Anniversary of the initial public offering 2021: SDAX member on course for growth

VERBIO has been listed as a member of the SDAX since December 2020, and as such it is one of Germany’s 200 largest companies. In September 2021 the biofuels company issued its annual report for the financial year 2020/2021, reporting sales in excess of one billion euros for the first time and additionally announcing a comprehensive EUR 300 million worldwide investment programme through to 2023. “We are profitable, with green technology! Being admitted to the SDAX was an expression of recognition for our ability to innovate, and for our good performance on the capital market in recent years. It was important both for our external image and for our entire team. Now we continue forward with new projects. In the meantime, the environmental conditions have improved significantly. We can finally fulfil our potential, we will continue to grow internationally, and we will continue to increase our ranking among Germany’s leading companies,” said Claus Sauter, confidently.

VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG

Ulrike Kurze
Marketing/PR
Ritterstraße 23 (Oelßner’s Hof), 04109 Leipzig
Tel.: +49 176 13085404
Fax: +49 341 308530-999
E-Mail: ulrike.kurze@verbio.de

Constanze Reinsberg
WeichertMehner GmbH & Co. KG
An der Dreikönigskirche 5, 01097 Dresden
Tel.: +49 351 50140-205
Fax: +49 351 50140-209
E-Mail: verbio@weichertmehner.com

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#strohklug (#strawclever) podcast: new episode now available

VERBIO's figures show that the decision to go to the capital market was the right one, putting the Company on a growth path. This is the conclusion that Claus Sauter draws in the new #strohklug podcast. In the most recent episode he takes listeners back to the days shortly before VERBIO's IPO, describes the Company's journey to the SDAX and explains what the future holds for VERBIO.

Claus Sauter recalled, "Those were difficult times, but we proved ourselves. It's a great feeling when investors take the time to understand our vision and when the capital market places its trust in us. Now we have to deliver, expand our capacities and continue to enter new markets. That is exactly what we are going to do."

The new issue of "#strohklug" is available in German language immediately from Apple Podcast, Deezer, Google Podcast, Spotify and on the internet at strohklug.de

<https://www.strohklug.de/podcast/posts/von-null-auf-sdax-in-15-jahren-verbio-feiert-boersenjubilaeum/>

For your convenience here please find an English transcription: <https://bit.ly/3BPre36>

Pictures are available for download at (© VERBIO AG): https://bit.ly/VERBIO_Gruender

Picture caption: VERBIO founder Claus Sauter and Dr.-Ing. Georg Pollert in Frankfurt at the start of trading in the VERBIO shares on October 16, 2006.

Information about VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG (VERBIO)

VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG is one of the leading independent bioenergy manufacturers, and is also the only large-scale producer of biodiesel, bioethanol and biomethane in Europe. The Group has approximately 800 employees at its locations in Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Brandenburg as well as at its foreign subsidiaries in India, the USA, Canada, Poland and Hungary. VERBIO concentrates on the use of internally developed innovative technologies and efficient energy-saving production processes. VERBIO's biofuels achieve CO₂ savings of up to 90 percent compared to petrol or diesel. The Group's annual production capacity amounts to approximately 660,000 tonnes of biodiesel, 260,000 tonnes of bioethanol and 900 gigawatt hours of biomethane. In addition, VERBIO manufactures biofertiliser and animal feed for agricultural use as well as high-value raw materials for the pharmaceutical, cosmetic and foodstuff industries. With its innovative processes and highly efficient production plants, VERBIO is a technology leader in the biofuels market. The VERBIO share (ISIN DE000A0JL9W6/WKN A0JL9W) has been listed in the prime standard segment of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange since October 2006.

www.verbio.de | www.verbiosept.de | www.verbioogas.de | www.strohklug.de

Facebook & Instagram: @verbioag | LinkedIn & Twitter: @claussauter

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Ulrike Kurze
Marketing/PR
Ritterstraße 23 (Oelfner's Hof), 04109 Leipzig
Tel.: +49 176 13085404
Fax: +49 341 308530-999
E-Mail: ulrike.kurze@verbio.de

Constanze Reinsberg
WeichertMehner GmbH & Co. KG
An der Dreikönigskirche 5, 01097 Dresden
Tel.: +49 351 50140-205
Fax: +49 351 50140-209
E-Mail: verbio@weichertmehner.com