

PRESS INFORMATION

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INTEGRATED DESIGN FIRM DENC ACQUIRED BY BELGIAN GROUP VK ARCHITECTS+ENGINEERS

Bussum, 25 November 2022 – DENC, a leading architectural and engineering firm in the field of logistics, industrial and commercial real estate in the Netherlands, is acquired by VK architects+engineers, one of Belgium's largest design and engineering firms with 600 employees located in Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, United Kingdom, and Spain. With the acquisition of DENC, VK architects+engineers strengthens its market position in the design and engineering of sustainable business accommodation, in particular for logistical and industrial real estate.

"Through the acquisition of DENC, we want to play an active role in making logistics real estate more sustainable. Both in Belgium and the Netherlands. We look forward to working with the colleagues at DENC", said Paul Corbeel, CEO VK architects+engineers.

Over the past decade, the logistics real estate market in the Netherlands has experienced strong expansion, partly due to the rapid development of e-commerce. However, this strong growth also brought considerable challenges in terms of dumbing down, land and labour shortages. These challenges require the logistics sector to focus on sustainable logistics buildings in which integration in the landscape, smart function stacking, mechanisation and working conditions are key. In addition, logistics buildings also have an important climate and energy challenge. DENC plays a leading role in these developments.

To further strengthen that position in the rapidly changing market for the future, VK architects+engineers wants to commit to cross-fertilisation with Belgian engineering firm Van Looy Group, active in the same market segment in Belgium and also part of VK architects+engineers. "Logistics processes, automation and sustainable, circular architecture will be approached in an integral way more than ever in the future. Moreover, VK architects+engineers wants to join forces on the basis of its sustainability ambition to strengthen and expand the sustainability aspect," Alain Bossaer, chief operations officer of VK architects+engineers, reveals.

"We are very pleased with the new opportunities that arise for us and for our clients by becoming part of VK architects+engineers. DENC will continue to operate under its own name in the Netherlands and clients can continue to rely on our personal and professional approach," said Joost van Gilse, director DENC.

Roeland Bellens, Director logistics at VK architects+engineers, will ensure the cross-fertilisation between DENC, Van Looy Group and VK architects+engineers.

SHORT PROFILE DENC

DENC, founded in 2000, is a leading multidisciplinary design and engineering company providing integrated design and engineering solutions for the construction and renovation of sustainable logistical, industrial, and commercial real estate. Next to engineering and design of buildings and MHE lay-out, DENC provides advice and support with regards to logistical processes, master planning, project management, technical building installations, and sustainability.

DENC has grown into an agency with c. 60 employees and 3 locations in the Netherlands and has a strong track-record containing projects for prominent corporates and developers in logistics and e-commerce markets. Examples of recent projects include Bol.com, Wehkamp, KLM, DHL, and VidaXL.

Detailed information about DENC is available at [www.denc.nl](http://www.denc.nl)



#### SHORT PROFILE VK ARCHITECTS+ENGINEERS

VK architects+engineers is a multidisciplinary specialist design and engineering group with approximately 600 employees in Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, United Kingdom, and Spain. VK's service portfolio ranges from masterplanning, feasibility studies, architectural design, mechanical and electrical engineering, to interior design, landscaping, and infrastructure. Additional specializations include amongst others façade engineering, acoustical engineering, fire engineering, and sustainable design. VK architects+engineers focuses on the markets healthcare, buildings, industry and infrastructure.

Detailed information about VK architects+engineers is available at [www.vk-architects-engineers.com](http://www.vk-architects-engineers.com)

#### SHORT PROFILE BLACKTRACE MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

Blacktrace is an award-winning independent merger and acquisition specialist, providing guidance for medium-sized and large businesses when implementing merger and acquisition transactions, attracting shareholder capital and arranging funding. Blacktrace helps companies make the transition to a higher level and provide professional support in the following areas: divestment, acquisition, management buy-out, corporate valuation, corporate financing and corporate exit.

Detailed information about Blacktrace is available at [www.blacktrace.nl](http://www.blacktrace.nl)

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