

PRESS RELEASE

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Berner Group expands location in Cologne: New call centre for automotive and construction customers creates 40 jobs

In 2016, the B2B trading company Berner Group relocated its strategic headquarters to Cologne. Since then, the family-owned company, which supplies professional tradesmen with tools and consumables throughout Europe, has grown continuously in the cathedral city. With the opening of a new call centre for the subsidiaries Berner Deutschland and BTI Befestigungstechnik, the B2B wholesaler is now significantly expanding its presence and plans to create 40 new jobs there by March. For 2024, the company is even planning a three-digit number of employees.

In addition to a strong field service team, stationary tradesmen centres and eCommerce, the telephone sales of tools, consumables, accessories or smart chemical "All In One" solutions are among the central sales channels of the Berner Group. In order to be able to serve even more automotive and construction professionals in the future, especially in the German market, the group of companies, which is active in more than 20 European countries (annual sales of more than 1.1 billion euros), has opened another telesales location in Cologne.

For this purpose, the trading company has rented a modern office space on Gustav-Heinemann-Ufer in the Cologne Oval Offices building complex. The new call centre is not far from the company's headquarters in Rheinauhafen, which it moved into in 2016 and where more than 130 employees now work for BERNER. The Cologne telesales team currently has 28 sales experts. But:

"This is just the beginning," says Daniel Häusler, Director Customer Service Centre. "By the end of the current business year in March 2023, we plan to have around 40 team members. For 2024, we are even planning a three-digit number of employees at the telesales location. Not least because of the high attractiveness of the city, we are sure that we will succeed."

Tip: More information on the job offers and application opportunities can be found at *www.berner-group.com/karriere*

About the Berner Group

The Berner Group is a family-run European trading company. Our vision: "We keep the world together and moving". This means we are the central B2B trading partner for all materials in the field of maintenance, repair and production for our customers in the construction, mobility and industrial sectors. With over four channels, we create an integrated omnichannel shopping experience for our customers. In the field of steel and C-parts, as well as in the chemical sector, we are at the same time an innovative manufacturer. We are represented in over 20 countries with more than 200,000 articles and around 8,000 employees.

