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Headquarters of the Ficosa Group's Industrial Vehicle Business Unit

LOWER SAXONY'S MINISTER OF ECONOMY VISITS WILKE

- **Wilke, with headquarters in Germany, is a worldwide leader in the research, development, production and commercialization of systems and components for trucks, buses, and agricultural vehicles**

Wolfenbüttel (Germany), September 15th, 2008. - In Wolfenbüttel (Germany) today, Lower Saxony's minister of economy, Mr. Walter Hirche, visited Wilke, the Ficosa Group's company dedicated to the research, development, production, and commercialization of systems and components for commercial and industrial vehicles worldwide. Also in attendance for the visit was Member of Parliament for Lower Saxony Björn Försterling, as well as the district's governor, Jörg Röhm, the Mayor of Wolfenbüttel Thomas Pink, and other representatives from the local and regional administrations.

The minister was received by Jörn Klingemann, Managing Director of Wilke, and José María Tarragó, executive vice-president for the Ficosa group, who showed him the company's historical evolution, as well as its present and future: "We are number one in manufacturing worldwide", asserted Klingemann to the minister during the company's presentation. Afterwards, the minister and the authorities visited the production facilities and the company's engineering centre, where Wilke is developing new technologies for buses and trucks, such as alarm and camera detection systems, miniaturised antenna systems, and communications modules. The minister was very satisfied with Wilke's success story, and he showed his full support in the project: "It has been impressive to see the company's evolution and how it bases its production and its future on the development of new technologies".

Wilke was recently chosen to develop and manufacture the entire line of rear-view mirrors for Renault Trucks, as well as the new rear-view mirrors for Volkswagen's T5 model.



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About WILKE

Wilke was founded in 1925 in Börßum (Germany). Since 1929 it has had its headquarters in Wolfenbüttel. In 1999 it became part of the Ficoso Group, a worldwide provider of systems and components for vehicles, becoming the headquarters of the Group's Industrial and Commercial Vehicle Business Unit. Currently it has a team of 153 people and an annual business volume of close to 40 million Euros.

Wilke's principal product line is rear-view mirror systems for buses, industrial vehicles, and agricultural vehicles. Among its clients are MAN, Daimler AG, IVECO, Volvo 3P, VW Nutzfahrzeuge, Scania, Neoplan, Ford, and CAT.

The principal manufacturers of tractors worldwide (John Deere, Agco, Renault and Claas) stock rear-view mirrors manufactured by Wilke.

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