

# WATERLAND

Press release

## **Growth course continues: msystems – another IT specialist – joins netgo group**

**Hamburg / Borken, 5 March 2024 – netgo group has begun the new year by building on its dynamic growth in 2023: The Waterland portfolio company, and one of Germany’s leading IT service providers, has acquired DATEV specialist msystems. The netgo tax business area has thus further expanded its market position as Germany’s leading IT specialist for tax accountancy and auditing offices, thereby strengthening its service offering.**

Since it was established in 2005, msystems IT-Solutions GmbH from Herxheim in Rhineland-Palatinate has grown to become an established partner for over 300 regional companies by offering tailored IT solutions. With extensive experience built up over many years and a specialized service portfolio, msystems assists tax accountancy offices, law firms, auditing companies and medium-sized companies.

With over 1,500 employees across more than 35 locations, netgo group is one of the leading one-stop shops in the field of IT services for medium-sized businesses. The holistic service portfolio comprises cloud services, managed services, IT security concepts, IT infrastructure and individually tailored software solutions as the key components of a forward-looking IT landscape and digitally driven business models.

Together with Waterland the netgo group has been successfully working on an ambitious buy-&-build strategy in a fragmented market since 2019: Even in 2023, with the acquisitions of nitsche Group and Glöckler & Lauer, netgo had already further expanded the netgo tax business area, which specializes in DATEV applications. Lastly, netgo expanded its portfolio with the acquisition of the specialist for enterprise content management and document management CONTENiT, followed by the acquisition of the managed cloud provider ITgration in November 2023.

The most recent purchase of msystems is part of a series of a total of 13 strategic add-on acquisitions to date that netgo has concluded with the support of majority shareholder Waterland in recent years. msystems founder and managing director Jan Frederik Mattes will now complement the management team of netgo tax in addition to Markus Nitsche, Stefan Koch-Niehues and Oliver Günter. Christoph Hampel – who is also managing director of msystems – will assume a leadership role at netgo tax.

“The acquisition of msystems will not only strengthen our leadership position with netgo tax, it will also enhance our company by giving us almost twenty years’ experience in the field of

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professional services”, notes **Dr. Oliver Mauss, CEO of netgo**. “As a recognized solution and corporate partner for DATEV, specializing in the requirements of medium-sized companies, msystems is an outstanding fit for our broad service offering at netgo.”

“The merger with netgo tax represents a decisive stride into the future for msystems”, stresses **msystems founder and director Jan Frederik Mattes**. “We look forward to supporting our customers and partners with our combined strengths as part of netgo tax, and thus as part of the Germany’s leading DATEV specialist and being able to guarantee an even better service.”

“The integration of msystems into the portfolio of netgo tax is proof of our continued strategic concentration on growth and market leadership. This step underscores our commitment to actively shape the digital transformation in medium-sized companies with top-quality solutions”, adds **Waterland’s Managing Partner Dr. Carsten Rahlfs**.

Waterland is one of Europe’s most active holding companies and has invested heavily in the digitization, IT and telecommunications sectors. Currently, the company’s portfolio in the DACH region includes companies such as netgo, MT/GOD (software development, enreach (unified communications), Skaylink (managed enterprise platform) and Serrala (payment technologies).

## **About Waterland**

Waterland is an independent private equity investment company that supports companies in realizing their growth plans. With substantial financial resources and industry expertise, Waterland enables its portfolio companies to achieve accelerated growth both organically and through acquisitions. Waterland has offices in the Netherlands (Bussum), Belgium (Antwerp), France (Paris), Germany (Hamburg and Munich), Poland (Warsaw), the UK (London and Manchester), Ireland (Dublin), Denmark (Copenhagen), Norway (Oslo), Spain (Barcelona) and Switzerland (Zurich). The company currently has approximately EUR 14 billion in equity funds. Since its foundation in 1999, Waterland has consistently achieved above-average performance with its investments. Globally, the company is ranked fourth in the *HEC/Dow Jones Private Equity Performance Ranking* (January 2023) and is ranked seventh among global private equity firms in the *Preqin Consistent Performers in Global Private Equity & Venture Capital Report 2022*.

## **About netgo:**

netgo group is among Germany’s leading IT service providers. With over 1,500 employees and an end-to-end service portfolio, it is a central reference point for IT issues for companies and organizations. With capabilities across the entire value chain, netgo group creates innovative IT architectures and thus the foundation for digitally sophisticated business models. With cloud services, managed services, IT security concepts, IT infrastructure and individually tailored software solutions: netgo group advises and assists its customers with planning, implementing and operating a pioneering IT landscape so that they can devote their full attention to their core business. With 35 locations and expertise in numerous industries, a close collaboration based on partnership is continuously assured – right across Germany. netgo group is a reliable technology and strategic partner to its customers and develops IT concepts that help people and their business to succeed.

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