



ARICOMA
GROUP

AUTOCONT

Cleverlance



PRESS RELEASE

Partnership between ARICOMA Group and National Centre for Industry 4.0

Prague, 8. 7. 2020 – **The ARICOMA Group, part of the KKCG group, has become a partner of the National Centre for Industry 4.0. The ARICOMA Group thus joins the leaders in innovation on the domestic market, including DEL, Škoda Auto, Siemens, T-Mobile, VDT Technology, the Czech Technical University (CTU) in Prague, the Technical University in Brno, and the Technical University of Ostrava.**

"We regard this partnership as a strategic step towards the development of our companies, primarily AUTOCONT and Cleverlance," says Executive Director of Cleverlance's division ESA Jan Matuš. In Matuš's words, the academic and industrial platform provided by the National Centre for Industry 4.0 is a fantastic environment for the interconnection of innovation leaders, universities, companies and trade unions. *"Our goal is very similar: the development of industrial standards in the Czech Republic. We do not wish merely to be a member, but to be very actively involved in the work of the National Centre for Industry 4.0. We see opportunities primarily in the connection of real-world projects in industry to the centre's activities,"* adds Matuš, who sees positive aspects in both the commercial and the educational side of business. Amongst other things, collaboration between academics and teams from AUTOCONT and Cleverlance is anticipated.

"At the Czech Institute of Informatics, Robotics and Cybernetics of the CTU in Prague we are, through the National Centre for Industry 4.0, actively involved in the creation of an ecosystem for Industry 4.0 in the Czech Republic. We are therefore very careful in selecting partners according to their innovation potential, as well as their willingness to contribute to the development and transformation of industry," says NCP4.0 director Jaroslav Lískovec, explaining how the centre works. *"The ARICOMA Group, including Cleverlance and AUTOCONT, fit perfectly into this concept,"* adds Lískovec.

The National Centre for Industry 4.0 currently functions as an independent consultant, provides representatives of industry with opportunities to test technologies, and helps them orientate themselves in current trends.

"We have been making very careful preparations for our cooperation with the National Centre for Industry 4.0 for more than a year now, and I am proud of the fact that we are now partners. It is a great honour for both AUTOCONT and Cleverlance, and I look forward to our cooperation," adds Executive Director of Cleverlance's division ESA Matuš.

ARICOMA Group:

The group encompasses the companies AUTOCONT, Cleverlance, DataSpring, AEC, Cloud4com and Internet Projekt. It has two thousand employees and its overall turnover for 2019 exceeded 7.3 billion CZK.

KKCG investment group

The KKCG group currently administers major companies worth a total of 6 billion EUR. The KKCG group and companies owned by it employ around 6,000 people and are engaged in business in countries of the European Union and the USA. The KKCG group holds stakes in, for example, the following companies: MND Group, SAZKA Group, ARICOMA Group, US Methanol, and others.

National Centre for Industry 4.0. (NPC 4.0.)

The National Centre for Industry 4.0 is an open academic and industrial platform that interconnects innovation leaders, universities, companies and trade unions, with the goal of jointly contributing to the development of Industry 4.0 in the Czech Republic, which is built on a network of interconnected testbeds – experimental factories of the future. It inspires, connects and creates opportunities. Together with its partners it provides consultation, analyses and solutions in digitalisation, with an emphasis on small and medium-sized enterprises. It organises professional conferences, training and open days. The centre currently has more than 50 partners. It was founded in 2017 by Professor Vladimír Mařík together with other pioneers of Industry 4.0. The centre is part of the Czech Institute of Informatics, Robotics and Cybernetics of the CTU in Prague.

Media contact:

Dana Dvořáková

Communication Director, KKCG a.s.

Vinohradská 230, Praha 10

T +420 225 010 399

M +420 602 372 834

E dana.dvorakova@kkcg.com