

## Press release

### **binderholz Group wins auction of Klausner Lumber Two in North Carolina, USA and thus expands further in the USA**

Fügen, on December 10th, 2020 - The Austrian binderholz Group, headquartered in Fügen, has purchased all assets of Klausner Lumber Two LLC, headquartered in Enfield, Halifax County, North Carolina, at the virtual auction held on Thursday, December 10, 2020. In the auction, binderholz prevailed over Mayr Melnhof Holz and was awarded the contract at USD 83.4 million. The transaction is expected to close in January 2021.

In August 2020, binderholz already expanded outside Europe for the first time with the purchase of Klausner Lumber One in Live Oak, Florida. This will now be followed by the second American sawmill in Enfield, North Carolina. The technical equipment and performance of the two sawmills are similar.

The North Carolina site is located in one of the best growing areas for the "Southern Yellow Pine" species, which is in high demand in the USA. Log availability from the local area is sufficient and sustainable. In addition, the southeast of America is one of the most populous states, so that sales in this region are correspondingly high.

Reinhard Binder, CEO of binderholz, explains the strategic motives as follows: "The acquisition of Klausner Lumber Two in Enfield, North Carolina, is the logical complement to the Klausner Lumber One plant in Live Oak, Florida, which we acquired in August. This step will significantly improve availability for our customers. With this acquisition accomplished, the foundation has been laid for further investments in the depth of value creation."

The acquired Klausner Lumber Two sawmill has a sawing capacity of over 1 million m<sup>3</sup> of logs and a further processing capacity of over 500,000 m<sup>3</sup> of planed products. As some technical investments still have to be made, production is expected to start at the end of 2021.

With this acquisition, binderholz becomes the largest European sawn timber producer. With its 9 sawmills in Austria, Germany, Finland and the USA, binderholz has a capacity of approximately 8.5 million solid cubic meters of roundwood, from which 5 million m<sup>3</sup> of sawn timber and from which 3.6 million m<sup>3</sup> of solid wood products are produced.

Through Binderholz Timber Inc. and its employees, the binderholz Group already has a very good network and customer contacts in the USA. In addition, Binderholz Bausysteme GmbH has been able to realize numerous innovative timber construction projects in the USA in recent years. With the acquisition of the two sawmills in the USA, binderholz will further strengthen its presence in this market and continuously advance the internationalization and diversification of the binderholz Group in terms of market and production.



## **binderholz Group**

Leading European company for solid wood products and innovative construction solutions.

In the timber industry, the name Binder stands for a sense of tradition and reliability, combined with high-tech and innovation. More than 60 years ago a small sawmill business, today the family-owned company binderholz presents itself as one of the leading European companies equipped with the most modern technologies and production methods, with a corresponding reputation on the market.

binderholz has 14 locations: around 3,000 employees work at five Austrian sites - Fügen, Jenbach, St. Georgen, Hallein and Unternberg - five German sites - Kösching, Burgbernheim, Oberrot, Baruth and Wolfegg - two Finnish sites - Lieksa and Nurmes - and two US sites - Live Oak, Florida and Enfield, North Carolina. The solid wood product range extends from sawn timber, profiled timber, single- and multi-layer glued solid wood panels, glued laminated timber to binderholz cross laminated timber BBS. The waste wood from production is processed into biofuels, green electricity, multi-purpose boards, pressboard blocks and pressboard pallets. The products are exported all over the world.

Sales will increase to 1.5 billion euros and 3,500 employees in 2021/2022 due to the start-up of the two US sawmills and ongoing investments at the European sites.

binderholz produces sustainably and efficiently according to the no-waste principle and utilizes 100% of the wood resource.

binderholz owes its reputation to the customer service and customer proximity it provides, to a product range and pricing policy that are tailored to the market, and to binderholz quality management.

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