



## PRESS RELEASE

# SPOTLIGHT ON EMPLOYEE PROTECTION: HENKEL RELIES ON KINEXON SAFEZONE

*Munich / Dusseldorf, June 30, 2020 – Care, innovation and tradition: Henkel, one of the world's leading suppliers of FMCG products relies on digital innovation to protect its employees during the COVID-19 pandemic. Following a successful pilot phase by Henkel Laundry & Home Care, KINEXON SafeZone is now being implemented in a Henkel production facility in Poland.*

The COVID-19 pandemic has created apprehension and uncertainty across the world. Now, a new normal is setting in. Whether it be on the shop floor or in the office, employees are slowly returning to the workplace. In order for this to be done safely, employers must commit to adopting effective measures of protection.

In May, KINEXON launched SafeZone, the most accurate digital protection against the spread of COVID-19. The core element is a small lightweight ultra-wideband (UWB) wearable sensor, the SafeTag, which actively warns users if the minimum physical distance to another person is compromised. With optional software, companies can also trace chains of infection in order to take targeted action against the spread of the virus.

### **Henkel Relies on SafeZone for Additional Employee Protection**

To supplement its strict safety and hygiene measures, Henkel now uses KINEXON SafeZone to protect its employees and secure its operations.

A 10-day pilot phase using 150 SafeTags was successfully completed and received positive feedback from employees. All aspects of the warning and tracing functions were examined in detail. Henkel is now planning to implement KINEXON SafeZone at its plant in Poland, which has more than 300 employees. This extended distribution will be used to evaluate and prepare a global rollout.

In addition to digital employee protection from COVID-19, Henkel also upgraded its occupational safety with the help of KINEXON. In the future, KINEXON will support Henkel to implement a real-time localization system for forklifts and forklift drivers to help avoid collisions. This is just the latest effort by Henkel's Laundry & Home Care business unit to digitalize its supply chain and adopt leading technological advancements.

### **Collaboration with Perspective**

"The safety of our employees is our highest priority - not only in times of coronavirus," said Dr. Johannes Holtbrügge, Senior Manager Digital Transformation at Henkel Laundry & Home Care. "However, the current situation requires special measures. In addition to our strict safety and hygiene concepts, KINEXON's sensor technology offers us further possibilities to protect employees from infection. The sensors make it easier to maintain the minimum distance and enable us to trace the chain of infection in case of illness. We have succeeded in implementing this pilot project in less than a month."

"Professional, fast and agile - that's a brief description of the cooperation," said Dieter Krockauer, Vice President Digital Transformation at KINEXON. "It is a partnership that both sides are happy about. With the SafeZone project we have laid a

good foundation for the future. In the long term, we want to focus on a strategic cooperation in the context of the digital supply chain.”

#### **About KINEXON Industries GmbH**

KINEXON Industries GmbH is one of the leading providers of solutions for centimeter-precise real-time localization of objects, paving the way for Industry 4.0. In addition to sensors for data generation, the portfolio includes software for intelligent data analysis and automation of processes in the digital factory of tomorrow. Together with KINEXON Sports & Media GmbH, it is part of KINEXON - a company founded in 2012 by scientists of the Technical University of Munich. The company has received numerous awards for its products and services. More information at [www.kinexon.com](http://www.kinexon.com)

#### **About Henkel**

Henkel operates globally with a well-balanced and diversified portfolio. The company holds leading positions with its three business units in both industrial and consumer businesses thanks to strong brands, innovations and technologies. Henkel Adhesive Technologies is the global leader in the adhesives market – across all industry segments worldwide. In its Laundry & Home Care and Beauty Care businesses, Henkel holds leading positions in many markets and categories around the world. Founded in 1876, Henkel looks back on more than 140 years of success. In fiscal year 2019, Henkel generated sales of over 20 billion euros and adjusted operating profit of around 3.2 billion euros. Henkel employs more than 52,000 people globally – a passionate and highly diverse team, united by a strong company culture, a common purpose to create sustainable value, and shared values. As a recognized leader in sustainability, Henkel holds top positions in many international indices and rankings. Henkel's preferred shares are listed on the DAX. You can find further information at [www.henkel.com](http://www.henkel.com)

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