

# Press Release

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## **Bucher Industries Strengthens Its Agricultural Machinery Business in North America**

**Bucher Industries through its Kuhn Group division has agreed to acquire the privately owned US-company Knight Manufacturing Corporation headquartered in Brodhead, Wisconsin, to strengthen its US and Canadian market presence. Both, Kuhn Group and Knight are leaders in complementary fields of specialised agricultural machinery. The purchase price is confidential.**

In the US and Canadian markets, Knight Manufacturing Corporation, founded in 1945, is the leading producer of mixing/feeding and manure spreading equipment for the livestock industry. Knight manufactures the broadest range of chassis-mounted or pull-type equipment in its field, with capacities amongst the highest of the industry. The production facilities are located in Brodhead (Wisconsin) and Greeley (Colorado). With approximately 250 employees, an innovative product range and a well-established, efficient sales force and dealer network, Knight is a profitable company reaching sales of 45 million USD in 2001. The activities of Knight ideally complement those of Kuhn Group in the North American market creating a unique leadership position.

Knight's activities in the US will be integrated into those of Kuhn Group by combining the strengths of the existing distribution networks, and by using the manufacturing and assembly capabilities of Knight for the American market. Thierry Krier will be appointed president of the newly formed

