



"We believe that local production is absolutely vital"

Simon Jacobs



VDL KTI

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The success story of VDL KTI began way back in 1971, in the Belgian town of Mol, when it started developing furnaces for the petrochemical industry. Based in the Kempen region of Belgium, the company has built up a strong reputation over the years as a manufacturer of assorted tools and equipment for the oil, gas and petrochemical industry. Products include pressure vessels, reactors, shell and tube heat exchangers, modular skids, etc. Since the takeover by VDL Groep, VDL KTI has invested heavily to improve the production facilities. This has opened new doors for them to other industries, such as the electricity market and the maritime industry. In addition, it has allowed VDL KTI to collaborate with different partners on new developments in waste processing and sustainable energy solutions.

VDL KTI currently has 100 employees at its facilities in Mol and Arendonk. The head office in Mol, in the province of Antwerp, is home to the engineering activities, the administration and the production of heavy industrial

can compensate for it. This is how we attempt to achieve stable growth. We are determined to keep the manufacturing industry here in Belgium and the Netherlands. We believe that local production is absolutely vital." VDL KTI processes around 300 tonnes of metal plates every week, ranging from traditional carbon steel to various high-quality, high-alloyed

stainless steels. The steel is purchased from European steel suppliers.

Contributing to sustainability of our environment is important to VDL KTI and the company works in full compliance with the ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001 standards.

In 2000, KTI Belgium was acquired by Van Der Leegte Groep, the Dutch family-owned business known as VDL Groep. The group's centre of activity is in the automotive industry, mainly the production of buses and private cars, and employs more than 15,000 staff worldwide. VDL Groep is the European market leader in the electrification of heavy transport. Buses are assembled at VDL Bus in Roeselare, Belgium. Another key activity is car assembly, which takes place at VDL Nedcar where various models of the BMW X1 and the MINI are built. Some VDL products are clearly visible, for example in the case of buses. Mostly, however, they are hidden as

equipment. The major focus of the Arendonk site is on the fabrication of lighter products. "We strive to play an active role across a wide range of industries," says Simon Jacobs, Commercial Director at VDL KTI. "This enables us to minimize certain risks. If one industry is in decline, other markets

semi-finished products or products in the supply chain, which are processed further to make end products. The group has made several interesting acquisitions in recent years, resulting in an impressive worldwide growth to 106 companies across 20 countries including Romania, Switzerland, China and Singapore. Despite this international growth, VDL Groep has remained a true family business, with the third generation currently at the helm.

