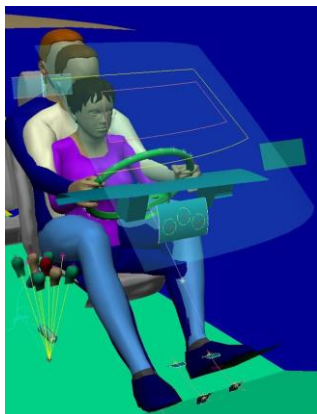


## NORD Holding and PINOVA make majority investment in the Human Solutions Group, Kaiserslautern



**NORD Holding** and **PINOVA Capital** have jointly acquired the share majority in Human Solutions GmbH based in Kaiserslautern ([www.human-solutions.com](http://www.human-solutions.com)). The sellers are the founding partners and the participating financial investor CornerstoneCapital. The parties have agreed not to disclose financial details of the transaction. The deal is subject to approval by the German Cartel Office.

Founded in 2002, the Human Solutions Group develops and sells **software solutions** for the clothing, automotive and aerospace industries. The company's core competencies lie in the areas of CAD, layplanning and optimisation and 3D simulation. In addition, Human Solutions has the largest international database of body measurements with more than 100,000 test volunteers from different countries. In combination with the software solutions, Human Solutions offers its customers significant efficiency and thus cost benefits with the optimised fit development and production of their products. With **more than 200 employees**, the group generated **sales of approximately € 22.5 million** in 2014. In addition to its headquarters in Kaiserslautern, the company also operates from sites near Munich, in Lainate, Italy and Cary, North Carolina, USA. With the acquisition of Human Solutions, NORD Holding and PINOVA are pursuing an international **growth strategy** particularly in **Asia**.



"We are pleased to have gained two experienced growth partners with NORD Holding and PINOVA who together with the management will purposefully continue the successful course of the company", said **Dr. Andreas Seidl**, who remains on board as a fully committed CEO and shareholder following the transaction.

"The Human Solutions Group has an excellent market position and continues as a pioneer in new software standards for the fashion and automotive industries with its unique technological expertise particularly in the field of 3D simulation", explained **NORD Holding management spokesman Matthias Kues**.



"We have watched the development of Human Solutions for many years and are very pleased to participate in its continued growth", added **Joern Pelzer, co-founder and partner of PINOVA Capital GmbH**.

**About NORD Holding ([www.nordholding.de](http://www.nordholding.de)):**

With its 45-year history NORD Holding is one of the leading private equity investors for the upper mid-sized companies. Their main activities are the structuring and financing of corporate succession models, the acquisition of parts of groups and subsidiaries, and the expansion and financing of SMEs. NORD Holding's investors are several North German savings banks, public insurance companies and pension funds as well as the North German Landesbank. Unlike most other financial investors who only manage temporary funds, NORD Holding operates as a so-called "Evergreen Fund" and invests from its own balance sheet without time restriction. This enables holding companies to develop without external time pressure and to use their growth potential. The company is active in more than 25 companies in Germany and German-speaking countries. Through its funds of funds division, NORD Holding has invested € 500 million in other private equity companies, particularly in Europe, and thus offers the participating companies an international network.

**About PINOVA Capital ([www.pinovacapital.com](http://www.pinovacapital.com)):**

PINOVA Capital is an independent investment company specialising in equity financing of high-growth, innovative SMEs in the German-speaking countries with turnovers of between € 10 million and € 75 million and an equity capital requirement of between € 5 million and € 15 million. PINOVA Capital was founded by Marko Maschek, Martin Olbort and Joern Pelzer, who combine their many years of private equity experience with a medium-sized corporate background and international network. **PINOVA Fund I** currently holds interests **in ten companies** (BrandMaker GmbH, CLARUS Films GmbH, deconta GmbH, fabfab GmbH, Hemoteq AG, INVENT Umwelttechnik AG, Norafin GmbH, Rademacher Geräte-Elektronik GmbH, Utimaco GmbH and WENDT SIT GmbH & Co. KG ). PINOVA Fund I is supported by the European Union under the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP). 

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