

## Creating a Safe Workplace as Coronavirus Cases Surge: Oerlikon Successfully Deploying Innovative Distance-Warning Technology

- **To enable a safe and reliable workplace for employees at sites worldwide, global technology Group, Oerlikon, brought in a sensor-based technology, SafeZone, from start-up company, Kinexon, during the lockdown in spring 2020.**
- **Based on an industry 4.0 radio standard, the technology measures the distance between two sensors with centimeter precision.**
- **After pilot testing in Switzerland and Germany, the devices are being gradually implemented at Oerlikon sites worldwide.**

Pfäffikon, Schwyz, Switzerland – October 29, 2020 – In times of increasing coronavirus cases, the global technology Group Oerlikon is well-equipped with an innovative technology to minimize the risk of infection for employees, customers and business partners. During the past few months, Oerlikon has successfully tested the sensor-based SafeZone technology from Munich-based start-up Kinexon as a pilot project at some of its Swiss and German sites and is now gradually equipping its worldwide sites with the devices.

In June 2020, Oerlikon communicated that it was testing the SafeZone distance-warning technology from the Munich-based start-up Kinexon. The pilot tests were conducted at several Oerlikon locations in Germany and Switzerland. Oerlikon is introducing now the successfully tested system at locations worldwide. By the end of the year, 8000 distance-warning devices will be in operation at more than 100 locations in 20 countries in Europe and the USA.

“Providing a safe working environment and protection for our employees, customers and business partners globally remain top and immediate priorities,” explains Dr. Roland Fischer, CEO Oerlikon Group. “As it is difficult to predict the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was extremely important for us to complete the tests quickly and successfully over the past months, so that we can introduce the technology on a large scale from autumn onwards.”

With SafeZone, the distance between individuals is measured with centimeter accuracy. At Oerlikon's locations with the technology installed, employees can choose to either wear the sensor on the wrist or carry it around in a sensor holder. If the predefined minimum distance between two sensors, for example 1.5 meters, is breached, audio-visual warning signals are activated.

Wearing a SafeZone sensor also enables the precise tracking of contact chains in the event of an infection, allowing a rapid and targeted implementation of measures, such as imposing quarantines on affected contact persons. Additionally, all parties involved can be rapidly informed, and the affected areas can be narrowed down precisely and quickly, thereby preventing a complete shutdown of the site.

“Thanks to our employees, who have exercised great discipline and care, and the safety measures implemented by Oerlikon, we have until now managed the pandemic very well,” added Dr. Fischer. “The health of employees comes first, and we want to continue ensuring their health in the future by deploying such modern distance-warning technology.”

## Images



Oerlikon CEO, Dr. Roland Fischer, leads the way to provide a COVID safe workplace.



Red flashing light and warning beeps signal shortfall of the minimum distance.



### **Additional Information**

A video on the pilot project can be found [here](#).

### **For further information, please contact:**

Kerstin Floetner  
Head of Group Communications,  
Investor Relations & Marketing  
Tel.: +41 58 360 98 68  
kerstin.floetner@oerlikon.com  
www.oerlikon.com

Leng Wong  
Head of Group External Communications  
& Public Affairs  
Tel.: +41 58 360 96 14  
leng.wong@oerlikon.com  
www.oerlikon.com

### **About Oerlikon**

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) engineers materials, equipment and surfaces and provides expert services to enable customers to have high-performance products and systems with extended lifespans. Drawing on its key technological competencies and strong financial foundation, the Group is sustaining mid-term growth by addressing attractive growth markets, securing structural growth and expanding through targeted mergers and acquisitions. A leading global technology and engineering Group, Oerlikon operates its business in two Segments – Surface Solutions and Manmade Fibers – and has a global footprint of more than 11 100 employees at 182 locations in 37 countries. In 2019, Oerlikon generated CHF 2.6 billion in sales and invested more than CHF 120 million in R&D.

### **Disclaimer**

OC Oerlikon Corporation AG, Pfäffikon together with its affiliates, hereinafter referred to as “Oerlikon”, has made great efforts to include accurate and up-to-date information in this document. However, Oerlikon makes no representation or warranties, expressed or implied, as to the truth, accuracy or completeness of the information provided in this document. Neither Oerlikon nor any of its directors, officers, employees or advisors, nor any other person connected or otherwise associated with Oerlikon, shall have any liability whatsoever for loss howsoever arising, directly or indirectly, from any use of this document.

The contents of this document, including all statements made therein, are based on estimates, assumptions and other information currently available to the management of Oerlikon. This document contains certain statements related to the future business and financial performance or future events involving Oerlikon that may constitute forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements contained herein could be substantially impacted by risks, influences and other factors, many of which are not foreseeable at present and/or are beyond Oerlikon’s control, so that the actual results, including Oerlikon’s financial results and operational results, may vary materially from and differ from those, expressly or implicitly, provided in the forward-looking statements, be they anticipated, expected or projected. Oerlikon does not give any assurance, representation or warranty, expressed or implied, that such forward-looking statements will be realized. Oerlikon is under no obligation to, and explicitly disclaims any obligation to, update or otherwise review its forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

This document, including any and all information contained therein, is not intended as, and may not be construed as, an offer or solicitation by Oerlikon for the purchase or disposal of, trading or any transaction in any Oerlikon securities. Investors must not rely on this information for investment decisions and are solely responsible for forming their own investment decisions.