BERTELSMANN

PRESS RELEASE

Bertelsmann Acquires Ekol, One of the Leading Logistics Companies in Türkiye, and Further Expands Its Global Footprint

- **Bertelsmann's services subsidiary Arvato to acquire Turkish logistics company Ekol Logistics**
- **Another step forward in Bertelsmann's global growth strategy**
- **Purchase price in the mid-nine-figure range**
- **Largest investment in Arvato's history**
- **Leading position in Turkey's rapidly growing logistics market**
- **Arvato's revenues in Turkey rise to €460 million**

Gütersloh / Istanbul, November 19, 2026 – Bertelsmann is expanding its international services business: Its subsidiary Arvato is acquiring Ekol Logistics, one of the leading logistics companies in Türkiye, thereby strengthening its position in one of the most dynamic logistics markets in the EMEA region. The agreed purchase price is in the mid-nine-figure range. The transaction is subject to regulatory approval.

The acquisition will make Arvato one of the leading contract logistics providers in Türkiye. Ekol Logistics has approximately 4,500 employees and operates primarily in the fashion, consumer electronics, fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG), healthcare/pharmaceuticals, and automotive sectors. Arvato has operated in Türkiye since 2005 and has significantly expanded its business there in recent years. Together with Ekol, Arvato will generate annual revenues of €460 million in Türkiye, making Turkey one of its five largest markets.

Thomas Rabe, Chairman & CEO of Bertelsmann, said: "The acquisition of Ekol Logistics is an important step for Bertelsmann and the largest investment in Arvato's history. Under Frank Schirrmeister's leadership, Arvato has become one of Bertelsmann's most successful businesses. Over the past ten years, Arvato has increased its revenues from approximately €1.5 billion to around €3.3 billion. The acquisition of Ekol Logistics will further accelerate our growth and strengthen our position in an attractive market."

Rabe continued: "The acquisition of Ekol Logistics aligns perfectly with Bertelsmann's regional expansion and Boost strategy. Europe remains our home market. We have developed the US into Bertelsmann's largest and most profitable market, with revenues of €5.3 billion. We are also significantly expanding our presence in other growth regions: in Brazil, with a focus on education, through the planned combination of Afya and YDUQS, with revenues of €1.6 billion; and in Türkiye, through the planned acquisition of Ekol Logistics, with revenues of €460 million. In China and India, we have invested a total of €1.6 billion in high-growth companies through Bertelsmann Asia Investments and Bertelsmann India Investments since 2008. These include e-commerce services provider Shiprocket, which successfully went public two months ago."

Frank Schirrmeister, CEO of Arvato, said: "Over the past 20 years, we have built a highly successful and rapidly growing logistics business in Türkiye. Ekol Logistics complements our existing operations perfectly. The company brings strong operational capabilities, a nationwide logistics network, extensive expertise in automation, and long-standing

relationships with leading customers. Together, we aim to accelerate growth and offer our international customers an even wider range of services in Türkiye."

Until now, growth in Türkiye has been largely organic, particularly in the fashion, beauty, and consumer electronics sectors, driven in part by the steady expansion of warehouse capacity. The addition of Ekol Logistics will take Arvato's Turkish business to an entirely new level and extend its presence from Istanbul to a nationwide network. Arvato plans to invest further and capitalize on the growth potential of the combined businesses alongside Ekol founder Ahmet Musul and the experienced management team led by Umur Özkal and Rasim Kartal.

Ekol Logistics was founded by Ahmet Musul in 1990 and has become a major logistics provider in Türkiye. Ekol focuses on contract logistics, including omnichannel fulfillment and domestic distribution services.

Ahmet Musul, founder and Chairperson of the Board of Ekol Logistics, said: "Ekol Logistics has built a strong contract logistics business in Türkiye with deep sector expertise, an extensive operational network and a clear focus on technology and automation. Arvato brings an international platform and the ambition to further grow the business. Together, these strengths create a strong foundation to offer clients broader capabilities, greater scale, and new opportunities for growth. I am confident that once completed, the transaction is expected to create long-term value for our clients and employees alike."

About Ekol Logistics
Ekol Logistics was founded in 1990 and is headquartered in Istanbul. The company is a leading provider of contract logistics services in Türkiye, offering services including omnichannel fulfillment and domestic distribution. Ekol has a nationwide network and extensive expertise in automating logistics processes. It serves leading customers in the fashion, consumer electronics, FMCG, healthcare/pharmaceuticals, and automotive sectors and employs approximately 4,500 people.

About Arvato
Arvato is a global third-party logistics (3PL) provider specializing in supply chain management and e-commerce. International companies rely on Arvato to put their supply chain strategies into practice through fast, precise, and reliable logistics processes. Across the consumer products, tech, data center, healthcare, automotive, and publishing sectors, Arvato operates complex distribution and fulfillment networks tailored to industry-specific requirements. At more than 100 locations worldwide, over 20,000 employees combine advanced technologies, data-driven processes, and operational expertise to deliver reliable performance and adapt flexibly to changing business requirements.
www.arvato.com

About Bertelsmann
Bertelsmann is a media, services, and education company with more than 75,000 employees that operates in about 50 countries around the world. It includes the entertainment group RTL Group, the trade book publisher Penguin Random House, the music company BMG, the service provider Arvato Group, Bertelsmann Marketing Services, Bertelsmann Education Group, and Bertelsmann Investments. The company generated revenues of €19 billion in the 2025 financial year. Bertelsmann stands for creativity and entrepreneurship. This combination promotes first-class media content and innovative service solutions that inspire customers around the world.
www.bertelsmann.com

Bertelsmann online



Contact:

Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA
Jan Hölkemann
Spokesman / Corporate Communications
Phone: +49 5241 80-89923
jan.hoelkemann@bertelsmann.de