



1900 Superior Avenue | Suite 304 | Cleveland, Ohio 44114 P 216.579.6100 | F 216.579.6102

Press contact:

Pete Zeller 216.579.6100 ext. 2 / pete@CunninghamBaron.com

Bob Kibbe Named CEO of Tranzonic Companies and **Hospeco Brands Group**

Outgoing Tranzonic CEO Tom Friedl remaining in new role as Vice Chairman of company's Board of Directors

CLEVELAND—Nov. 6, 2024—Hospeco Brands Group, a leading distributor of cleaning and hygiene products serving customers in a diverse set of end markets, including healthcare, foodservice, industrial and safety, and facility services, is pleased to welcome Robert (Bob) Kibbe to its executive team. Effective immediately, Kibbe will assume the role of CEO of Tranzonic Companies and its Hospeco Brands Group. Tom Friedl, CEO since 2015, is remaining with the company as Vice Chairman of the company's Board of Directors.

Kibbe brings over 30 years of experience to the role, spanning diverse markets such as hardware, technology, production assembly, Jan/San, and foodservice. Prior to joining Tranzonic, Kibbe was CEO of Supply Source Enterprises (SSE). Tranzonic acquired certain assets of SSE earlier this year, including the Impact Products and The Safety Zone brands, which have developed industry leading reputations over the past 50+ years. Preceding his role as CEO of Supply Source, Kibbe served as President of Moen Americas, President of Global Power Tools at Apex Tool Group, and President of Levolor.

Tom Friedl will transition to a new role as Vice Chairman of Tranzonic's Board of Directors, supporting the business on strategic planning, global supply chain management, and M&A execution, as well as working closely with incoming CEO Kibbe to ensure a smooth transition and best position Tranzonic for its next chapter of growth.

"Bob's leadership skills will ensure continued growth and profitability for Hospeco Brands Group and Tranzonic," said Friedl. "The strategic direction of the company remains unchanged. Our core values, goals, and mission remain unchanged. I am thankful to have led Tranzonic over this past decade. Partnering with our customers and vendors, our team at Tranzonic has grown the business while also driving important initiatives and supporting our communities. I look forward to continuing to support Bob and the rest of the organization in my role as Vice Chairman."

The last decade has been a period of unprecedented growth for Tranzonic and Hospeco Brands Group. Kibbe's executive leadership and keen market sense will help drive a continuation of this trend. In his new role, Kibbe is responsible for leading strategy across Tranzonic's diverse set of categories, executing an agenda to even better serve customers as a true single source solution, and driving innovation in sales, marketing, and product development.

This transition, long planned for and developed in partnership with the Board of Directors, helps ensure continuity and a seamless change in leadership, allowing Tranzonic to continue to best serve its customers now and in the future.

About Hospeco Brands Group

Hospeco Brands Group brings more than a century of know-how and innovation to cleaning, protecting, and caring for public spaces – workplaces, offices, schools, restaurants, stores, and more – as well as for the people who work in and patronize these facilities. The company delivers best-in-class products and customer support. Hospeco Brand Group's people are smart, creative problem solvers whose focus on continuous innovation empowers them to meet the everevolving needs of customers. The resulting product mix is tough enough to perform consistently in demanding environments yet designed with the comfort and protection of the public in mind. For more information, contact Hospeco Brands Group at 26301 Curtiss Wright Parkway, Suite 200, Cleveland, OH 44143. Email: info@hospecobrands.com. Web: www.hospecobrands.com.

Photo Caption:

Robert (Bob) Kibbe Named CEO of Tranzonic Companies and Hospeco Brands Group