

Press release

Berner Group and Albert Berner Foundation donate 100,000 euros for stormy weather

Künzelsau, June 16, 2016: Today in the Künzelsau City Hall, the Berner Group and the Albert Berner Foundation handed over a donation totaling 100,000 euros to the municipality of Braunsbach. The money will mainly be used to help those in particular need after the weather catastrophe. Firefighters whose vehicles were ruined during the severe weather will also be supported.

An exact assessment of all the damage caused by the storm on May 29, 2016 has not yet been made – and it will take some time until all the damage has been repaired. Christian A.W. Berner, CEO of the Berner Group, was stunned by the situation in his hometown: “I was shocked to see the images from Künzelsau. The situation in Braunsbach was frightening.” The managing directors of the subsidiaries in Hohenlohe, Jochen Kuhn for Albert Berner Deutschland GmbH and Andreas Krebs for BTI Befestigungstechnik, will hand over 50,000 euros to the Mayor of Künzelsau, Stefan Neumann. Last week, the Albert Berner Foundation, represented by Ursula Berner, Chairperson of the Foundation Council, and Gerhard Franzkowiak, Executive Director of the Foundation, also offered an additional 30,000 euros to the city of Künzelsau.

“I am very happy about the generous contribution. The money will be used for particularly needy families and the firefighters,” explained Mayor Neumann.

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The Berner Group will donate a further 20,000 euros to the municipality of Braunsbach. The official handover will take place at the end of June. "We see it as our responsibility to help our employees and the region in this exceptional situation," says Ursula Berner.

In Hohenlohe, Albert Berner Deutschland GmbH and BTI Befestigungstechnik granted special leave days to employees and volunteers affected by the storm. During the cleanup efforts in Künzelsau, the business group offered helpers warm lunches over a period of several days.

Buckets, water squeegees and other tools have been in short supply since the storms hit in late May. "We heard about these needs via Facebook and have simply been distributing the materials with our employees," explained Jochen Kuhn, Managing Director of Albert Berner Deutschland GmbH. His colleague, Andreas Krebs, who has been Managing Director of BTI Befestigungstechnik since June 1, was highly impressed by all the participants' efforts: "The level of commitment and solidarity is admirable."

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Happy faces at the donation handover in the Künzelsau City Hall (from left to right): Gerhard Franzkowiak, Executive Director, Albert Berner Foundation; Stefan Neumann, Mayor of the City of Künzelsau; Jochen Kuhn, Managing Director, Albert Berner Deutschland GmbH; Ursula Berner, Chairperson of the Foundation Council, Albert Berner Foundation; Andreas Krebs, Managing Director, BTI Befestigungstechnik GmbH & Co. KG; Lisa Fischbach, Berner Group; Thomas Böhret, Municipal Fire Chief

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The Berner Group

The Berner Group is a European family-run commercial enterprise. Our vision: "We keep the world together and moving." This means we are the central B2B trading partner for a full range of materials in the areas of maintenance, repairs and production for our clients in the construction, mobility and industrial sectors. We create an integrated cross-channel shopping experience for our customers on over four channels. We are an innovative manufacturer in the area of steel and c-parts, and also in the chemicals field. With over 230,000 items and 9,000 employees, we serve clients in more than 25 countries.

The Albert Berner Foundation

The non-profit Albert Berner Foundation was founded in 1995 by the entrepreneur Albert Berner. The foundation is dedicated to the long-term advancement of children and adults in the social and cultural field as well as in sports and education, mainly in the Hohenlohe region.