

### PRESS RELEASE

# VGP partners with Verne to develop autonomous vehicle production facility in VGP Park Zagreb

- In VGP Park Zagreb 28,500 m² is leased to Verne for its new flagship urban autonomous mobility ecosystem project
- Following 5 years of preparation, on June 26, Verne unveiled the unique autonomous vehicle design and the functionalities that the future mobility service will have
- The site in Zagreb will be used for the development and production of Verne's autonomous electric vehicles

10 July 2024, 10 am, Zagreb (Croatia) / Antwerp (Belgium) - VGP, a European provider of high-quality logistics and semi-industrial real estate, is developing a new business park in Lucko near Zagreb, Croatia. VGP Park Zagreb is located on an 8-hectare site and will offer 28,500 m² to Verne, previously known as Project 3 Mobility ("P3M"), a Croatian company building an innovative ecosystem for urban autonomous mobility. The site offers extension possibilities in the future.

Verne will use the site for its new flagship urban autonomous mobility ecosystem project. Verne's service and its ecosystem are based on three key elements: a fully autonomous electric vehicle, along with specialised infrastructure and a mobility service platform, including a user app. The project, which was announced on June 26, 2024 at Rimac Campus in Zagreb, is going to establish the proof that a new standard of movement is possible. The first service will be launched in Zagreb in 2026, followed by UK and Germany.

Verne, which secured investments including from TASARU Mobility Investments - a company fully owned by the Public Investment Fund (PIF) of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia - and Kia, one of South Korea's leading automotive manufacturers, was founded in 2019 by Mate Rimac and two of his closest colleagues and friends from Rimac Group - Marko Pejković, now CEO of Verne, and Adriano Mudri, Chief Design Officer at Verne.

**Marko Pejković, CEO of Verne, says**: "We have found a great location and the right partner for building our first production facility for autonomous vehicles in Zagreb. All Verne vehicles will be produced here. Vehicles for all markets will be manufactured in Croatia, giving our country a key role in the modern automotive industry. Initially, we will produce several hundred vehicles, and later the facility will have the capacity to produce up to 10,000 vehicles per year. The production volume will increase over time, following the project's dynamics. The construction of this large-scale production facility represents a significant achievement and a crucial step for our project and our country. We will create numerous quality jobs, thereby attracting and retaining talent here in Croatia."

**Jan Van Geet, CEO of VGP, says:** "It is an honor for VGP to contribute to Verne's groundbreaking project by constructing new facilities for its development and production at VGP Park Zagreb. The development of this hub for technological breakthroughs is a reflection of our commitment to innovation, sustainability, and the reindustrialisation of Europe. Enabled by our in-house technical expertise, we are looking forward to realise high-quality facilities for Verne, paving the way for a smarter and more sustainable mobility."

The site in Lucko is situated just 10 km from the centre of the capital city of Zagreb and only 15 minutes by car from Zagreb Airport, and benefits from excellent connectivity at the junction of the E-70 and E-65 motorways, facilitating easy access to major cities across Croatia and neighbouring countries.

The preparation activities have already started, and VGP expects to begin construction work by the end of this summer. The asset is designed to meet the BREEAM Excellent certification, ensuring high sustainable standards, including the installation of a photovoltaic system on the building's roof and EV charging facilities in the parking areas. Finally, it aims to comply with the environmental targets set by the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

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#### **ABOUT VGP**

VGP is a pan-European owner, manager and developer of high-quality logistics and semi-industrial properties as well as a provider of renewable energy solutions. VGP has a fully integrated business model with extensive expertise and many years of experience along the entire value chain. VGP was founded in 1998 as a family-owned Belgian property developer in the Czech Republic and today operates with around 368 full-time employees in 17 European countries directly and through several 50:50 joint ventures. In December 2023, the gross asset value of VGP, including the 100% joint ventures, amounted to  $\in$  7.19 billion and the company had a net asset value (EPRA NTA) of  $\in$  2.3 billion. VGP is listed on Euronext Brussels (ISIN: BE0003878957).

For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.vgpparks.eu/en">https://www.vgpparks.eu/en</a>

## **ABOUT VERNE**

Verne is about moving forward together.

Verne is a Croatia-based company developing a new ecosystem for urban autonomous mobility. The innovative ecosystem consists of three key elements that Verne is creating: a fully autonomous electric vehicle, specialised infrastructure, and a mobility service platform, including a user app. Driven by curiosity, Verne's goal is to progress society with every ride by combining autonomous technology and love for discovery. Named after Jules Verne, the author who imagined humanity's potential through amazing journeys, Verne is going to establish proof that a new standard of movement is possible. The company was founded in 2019 by Croatian innovator and entrepreneur Mate Rimac, and two of his closest colleagues and friends from Rimac Group - Marko Pejković, now CEO of Verne, and Adriano Mudri, Chief Design Officer at Verne.

For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.letsverne.com/">https://www.letsverne.com/</a>