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Datum: 19.07.2021

## **Declaration on the consequences of the flood disaster**

As the worst flood disaster of the last 60 years, this week's depression "Bernd" flooded entire areas, washed out streets and destroyed the entire infrastructure in many places. Entire towns have been cut off from the power supply, are under water or can no longer be approached. In NRW, areas in the Rhineland, Bergisches Land, Ruhr region and Sauerland are particularly affected. These regions are traditionally home to many companies in the forging industry, which are currently working hard to repair the consequences and damage of the storm.

Nevertheless, it is likely that there will be considerable delays in deliveries in the affected sectors and at the affected companies, the duration of which can often not yet be precisely assessed at this time. This unforeseeable event will also affect our suppliers and other cooperation partners who will no longer be able to supply or perform.

The trade associations are in close contact and daily exchange with each other as well as with the member companies in order to keep the consequences for the supply chains as low as possible across all stages of the value chain. The companies are also currently doing everything they can to repair the damage, some of which is serious, and to be able to deliver again without restrictions as soon as possible.

In view of the current exceptional situation, the trade associations would like to ask the stakeholders at all stages of the value chain to be understanding if some companies are currently unable to deliver due to this situation for which they are not responsible ("force majeure").

Hagen/Düsseldorf, 19.07.2021