

## PRESS RELEASE

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Gijs Bekkers has been appointed Global Account Manager for VMI Can.**

**On June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 VMI Can's Sales Manager Johan Jonkman will retire after almost 20 years at the company. His position will be taken over by Gijs (Gus) Bekkers who has been the Upgrade & Maintenance Advisor for VMI's Can Washing and Drying equipment for four years.**

Johan Jonkman about his upcoming retirement: "After running VMI CAN as Manager Sales for almost 20 years, retirement is now slowly becoming reality. This relatively unknown industry by outsiders, even though the end product is globally used on a daily basis, is full of friendly and dedicated professionals. The industry has allowed me to travel all around the globe and has brought me so many friends, it's truly amazing. It is a close-knit community where people still care about one another, where competitors understand that there's room enough for all of us and we cannot do without each other. Working here was a pleasure and an honor, I will miss you all dearly, but I'm sure we'll run into each other again someday, somewhere."

Gijs Bekkers about his new step in the company: "I have been with VMI for seven years now, having started my career here after completing my Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. After three years, I transitioned to the commercial team to work alongside Johan, where my primary focus was on aftersales and technical support. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities VMI and Johan have provided me. Over the years, Johan has not only become a mentor but also a valued friend. I wish him all the very best in his well-deserved retirement."

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### **About VMI**

VMI is a wholly owned subsidiary of technology company TKH Group N.V. (NYSE Euronext Amsterdam, [www.tkhgroup.com](http://www.tkhgroup.com)). VMI encompasses several specialized business lines for Tire, Rubber, Can and Care products, each of them having earned a solid reputation in their respective markets. The VMI machines are produced in state-of-the-art manufacturing and services facilities in the Netherlands, Germany, Brazil, Poland and China. Combined with services centers in the USA, Malaysia and Thailand, we are always close at hand for whatever support may be needed. VMI employs more than 1800 people around the world. To learn more about VMI Group, please visit [www.vmi-group.com](http://www.vmi-group.com).