



PRESS STATEMENT

## **Group CEO and Group CFO to leave Esprit**

(17 December 2020, Ratingen) Mr. Anders Kristiansen will resign from his successful tenure as CEO of the Esprit Group with effect as of 28. February 2021 and as such he will opt out for the re-election of his directorship at the Annual General Meeting. In June 2018, Mr. Kristiansen took over as Group CEO and has actively repositioned the Group in extremely difficult times to adapt to the challenging global retail environment. He has been instrumental in leading the Esprit Group for the global realignment. The Company thanks Mr. Kristiansen for his successful performance and leadership and wishes him all the best in his professional and personal endeavour.

Further, Mr. Johannes Schmidt-Schultes will depart from the Company with effect as of 28. February 2021 and will resign as a director of the Company by 17 December 2020. Schmidt-Schultes joined as Group CFO in October 2019 and has steered the company successfully through the Protective Shield Proceedings for the last eight months while also preparing the Group for the new economic business reality.

The Esprit Group wishes to relocate the management to Hong Kong and will immediately focus on the search for a successor.



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**Press contact:**

Claudia Junge  
press@esprit.com

**Investor Relations:**

Stephanie Kniep  
stephanie.kniep@esprit.com

**About ESPRIT**

Fueled by the vision of essential positivity, Esprit was founded in California by couple Susie and Doug Tompkins in 1968. Inspired by the revolutionary spirit of the 60s the brand developed a clear philosophy – always celebrating real people and togetherness, in line with the brand's promise: "We want to make you feel good to look good". The success story of Esprit is based on two pillars: Delivering joy every day through laid-back tailored, high quality essentials and carefully selected fashion-forward pieces while staying true to its core values of sustainability, equality and freedom of choice. Example: In the early 90ies, long before "Eco Fashion" became fashionable, Esprit debuted its first "ecollection" made of 100% organic cotton and featured its own team instead of models in in honor of their "Real People Campaign."

Keeping this spirit alive since day one, today Esprit has a presence in over 30 countries around the globe. Esprit's headquarters are located in Germany and Hong Kong, where the brand has been listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange since 1993.

Esprit – Keeping it easy, comfortable and looking great. Every day. Already hooked? Find out more at [www.esprit.com](http://www.esprit.com)