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Proud Publishers of:
The Find-It Guide
Kaiserslautern American
Herald Union
The Citizen

For Immediate Release

April 2017

Thompson Retires From Advantipro GmbH – Helenius, Grogg and Mitchell to Head Media Company

The founder of AdvantiPro GmbH, John Thompson will retire from the company after 20 years of running the business. Thompson helped start The Find-It Guide in 1996 and later contracted with the United States Military to publish the Kaiserslautern American, Stuttgart Citizen and Herald Union newspapers. Additionally, AdvantiPro published the Tri-border Reporter (NATO Airbase Geilenkirchen), The Saber Herald (Spangdahlem Air Base) and the Meteor Heraut (NATO) military newspapers in the past.

“It has been my pleasure to serve several important military communities in Europe and to produce high quality publications that provide useful information to U.S. military, civilians, and their families,” said John Thompson. “I am confident that my successors will continue this fine tradition and I look forward to the new innovations they can bring to AdvantiPro”. Thompson will continue to consult for AdvantiPro through 2017.

AdvantiPro will be headed by Chief Executive Officer Bret Helenius, Chief Technical Officer Aaron T. Grogg and Chief Financial Officer Robert Mitchell. All three of the partners have spouses currently working in the military community or have been past active duty members.

Bret Helenius has been acting as General Manager for the past year at AdvantiPro and was the Sales and Marketing Director for the company prior to that. Helenius will continue to handle all day to day operations as well as marketing and business development. Helenius formerly worked for the United States Air Force at Ramstein Airbase where he was the Marketing Director for the 86 Force Support Squadron. Prior to his career in the Air Force, he was the founder and President of Southern Rockies Reservations, National Sales Director of Collective Travel Holdings, Broker at ABI Real Estate Investments, Sales Director at Taos Ski Valley Resort, Chairman of Ski New Mexico and Sales Director of Windham Mountain Resort. Mr. Helenius’ wife is currently an Occupational Therapist for LRMC – EDIS.

Aaron T Grogg has been the Director of Internet Technologies at AdvantiPro for the last year. Grogg will continue to handle all areas of technology including technology research and planning, website development, systems integration, project management and security. Before AdvantiPro, he was a Senior Developer at Netbiscuits GmbH. Prior to that, while living in New York City, he was responsible

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for numerous projects and innovations while working as a Tech Lead for People.com, Time, Inc.'s most-visited website. He has also worked as a Web Developer at Bank of America, also in New York City, and at the National Academies of Science in Washington, DC. Mr. Grogg's wife currently is a contractor for the United States Army and is an Occupational Therapist for LRMC. She is a former active duty member of the United States Army.

Robert Mitchell currently heads Mitchell Consulting in Landstuhl, Germany and will act as the new Chief Financial Officer for AdvantiPro. He will oversee all areas of finance for the company. Mitchell Consulting specializes in working with members of the Kaiserslautern Military Community to navigate the foreign real estate and financial markets which he will continue to manage. Mitchell also owns Apex Nuerburg, which is a performance motor sport company specializing in track day experiences located at the Nuerburgring in Germany. Mr. Mitchell's wife is a former active duty member of the United States Air Force.

"AdvantiPro is a very strong company with a great staff that continues to produce high quality media. I am excited to continue what John started and look forward to innovating for the future" said Bret Helenius.

AdvantiPro continues to publish the Kaiserslautern American newspaper as well as The Find-It Guide for the Kaiserslautern, Stuttgart and Wiesbaden communities. Digital products include The Find-It Guide App, FindItGuide.com, KaiserslauternAmerican.com, StuttgartCitizen.com, Herald-Union.com, MilitaryInGermany.com, AdvantiPro.de and AdvantiDesign.de.

For more information, please contact info@advantipro.de or call 0631 30 3355 30.

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