



## PRESS RELEASE

### Kubota Announced today its Agreement to Acquire Great Plains Manufacturing Inc.

**May 2016, Klepp, Norway**

**Kverneland Group (KvG) is a leading international company developing, producing and distributing agricultural machinery and services. It has been part of the Kubota Group since 2012.**

Kubota Corporation, Osaka, Japan, today announced the completion of its agreement to acquire Great Plains Manufacturing, Inc., based in Salina, Kansas. The purchase expands the long-time partnership with Land Pride and includes all five Great Plains divisions with multiple facilities in Kansas and in Lincolnshire, England.

Mr. Dai Watanabe, President and CEO of Kverneland Group, is convinced that the acquisition of Great Plains Manufacturing Inc. will provide positive synergies on the implement side within the Kubota Group. It will significantly strengthen our joint position as a Global Provider of Intelligent and Efficient Farming System. Hence, we see this as a great opportunity to further strengthen the product line-up and customer values through proactive cooperation between the two sister companies, e.g. in the field of R&D. “We shall make this opportunity a true benefit for our customers and our distribution partners”, says Mr. Watanabe.

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Kverneland Group (Kverneland AS) is a leading international company developing, producing and distributing agricultural machinery and services. Strong focus on innovation allows us to provide a unique and broad product range with high quality. Kverneland Group offers an extensive package of systems and solutions to the professional farming community. The offering covers soil preparation, seeding, forage- and bale equipment, spreading and spraying. For more information on Kverneland Group visit [www.kvernelandgroup.com](http://www.kvernelandgroup.com)

#### **About Kubota**

Kubota Corporation, founded in 1890 by Gonshiro Kubota, is a manufacturer of farm equipment, engines, construction machinery and also producer of various pipe-related products, principally ductile iron pipes and environment-related products such as environmental control plants. In addition, the Company manufactures and sells industrial castings, spiral welded steel pipes, vending machines, electronic-equipped machinery, and air-conditioning equipment. The Company's registered office is located at 2-47, Shikitsuhigashi 1-chome, Naniwa-ku, Osaka 556-8601, Japan.

#### **About Great Plains Manufacturing, Inc.**

Great Plains Manufacturing was founded in 1976 by Roy Applequist and employs over 1,400 people in eight Kansas communities and Sleaford, England. It encompasses five divisions: Great Plains Ag, which manufactures seedbed preparation, nutrient application, and seed placement equipment; Land Pride, which



manufactures grounds maintenance tools such as mowers, rototillers, rotary cutters, and dirt-working equipment; Great Plains International, which sells the company's products worldwide; Great Plains Trucking, which operates a nationwide fleet of flatbed trucks; and Great Plains Acceptance Corporation, which finances the company's products. Great Plains Mfg., Inc., is headquartered in Salina, Kansas.

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**For further information please contact:**

Dai Watanabe  
CEO & President  
Phone: +47 51 42 90 00  
E-Mail: [contact@kvernelandgroup.com](mailto:contact@kvernelandgroup.com)

Arild Gjerde  
Executive Vice President, Sales & Marketing  
Phone: +47 91 54 48 45  
E-Mail: [arild.gjerde@kvernelandgroup.com](mailto:arild.gjerde@kvernelandgroup.com)