

## **Calsonic Kansei Appoints Christoph Hobo as Chief Financial Officer**

*Driving the financial performance and profitability*

SAITAMA, Japan – December 11, 2018 – Calsonic Kansei Corporation (President & CEO: Beda Bolzenius, Headquarters: Kita-ku, Saitama City) today announced the appointment of Christoph Hobo as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) effective January 1st 2019. Mr. Hobo will be based in Japan, and will report directly to Beda Bolzenius, CEO, Calsonic Kansei.

Beda Bolzenius said “As we continue our transformation journey to become a global top tier cost- and technology-leader in the automotive supplier industry, Mr. Hobo will play a very important role in driving our financial performance and profitability, helping us make the best decisions concerning our operations and investments.”

Mr. Hobo was previously Group CFO and Member of the Executive Board at JOST Werke AG, a leading global producer and supplier of safety-critical systems for trucks and trailers, where he played a key role in managing JOST Werke’s IPO in 2017, implementing the necessary processes as well as handling subsequent financing transactions. Prior to that he was CEO and Managing Director of one of Germany’s largest optical and hearing aids retail chain. Mr. Hobo has previous experience in the Japanese market having studied here as well as holding a senior Managing Director role with Rocket Internet Japan. Mr. Hobo’s managerial experience is underpinned by a deep expertise in finance which he developed during his time as a private equity investor at Cinven and investment banking analyst at UBS.

Mr. Hobo said “I am truly honored to join Calsonic Kansei and to be part of the company’s exciting industry consolidation journey. I hope to utilize my extensive financial and M&A expertise and my knowledge of the automotive industry to furthe

Mr. Hobo will assume responsibility for global finance from Seiichi Kakizawa, Executive Vice President, present CFO who will become Chief HR Officer (CHRO), also effective from January 1st 2019. He will continue to focus on global corporate planning and development including HR, as well as the company’s internal auditing process.

**<About Calsonic Kansei>**

Headquartered in Japan, Calsonic Kansei is a global automotive components manufacturer. Calsonic Kansei is an important partner to automotive manufacturers across the world and is proud to supply the world's leading automotive brands.

All Calsonic Kansei plants, including the Testing Research Center, R&D Center and Headquarters have obtained the ISO 14001 Environment Management System certification and all Calsonic Kansei plants have obtained the IATF 16949 Quality Management System certification for the automotive industry.

For additional information about Calsonic Kansei Corporation, please visit Calsonic Kansei's website at [www.calsonickansei.co.jp/english/index.html](http://www.calsonickansei.co.jp/english/index.html).

**<Media contact>**

Calsonic Kansei Corporation  
CSR/Public Relations & IR Department  
+81 48 660 2161