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Media release

Valora launches new wooden avec box

Valora is continuing the roll-out of its cashier-free autonomous store format avec box. On 22 December 2021, the foodvenience provider will open its first wooden avec box in Oberohringen near Winterthur. The self-checkout solution allows you to shop around the clock, seven days a week.

The cashier-free avec box in Oberohringen (municipality of Seuzach, Canton of Zurich), which will be open from 22 December 2021, is an innovative wooden box. At 24 square metres it is slightly smaller than the previous pink avec box, which Valora currently operates in Arlesheim (Canton of Basel Landschaft) and Urdorf (Canton of Zurich).

In Oberohringen, the avec box is being used for the first time at a location directly between a residential area and an industrial/commercial area that does not have a convenience offering. The avec box thus assumes the role of a village shop selling everyday items. Valora sees potential in such locations for the further roll-out of its cashier-free convenience solution.

Autonomy when shopping

In April 2019, Valora was the first company in Switzerland to launch an autonomous convenience store with the avec box. Valora is convinced that self-checkout solutions such as the avec box have a future because they meet customers' need for autonomy when shopping. In retail, convenience refers not only to the product range, but to the customer's entire shopping experience.

Based on the avec 24/7 app, Valora has developed further forms of self-checkout. In 2021, avec 24/7 stores that function as a hybrid model were opened at four locations in Switzerland (Hardplatz Zurich, Dällikon (Canton of Zurich), ETH Hönggerberg Zurich and Schaffhauserplatz Zurich). While staff are still present at the store during the day from Monday to Saturday, the store operates autonomously at night and on Sunday via the avec app. In Ahrensburg near Hamburg, Valora also operates a 24/7 ServiceStore based on the avec box principle.

How the avec box works

Access, shopping and payment are made using the avec app. It is the customer's personal key to access the avec box, with which they can shop 24 hours a day seven days a week. The cashier-free avec box offers a tried-and-tested range of convenience products, including fresh food to eat on the go, everyday food items and the most important household products.

People aged 16 and above can register in the avec app. The app is available for iOS and Android. After successful registration, customers can enter the store by scanning a QR code. They can then scan in the products they selected at their own pace and add them to their personal shopping cart. Payment is finally made via the avec app – without any need for queuing at the cash register.

More information about avec box and detailed explanations about registration, use and data privacy can be found at box.avec.ch.

This media release is available online at www.valora.com/newsroom.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

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About Valora

Each and every day, around 15,000 employees in the Valora network work to brighten up their customers' journey with a comprehensive foodvenience offering – nearby, quick, convenient and fresh. The around 2,700 small-scale points of sale of Valora are located at highly frequented locations in Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. The company includes, among others, k kiosk, Brezelkönig, BackWerk, Ditsch, Press & Books, avec, Caffè Spettacolo and the popular own brand ok.– as well as a continuously growing range of digital services. Valora is also one of the world's leading producers of pretzels and benefits from a well-integrated value chain in the area of baked goods. In 2020, Valora generated annual external sales of CHF 2.2 billion. The Group's registered office is in MuttENZ, Switzerland. The registered shares of Valora Holding AG (VALN) are traded on SIX Swiss Exchange AG.

More information is available at www.valora.com.