### PRESS RELEASE

**Environmentally friendly container solution for grain silos, malting plants, etc.**

**BOGE BLUEprotect: Protection from pests in grain storage**

**The number of starving people in the world is increasing. But at the same time large amounts of grains are going to waste on the way to the consumer. It is in the poorer regions of the world in particular that the greatest losses arise shortly after harvesting. To provide better protection from pests for grain stored in silos, the compressed air specialist BOGE has developed a method that is as simple as it is effective. With BLUEprotect, BOGE uses nitrogen from the ambient air. This removes the oxygen from the silo and therefore takes away the means of survival for pests and fungi. The method is carried out without any chemical agents and is therefore harmless in food production and does not cause environmental damage. It is therefore suitable for organically cultivated products and brewery suppliers, for example.**

Granary weevils, parasitic fungi, mice and rats: a large part of the grain stored worldwide falls victim to pests and so-called breathing losses. Oxygen plays a critical part in this. Lack of oxygen minimises storage losses. BLUEprotect is based on this simple principle. BOGE feeds a mix of gases into the grain silos - consisting of almost pure nitrogen with a maximum of one per cent residual oxygen. The nitrogen drives out the oxygen, thereby removing aerobes, and thus the means of survival for pests and fungi. At the same time, the effect of breathing losses is minimised, and the risk of smouldering fires is decreased.

For BLUEprotect, BOGE uses nitrogen from the ambient air. A compressor produces compressed air close to the silo. It reaches a membrane filter via a dryer and combined filter, which separates the nitrogen (N2) from the oxygen (O2) and feeds it into the silo. As a main component of the air we breathe, nitrogen is available in unlimited supplies, and is completely harmless when in contact with foodstuffs. After use, the nitrogen is re-absorbed into the ambient air. This makes BLUEprotect an attractive method of pest control wherever the use of chemical agents is not permitted or desirable – for example, in ecological farming or in the supply chain for breweries. Malting plants, for instance, have to ensure that no chemical residues are left behind in the barley; these could later find their way into the beer with the malt at the brewery.

The processing is straightforward for the user: BOGE arranges all plant components in a container, so that BLUEprotect can be placed flexibly, without special prior knowledge and in different types of silos. BOGE analyses the starting position with the customer to record the initial nitrogen requirement. An essential precondition is a sufficiently airtight silo. For a test run, BOGE offers a rental container if required by the customer, so that the airtightness of the silo can be ascertained after a few days.

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**Image 1:**  **Grain silo with BLUEprotect, source: BOGE KOMPRESSOREN**

**Image 2:**  **BOGE container at the silo, source: BOGE KOMPRESSOREN**

**Image caption 1:** Pests that threaten grain stored in silos cannot survive without oxygen. BOGE BLUEprotect is based on this principle.

**Image caption 2:** BOGE places all components together in a container. BLUEprotect can therefore be deployed flexibly and in different types of silo.

**About BOGE**

As one of Germany’s oldest manufacturers of compressors and compressed air systems, BOGE KOMPRESSOREN Otto Boge GmbH & Co. KG offers 111 years of experience. The company is also one of the market leaders. Whether it is high speed turbo compressors, screw compressors, piston compressors, scroll compressors, complete systems or individual devices, BOGE meets the most diverse requirements and highest standards, with precision and quality always at the forefront. The family company which operates internationally has a workforce of 880 employees, approximately 490 of whom work at the headquarters in Bielefeld, and is managed by Wolf D. Meier-Scheuven and Thorsten Meier. With numerous sales offices and subsidiaries, BOGE offers its international customers a comprehensive service. The company supplies its products and systems in more than 120 countries worldwide.

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