

## AUTOMESTER OPENS NORTHERNMOST WORKSHOP IN THE WORLD

Beyond the 76° North Grade approximately 1.000 km North of Tromsø is the Island Svalbard located. The town Longyearbyen is the Northernmost town in the world with approx. 2.300 inhabitants and 3.000 polar bears in Svalbard and the ice around. Temperatures in winter reach freezing -25° degrees and the sun disappears for two months from November onwards completely.

Also in this remote unique place on the planet people need their cars fixed fast and reliable. This opportunity has been recognized by the entrepreneur- adventurers Sjur Eide (Board Member AutoMester) and his co- owners. The project lasted many months until the workshop could go operational on August 19<sup>th</sup> and finally officially open on October 24<sup>th</sup> 2019.



Arctic Spitsbergen Service AS, the newest member of the Automester family gets its parts from the NDS Group via its subsidiary in Tromsø via boat and plane. AutoMateriell, NDS' daughter company, delivered the equipment & tools as well the special equipment for repairing snowmobiles.

Proud of their fellow board member, Siw Holter, Terje Bjaanes and Janne Gröne joined the official opening and held the bi-annual board meeting under the Arctic sky. "We are very excited about this project. It is a privilege to support customers in such an adventurous project. Mastering this logistical challenge demonstrates the strength of the NDS Group. We are for good reason the

preferred partner of Norwegian customers that need flexible solutions and high service level." says Janne Gröne, CEO of the NDS- Group.

Siw Holter, Chain Manager AutoMester, states "AutoMester is a nationwide chain of publicly approved cars repair shops with 223 workshops, and with this new opened workshop at Svalbard we really show that we have solution for nationwide car repair shops."

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### ABOUT NDS- Nordic Distribution & Service Group

NDS is the second-largest automotive aftermarket wholesaler in Norway, with headquarters in Skytta near Oslo. NDS supplies its customers, typically automotive workshops, car dealerships and local wholesalers, with spare parts from its central warehouse in Skytta as well as from 19 branches across the country. In addition, NDS offers workshop franchise concepts to its clients under its own AutoMester brand as well as for third-party concepts such as Bosch Car Service. Within its AutoMateriell business segment NDS supplies workshop equipment of leading equipment OEMs such as John Bean and MAHA. The former Hellanor has been acquired by the investment group AURELIUS in December 2018. Under new ownership the company has gone through a complete modernization process and renamed NDS Group AS.