1 Definitions and introduction

“we”, “us” and “our” refers to the applicable purchaser among GKN Driveline International GmbH, GKN Driveline Deutschland GmbH, GKN Driveline Trier GmbH, GKN Driveline Kaiserslautern GmbH, GKN Freight Services GmbH, GKN Service International GmbH or other members of the Group. “Group” means GKN plc and its group companies.

Our agreement with you (the “Contract”) consists of: (i) any duly signed contract which applies to our purchase of goods and/or services from you; (ii) any purchase order or delivery schedule order (an “Order”) that we issue to you and you confirm; (iii) these General Purchasing Conditions; (iv) any specifications and safety, health and environmental requirements that we may state in this contract and any terms and conditions of purchase that we agree with you; and (v) our quality and other requirements or procedures made available to you (via GKN’s Supplier Portal or otherwise). If there is an inconsistency between any parts of the Contract, the parts placed higher in the list will prevail.

2 Your conditions excluded

If you propose any additional or different terms on our purchase, they will not form part of the Contract and are excluded and rejected by these General Purchasing Conditions.

3 Delivery

3.1 You must deliver goods and/or services that we order in accordance with the delivery terms and dates set out in the Contract. If any goods and/or services are not delivered on time or are delivered incorrectly, we may terminate the relevant Order.

3.2 Goods must be delivered DDP (as defined in current Incoterms), unless another part of the Contract states different delivery terms. Ownership of the goods you deliver will transfer to us on delivery.

3.3 All goods must be packaged so as to prevent them adequately before, during and after delivery and, if we require, each delivery shall be accompanied, in a form acceptable to us, by a certificate of conformity and/or an up-to-date material safety data sheet.

3.4 Delay or failure in performance may be excusable only for natural disasters, governmental restrictions or war, and only to the extent they are unforeseeable, the delay is beyond your reasonable control, and you give us prompt written notice.

4 Quality, rejection and indemnity

4.1 Any goods supplied by you must be: (i) the quantity and description specified in the Contract; (ii) of satisfactory quality; (iii) fit for the purpose for which they are supplied and/or for any specific purpose which we inform you about or which you ought reasonably to be aware of; (iv) free from defects in design, material and workmanship; and (v) free from any encumbrances.

4.2 Any services supplied by you must be: (i) performed efficiently, safely and competently by suitably qualified and experienced personnel, in accordance with any applicable industry code of practice; and (ii) of the quality which would reasonably be expected from a skilled and experienced operator providing equivalent services in the same circumstances.

4.3 Any documents or services (or any associated technology) supplied by you must: (i) comply with all applicable legal requirements and regulations, including those relating to transportation, health, safety and the environment; (ii) not infringe the intellectual property rights of any third party; (iii) conform to any specification or other requirements referred to in the Contract; and (iv) conform to any sample approved by us.

4.4 We may (but are not obliged to) inspect and test the goods delivered by you and may reject them if they fail to conform with the Contract in any respect. We will return rejected goods to you at your expense, unless they are faulty or unsatisfactory for any reason other than our negligence or your failure to comply with the Contract.

4.5 You will reimburse each member of the Group for all losses, damages, costs and expenses (including reasonable legal fees) or other claims (including third party claims and costs relating to recalls and service measures implemented by our customers or their customers arising from or incurred as a result of: (i) any breach of the Contract by you; and (ii) any negligent act or omission by you or your employees, agents or sub-contractors in supplying goods and/or services pursuant to the Contract).

4.6 The period of limitation for any claims brought by us relating to the goods and services shall be 72 months from the passing of risk.

5 Invoicing and payment

5.1 We will pay you the price set out in the Contract (which will be inclusive of delivery costs and exclusive of sales tax) for the goods and services that you deliver in accordance with the Contract. You may only invoice us after delivery of the goods and services ordered by us and in accordance with any payment schedule in the Contract.

5.2 Invoices must show: the date of delivery, Order number, delivery address and description of goods and services delivered, and must be sent to the invoice address specified in the relevant Order.

5.3 Unless otherwise set out in the Order, payment will be due from us within 90 days of the Thursday following the end of the month of receipt of us by a validly issued invoice.

5.4 We may deduct from the price of the goods and/or services ordered by us any sums due to the Group under the Contract or any other contract between you and the Group.

6 Confidentiality and Intellectual Property

6.1 You must not disclose to any other person or entity any confidential information belonging to the Group or any of its divisions, customers, suppliers or collaborators (partners (including, without limitation, this Contract, specifications, formulae, manufacturing processes, know-how and any technical or economic information) or use such information for any purpose except for the supply of goods and/or services to us or as expressly authorised in writing by us. You must return to us such information and any copies if requested.

6.2 You must, on request, transfer to us, free of charge and free from encumbrances, any documents, specifications, plans, drawings, samples, information or goods created or prepared for us by you or your employees, subcontractors and collaborators to us or any other member of the Group.

6.3 Intellectual property rights in any information, documentation, prototypes or tools provided by us to you shall remain owned by us or our customers or our suppliers and you shall not be entitled to any rights in the information or documentation or to any intellectual property rights in any information created for us or us. If any intellectual property rights are created or generated from such information, documentation, prototypes or tools in performing the Contract then such rights shall be owned by us.

7 Our Property

7.1 This section relates to all property (including tooling of any kind) and any related intellectual property, documentation, prototypes or tools and all related intellectual property rights therein: (i) purchased by us or/and manufactured by you pursuant to an Order; (ii) provided by us to you for use in the supply of goods and/or services or for any other purpose, whether or not modified, repaired or replaced (“Our Property”).

7.2 Our Property (and any scrap resulting from it) is solely owned by us and we shall keep title to it at all times. If we disagree as to who owns any of Our Property, the presumption will be that we do.

7.3 Where you are in possession or control of Our Property it is on a fiduciary basis as our bailie and you have no rights in it. You have a revocable non-exclusive licence to use Our Property at your premises only for performing the Contract until we request its return, which we may do at any time. You may not sub-license the use of Our Property or use it for any other purpose.

7.4 Risk in Our Property passes to you on delivery and remains with you until it is returned to us. Whilst Our Property is in your possession or control you shall: (i) perform any risk or loss to it (other than fair wear and tear); (ii) store and use it at your premises in a proper and secure manner; (iii) clearly label or identify it as belonging to us; (iv) maintain insurance against all loss or damage; (v) use it with care; (vi) inspect it and maintain it in good order and condition; (vii) immediately notify us of any damage, theft or loss; (viii) not modify or impede with it; (ix) not trade it; (x) not part with possession of it or allow anyone else to use it (x) not sell, dispose or encumber it; (xi) give us free and unencumbered access to it on reasonable notice during ordinary business hours; (xii) make it available for collection by us at any time and allow us access to your premises to remove it; and (xiii) not copy or reproduce it in any way.

7.5 We have an exclusive, irrevocable option to purchase all bespoke tooling owned by you and put in place for the production of goods pursuant to the Contract at its present value.

8 Termination

8.1 We may cancel all or any part of any Order by giving you notice at any time prior to your full performance of the Order and in such event we will not be liable to pay the price for such goods or services.

8.2 We may terminate the Contract: (i) for convenience by providing you with written notice; (ii) immediately if you or your parent company become subject to a bankruptcy or insolvency event or enter into a composition with any of your creditors; or (iii) if you breach the Contract, and, if the breach can be remedied, you fail to remedy such breach within 10 days of receiving notice.

8.3 Termination of all or part of an Order or the Contract will not prejudice our accrued rights.

8.4 You may be required to continue to supply spare parts and related services up to 15 years after termination or expiry of the Contract.

9 General

9.1 You and your suppliers must comply with all applicable laws, regulations and codes including and also with the requirements of the GKN Supplier Code of Conduct available at www.GKNAutomotive.com/SupplierCodeofConduct. We have the right to audit your premises to ensure compliance.

9.2 You must provide us with any information we request relating to the goods and services supplied by you, all of which must be complete and accurate.

9.3 You and your employees, agents and sub-contractors must abide by applicable site and safety rules which we impose on you and you shall provide evidence of your applicable insurance.

9.4 Our rights or remedies under the Contract will not limit any of our other rights or remedies, whether under the Contract or otherwise.

9.5 You will not be entitled to transfer or subcontract any of your rights or obligations under the Contract without our prior written consent. Each company within our Group shall have the benefit of the Contract and may purchase goods and/or services pursuant to the terms of the Contract.

9.6 Any failure or delay by us to enforce or partially enforce any provision of the Contract will not be a waiver of any of our rights.

9.7 If any of your employees transfer to us by law then we may dismiss him/her as soon as legally possible and you shall indemnify us for all costs arising from such dismissal.


10 Law and Jurisdiction

The Contract shall be exclusively governed by German law. If you are incorporated or otherwise legally resident in any member state of the European Union, Iceland, Switzerland or Norway, the courts of Bonn, Germany shall have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any disputes or claims that arise out of or in connection with the Contract or any incident or subject matter (“Claims”). If not, any Claims shall be finally settled by arbitration in Cologne in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the German Institution of Arbitration (DIS) without recourse to the ordinary court of law by one or more arbitrators appointed in accordance with those rules. The language of the arbitration shall be German.