

The Intelligent Knee Brace Concept

Preface

## The intelligent K-COM knee brace concept

In Germany, more than 100,000 patients injure their anterior cruciate ligament every year. In addition, a not inconsiderable number tear the posterior cruciate ligament or suffer other knee joint injuries or signs of wear and tear such as osteoarthritis. The anterior cruciate ligament, which acts as a central stabilizer, is thus the most frequently injured ligament in the knee joint.

The severity of the injury, which was often inadequately classified as a simple strain in the past, is now more frequently diagnosed by modern procedures. Without an anterior cruciate ligament, a knee joint wears out much faster. Five years after an anterior cruciate ligament injury, more than 80% of patients have painful meniscus injuries and incipient osteoarthritis. If surgical stabilization is not possible, the knee joint can be protected using braces.

Since the treatment of knee joint injuries is a major focus of medical treatment in sports orthopedics at the Orthopedic Clinic Markgröningen (OKM), it is important that postoperative and conservative orthotic care is also provided at the highest level in our Center for Arthroscopy and Special Joint Surgery.

The K-COM knee brace represents the most comprehensive care concept for stabilization due to the indication-dependent choice of model and the individual fabrication technique.

Intensive cooperation with specialized doctors, physiotherapists and athletes has made it possible to develop a truly new fitting concept for the knee joint. One that is particularly convincing for our patients due to the optimal stabilization of the knee joint with minimal weight and maximum wearing comfort. We are constantly developing the K-COM concept further. It has established itself excellently over the last decades and is used by many renowned physicians for the treatment of injuries and knee instabilities with great approval.



### **KNEE BRACE**

made of carbon fiber and titanium



The individual knee brace, that you do not feel in everyday and during sports.

### Table of contents at a glance

| The technology4   |
|---|
| Out-of-House production6 Our service for doctors and medical establishments |
| System overview8 Indication - Function - Prescriptions                      |
| Sports support  |
| Sports support  |
| Support example   |
| Support example   |
| Support examples14 Endoprosthesis, bow-legged mal-positioning               |
| Support examples  |
| PrävenThese   |
| Temporary care  |
| ORTEMA Sites20  |



ORTEMA GmbH Kurt-Lindemann-Weg 10 · 71706 Markgröningen Tel. +49 7145 - 91 53 800 · Fax +49 7145 - 91 53 980 info@ortema.de · ortema.de The Technology The Technology



The scanned leg is modeled on the screen



Quality control after milling



The flexion and extension limitations can be mounted independently of each other.



## There are many reasons

knee orthosis. The reason: insufficient supply possibilities by other knee braces. Since then, all our experience has been incorporated into the ongoing further development of the K-COM concept. This is particularly true for use in competitive sports. Here, the K-COM knee brace must prove its worth even under extreme stress. This is ensured by high-tech materials such as high-strength carbon fiber and low-wear titanium splints

as well as state-of-the-art manufacturing

techniques.

More than 25 years ago, the idea was born in our company to develop our own

This experience and constant improvements benefit above all the user in daily use. This is also demonstrated by the above-average positive response from our patients. Clinical studies with over 2,000 evaluated questionnaires in a ten-year overview clearly prove this. In particular, gonarthrosis treatment with axial malalignment achieves excellent results



In the Vivo Workload Measurement of the subject groups at the German Sport University in Cologne so as to determine the stabilization characteristics of the K-COM knee brace.



### **Indications:**

- Anterior cruciate ligament injury
- Posterior cruciate ligament injury
- Injury to the collateral ligaments and meniscuses
- Complex knee instabilities
- Cartilage damage and arthrosis
- Knock-knee and bow-legged mal-positions

### **Test Winner:**

In the German equivalent of the MOT test (TÜV) by the base institute for biomechanics, namely TÜV Munich, our K-COM ranked first amongst 14 of the most commonly used knee braces.



## to choose K-COM



## Partially flexible thigh and lower leg shells

Only 1,5 mm thick shells in sandwich construction with the ability to adapt to the changing muscular relief.

### **Optimal anatomical fit**

Gives optimal wearing comfort.

## Torsion-resistant, non-slipping carbon fibre construction

Stabilizes the joint where the knee needs it most.

### **Polycentric joints made of titanium**

Developed to meet biomechanical criteria-flat, light and extremely stable.

### **Flexion and extension limitation**

Extension adjustable from 0° to 40°. Flexion adjustable from 0° to 90°.

## Extremely light combined with stability

Maximal stabilization of the knee with a minimum of weight.

## Counter-rotating Velcro® strap system

Enabling the K-COM knee brace a non-slipping fit without adding to unnecessary thickness.

### **Test winner**

The K-COM was awarded first place comparing 14 of the most commonly used knee braces.

Out-of-House production

Out-of-House production

# Our service for established doctors, clinics and medical supply stores: Supply *Your* patients with the proven ORTEMA technology

Let us manufacture a K-COM knee brace according to your needs and specifications at our establishment. We'll happy work together with your orthopedic technician or your establishment.

And it works as simple as this (using the example of a K-COM knee brace): We need the plaster cast / alternatively the scan data of the patient's leg. Within ten working days (plus time for shipping), the prosthetist receives the K-COM knee brace ready for fitting. This means that you can also offer your patients the proven and highly developed ORTEMA K-COM knee brace fitting at the highest level on site.

Have we aroused your interest?
Then simply request the documents by fax, mail or telephone:



## Prescription / Order

The attending physician issues a prescription / order for a carbon fiber knee brace according to plaster cast for permanent fitting. A detailed diagnosis should be noted.

## 2. Plaster Cast / 3D-Scan

The prosthetist / medical supply store makes a plaster cast according to our specifications; alternatively, he creates a 3D scan of the patient's leg. The plaster cast is sent to ORTEMA: alternatively, the scan data is sent to ORTEMA via e-mail or upload.

### 3. Manufacturing

Please note: The delivery time is

10 working days plus shipping.

ORTEMA medical supply store

ORTEMA creates the 3D model / plaster positive and manufactures the K-COM knee brace according to the exact indication and the latest technical criteria.

The ready-to-fit K-COM knee brace is then sent to the technician / medical supply store, who tries it on and finishes it for your patient.

The attending physician has the opportunity to check the function. In this way, he can access the high-quality and individually manufactured ORTEMA K-COM knee brace fitting on site via the orthopedic technician/ medical supply store.

Benefit from the advantages of ORTEMA service manufacturing for the knee, shoulder, elbow, hand and face:

- Save time and costs
- ▶ Bridge personnel bottlenecks
- Open up new fields of business
- ► Use our know-how for *Your* patients

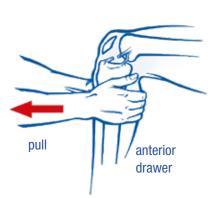
IN 5 STEPS TO A FITTING WITH AN

### **INDIVIDUAL BRACE FROM ORTEMA**

## The K-COM system overview:

### Version ACL





#### Indication:

- Anterior cruciate ligament injury
- Meniscus injury and refixation
- Injury of the capsular ligament
- Cartilage reparations
- Early functional stabilization

#### **Biomechanical function:**

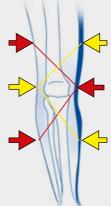
The individually manufactured, torsionresistant framework construction offers the optimal stabilization for avoiding the anterior compartment.

#### **Prescription:**

A knee brace with carbon-fiber construction according to a plaster cast or 3D-scan for the permanent support in the version 'ACL'.

### **Version Bilateral**





### Indication:

- Anterior cruciate ligament injury
- Rupture of the collateral ligaments (medial/lateral collateral ligament)
- Meniscus injury and refixation
- Injury to the capsular ligament
- Cartilage reparations
- · Early functional stabilization
- Knee endoprosthesis

### **Biomechanical function:**

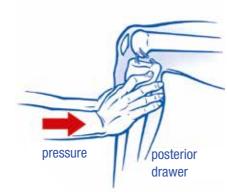
Avoiding the anterior compartment and a more effective stabilization through bilateral setting on the thigh and shank. Unilateral relief.

### **Prescription:**

A knee brace with carbon-fiber construction according to a plaster cast or 3D-scan for the permanent support in the version 'bilateral'.

### Version PCL





#### Indication:

- Rupture of posterior cruciate ligament
- Combination injury with participation of the posterior cruciate ligament

### **Biomechanical function:**

Avoiding the posterior compartment through rear shank setting. A belt close to the joint in the bending zone promotes a dynamic forward shank motion.

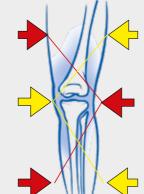
### Prescription:

A knee brace with carbon-fiber construction according to a plaster cast or 3D-scan for the permanent support in the version 'PCL'.

## innovative & individual

### Version **Geriatrie**





### Indication:

- Knee joints arthrosis
- Pangonarthrosis
- Genu recurvatum

### Version Varus







 Varus gonarthrosis with axial malalignment

## Version Valgus



### Indication:

 Valgus gonarthrosis with axial malalignment

#### **Biomechanical function:**

Guiding the knee joint through extensive brace construction. Rear tray guidance makes it easier for older patients to put the brace on.

#### **Prescription:**

A knee brace with carbon-fiber construction according to a plaster cast or 3D-scan for the permanent support in the version 'geriatrics'.

### **Biomechanical function:**

Three point correction of the bone axis with interior relief of the overstrained portion of the joint.

### **Prescription:**

A knee brace with carbon-fiber construction according to a plaster cast or 3D-scan for the permanent support in the version 'varus'.

### **Biomechanical function:**

Three point correction of the bone axis with exterior relief of the overstrained portion of the joint.

#### **Prescription:**

A knee brace with carbon-fiber construction according to a plaster cast or 3D-scan for the permanent support in the version 'valgus'.

## Support Motocross / Offroad

The knee brace is also used to prevent knee injuries, especially where falls are inevitable.

It is used acutely after cruciate ligament rupture, operations or old injuries.

#### The benefits:

- A specially developed kneecap protector for offroad sports is easily fixed to the brace (small photo on the right)
- Fits perfectly under the motocross pants or a supermoto leather suit



## Support **Ski**

Knee injuries are at the top of the injury statistics of the International Ski Federation (FIS) in the Ski World Cup. The consequences, such as a torn cruciate ligament, are far-reaching for the athletes: surgery, months of follow-up treatment, the hard struggle to compensate for the loss of training and to regain competitive form.

#### The benefits:

- The length of the lower leg shell is matched to the height of the ski boot
- Exactly adapted to the anatomy of ski racers (e.g. with pronounced thigh musculature)



## Support **Ice hockey**

For ice hockey players, the knee joints are their capital. Injuries in this area often set athletes back months or end their careers overnight. The K-COM knee brace specifically protects this complicated joint with its stable carbon fiber construction and ensures a quick "return to sport" even after an injury such as a cruciate ligament rupture.

#### The benefits:

- Due to the thin design, the K-COM does not wear and does not hinder during sprints or abrupt changes of direction
- Designed for the goalie in a modified version that does not restrict the butterfly position



### Support

### **Mountainbike / Downhill**

A custom-made carbon fiber brace for mountain biking must neither press nor slip.

Regardless of whether mountain biking, downhill, BMX or riding on single trails - the knee must remain stable.

#### The benefits:

- The knee is relieved and guided from the outside by means of a perfectly fitting brace
- Stabilizes the knee joint over a longer period of time and serves the user for safe driving in both hobby and professional use



### Support

### **American Football**

This intense team sport involves very high stresses due to physical contact, which often results in injuries to the knee joints. The speed, long levers and dynamics of this sport place particular demands on knee brace designs.

#### The benefits:

- Titanium joint bars are molded in high-strength car bon fiber to withstand the great stresses of this sport
- Adapted to the larger muscle volume well trained football player



## Support **Kitocurfing**

### Kitesurfing/Wakeboard

People often underestimate the stress involved in surfing, wakeboarding or kiteboarding, because enormous loads are placed on the knee joints and their structures when they hit the water surface. Associated injuries to the cruciate ligament, collateral ligament or meniscus structures prevent surfing for the athlete.

#### The benefits:

- Sits absolutely stable and non-slip on or under the wetsuit
- Can also be used in salt water without any problems



## **Anterior Cruciate Ligament**Support

Thanks to the partial re-sectioning of the medial meniscus in connection with a not so optimally placed anterior cruciate ligament replacement, the knee joint needs to be upheld in an even more effective manner and the lateral compartment should be relieved as much as is possible. The bilateral version effectively stabilizes the joint in a manner contributing heavily against rotational residual instability. In addition, the medial meniscus area is also relieved by the 3 point correction principle.



Non-optimal positioning of the implant (circular) with a constantly recurring instability.





Thanks to a functional designing of the locking system, the K-COM knee brace enables an optimal range of movement freedom, especially when bending over, which is very important when conducting sporting activity.

### **Rotational Instability** Support

A 55 year old patient who has been operated on several occasions with a constantly recurring instability refuses a further operation and would like to be further treated conservatively via a knee brace. The former competitive sportsman is assisted by the K-COM knee brace and the anterior drawer is dependably avoided during sporting activity. The K-COM corrects the malalignment by establishing lateral pressure at the height of the joint line and serves for medial relief.



In addition to a continual residual instability, the patient also displays a distinct varus gonarthrosis (circular).





### **Anterior Cruciate Ligament and External Meniscus** Support

When there's a combination of injuries involving the anterior cruciate ligament, meniscus, and collateral ligament structures, we make use of the bilateral version. This consists of thigh and lower leg semicircular support and, thanks to the extensive support, achieves an app. 20% improvement of the guidance and rotational stability over the ACL version. More importantly, it achieves a stabilization advantage for active patients with gonarthrosis.





The ACL version (yellow/right) is the standard version of support for anterior cruciate ligament ruptures. The bilateral version (red) consists of semi-circular thigh/lower leg support and is used in the case of a combination of injuries.

### **Gonarthrosis** Support

A 40 year old patient who has been operated on several times displaying distinct varus gonarthrosis. Due to several accident-related traumas, she refuses a further operation and would like to be taken care of conservatively with a knee brace. The former competitive athlete receives unilateral relief from K-COM and with that, is sufficiently supported. She can continue to conduct her job as a ski instructor.



Distinct varus gonarthrosis suffered by a 40 year old athlete.







### **Posterior Cruciate Ligament Support**

For an injury to the posterior cruciate ligament, a dorsolateral stabilization (instability towards the rear/outwards) becomes extremely important. In addition, the posterior drawer must be effectively avoided, since otherwise heavy knee joint and cartilage damage can occur in the course of time. Through just the right fitting of the K-COM knee brace and the posterior socket on the lower leg, this can be optimally achieved.



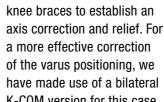
Through a rear lower leg socket and the joint-tight strap in the bending area, the rear drawer effect is effectively avoided and a dynamic lower leg





### **Dual-Sided** Support

Dual-sided, distinct varus gonarthrosis in a 59 year old patient, who currently refuses operative measures such as corrective osteotomy. For bodily activity, he uses











 **Support examples Support examples** 

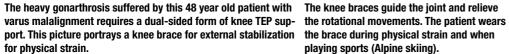
### **Endoprothesis** Support

Dual-sided support of a 48 year old woman with dual-sided total knee endoprotheses after severe knee trauma caused by sporting accidents in her childhood.

Since she lives in an area known for skiing, she requires a rather large range of movement. When establishing the proper orthotic care, special attention had to be given to the construction of the endoprotheses. This determines the brace's pivot point. The mechanical compromise axis must be coordinated with the implant.











playing sports (Alpine skiing).

### **Knock-Kneed Malalignment Support**

Support offered by a K-COM knee brace 'valgus' version intended for axial correction and the relief of the lateral knee compartment. Thanks to the brace, the valgus malalignment could be corrected from app. 25° to app. 15° and the lateral femoral condyle has been relieved.

For the K-COM valgus version knee brace, a long lateral rail guide ensures an effective stabilization of the knee joint.







### **Bowlegged Malalignment Support**

This is the case of varus gonarthrosis suffered by an active 65 year old woman. Thanks to the K-COM knee brace 'varus' version, the medial joint section can be relieved and the patient, who works at exhibitions and fairs, can also stand for longer periods of time without discomfort or other complaints. Seen cosmetically, the brace can be worn free of problem under a pair of pants.

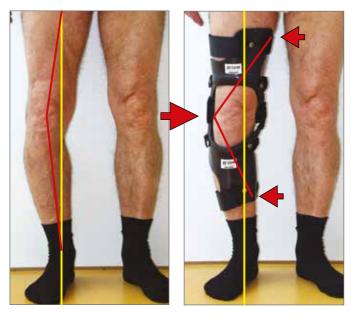






To effectively correct a varus gonarthrosis while simultaneously relieving the medial joint sections, we apply the three point correction principle. The support points are located medially on the thigh and lower leg. The corrective pressure is applied laterally. With that, the axial malalignment can be reduced.

Only a sufficiently long model of the knee brace can achieve a sustainable correction of the leg's axial malalignment.





For sports requiring strong rotational movement of the knee joint, only a very effective form of stabilization can bring about relief.

### **Post-Tibial Plateau Fracture** Support

Brace support to stabilize the knee joint after a tibial plateau fracture and valgus residual instability after a fall The patient can take care of her household and personal needs once again with the support and the leg's malalignment is reduced by the K-COM knee brace.



After falling down the stairs, the patient suffered a fracture of the tibial plateau, which was operated on. A K-COM knee brace was made use of to compensate for the postoperative residual malalignment.





### **Foot Section** Support

If there are very voluminous leg formations with strong conical outlines, a corresponding foot section can be adapted for a slide-free positioning of the K-COM knee brace. This can be applied medially or laterally. The position is determined individually. For a peronaeus paralysis, the foot section can be designed in the form of a peronaeus brace.





Service-Phone: +49 (0)7145 - 91 53 800 ortema.de

### The innovative knee orthosis concept for prevention in ski sports

## PrävenThese

### The facts

In downhill racing, athletes reach speeds of up to 150 km/h. In addition, hightech materials allow ski racers to ski at the absolute limit - and beyond. This also applies to the stresses on tendons, ligaments and bones. No wonder that the knee joint is the most affected body region in the international FIS Ski World Cup, accounting for around 36% of all injuries. In the 2017/18 season alone, several athletes from various national teams suffered a cruciate ligament tear even before the Olympic Games in South Korea.

### The challenge

How can the knee joint be effectively protected without limiting the athlete's performance at the same time? This challenge was taken up by a project group funded by the German Federal Institute for Sport Science (BISp) and coordinated by Münchner Innovationsmanufaktur GmbH. In addition to sports scientists from the DSV and physicians from the Technical University of Munich,



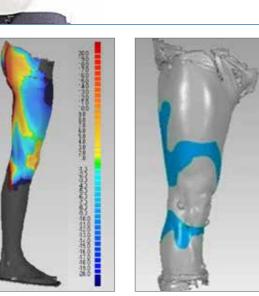
The 3D cut of the PrävenThese combines fit, stabilization and freedom of movement.

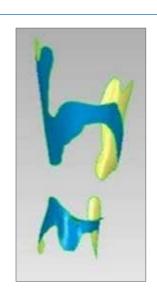
experts from the Bavarian Olympic Training Center and engineers from Phoenix GmbH, the panel of experts also included experienced orthopedic technicians from ORTEMA. Within 18 months, the project group developed an innovative knee brace concept tailored to the needs of alpine skiing - the **PrävenThese**.

### Individual in every detail

A novel carbon knee orthosis was designed with polycentric titanium joints that stabilize the knee joint without restricting movement. By means of several 3D surface scans in different angular positions of the knee joint, zones on the upper and lower leg can be calculated that show the least possible change in volume and shape during muscle activity. The carbon frame of the PrevenThese follows these support surfaces when it is individually cut. This means that muscle contraction is not affected despite stabilization of the knee joint.

The **PrävenThese** combines the proven protection principle of an individually





3D surface scans show the areas with the least changes in volume and shape (image left).

The 3D cut is calculated with the scan data and is needed for the frame design.

### **Return to Sport**

PrävenThese enables injured athletes to return to their sport-specific training sessions after a short time, which has been scientifically documented in various test series. Here, a double-sided fitting with preventive stabilization of the uninjured opposite side seems to make sense.

manufactured knee brace, such as the tried-and-tested ORTEMA K-COM knee orthosis, with a new concept of connection to the leg that offers not only maximum

protection but also outstanding wearer comfort.

### **Manufacturing of the PrävenThese**





1. The 3D surface scan in different angular positions of the leg with set marker points forms the basis for calculating the frame design of the knee brace.



2. The acquired scan data is modeled on the



The milling process is prepared on the screen and the appropriate blank is selected.



4. The titanium joint bars are laminated into the carbon construction.



**5.** The PrävenThese fits perfectly even in the downhill position.

16

### **Synthetic** models

#### **Indications:**

- Anterior cruciate ligament injury
- · Rupture of the collateral ligaments (medial collateral ligament/lateral collateral ligament)
- Meniscus injury and refixation
- Injury to the capsular ligament
- Cartilage reparations
- Early function stabilization

Ideal for children and adolescents: The synthetic knee brace can be retrofitted very easily and adjusted to a person accordingly as they grow.



#### Area of use:

- Post-operative
- Post-traumatic

#### **Biomechanical function:**

Knee brace made of thermoplastic malleable synthetics. These braces can be warmed up and retrofitted several times for post-operative swelling (after an OP) or muscle atrophy (loss of muscle mass) as well as to be adjusted in accordance with growth.

#### **Prescription:**

A synthetic knee brace based on a plaster cast or 3D scan.



Customized KNEE BRACE



#### Indications:

- Anterior cruciate ligament injury
- Rupture to the collateral ligaments (medial collateral ligament/lateral collateral ligament)
- Meniscus injury and refixation
- Injury to the capsular ligament
- Cartilage reparations
- · Early function stabilization



- to the 3 point principle Extension and flexion can be
- adjusted independently Malleable thermoplastic thanks to a novel synthetic
- Available in 4 sizes (also in children's sizes) for the right and left leg

#### Area of use:

- Post-operative
- Post-traumatic
- Immediate support for a limited period of time (max. 6 months)

#### **Biomechanical function:**

Knee brace made of thermoplastic malleable synthetics. These braces can be warmed up and retrofitted several times for post-operative swelling (after an OP) or muscle atrophy (loss of muscle mass) as well as to be adjusted in accordance with growth. After cooling down, the brace remains stable in the formed leg geometry.

Sizes: (right and left) Adults S / M / L Children XS

#### **Prescription:**

A customized synthetic knee brace.

### Adjusted quickly and easily



Warmed up with hot air



Deformation in the plastic state



Adjusting on the leg



Function test on the patient



- ORTEMA Orthopedic-Technology, Medical Supplies & Sport Protection
- OKM Orthopädische Klinik Markgröningen Specialized clinic for Sports Orthopedics, Endoprosthetics, Neuroorthopedics and Handsurgery, Conservative orthopedics and Pain Therapy
- **ORTEMA Rehabilitation & Therapy, Medical Fitness & Health**





Parking spaces directly in front of the main entrance and in the parking garage

### ORTHOPÄDIE

### **REHABILITATION** & THERAPIE

### **MEDICAL FITNESS**



- Orthopedic shoes
- Insoles
- Bandages
- Spinal braces
- Prosthetics
- Orthotics
- Knee braces
- Sports orthopedics
- Research & Development

- Ambulatory rehabilitation
- Physiotherapy
- Ergotherapy
- Medical training therapy
- Rehabilitation sports
- Follow-up treatment
- Exercise pool - Return 2 Sports

- Medical Fitness
- Health courses
- Aqua fitness
- Operational health management
- Performance diagnosis & training plan
- Wellness massages
- Nutritional counseling

- Protection & prevention
- Motobike
- Hockey
- Skiing
- Ball sports
- Bike
- American Football - Riding
- Handicaped sports



### **ORTEMA GmbH Headquarter**

Kurt-Lindemann-Weg 10 • 71706 Markgröningen Tel. +49 7145 - 91 53 800 • Fax +49 7145 - 91 53 980 info@ortema.de

### **ORTEMA Locations:**

**Pforzheim** Tel. +49 7231 - 13 96 667 **Ludwigsburg** Tel. +49 7141 - 99 68 720

#### **ORTEMA Bases:**

Kröger's Centrum für Technische Orthopädie GmbH 03238 Massen-Niederlausitz • Tel. +49 3531 − 79 90 73 93

edirtarenaWest powered by KTM • 53619 Rheinbreitbach Termine: Tel. +49 7145 - 91 53 890

#### Austria:

TAPPE GmbH • A-5020 Salzburg • Tel. +43 5 7071

**Sanitätshaus Kostner GmbH** • A-6130 Schwaz • Tel. +43 5242 63976

HEINZE SPORTPROTECTION • A-4060 Leonding • Tel. +43 664 133 66 64

#### Switzerland:

**Roger Infanger** • CH-6454 Flüelen • Tel. +41 41 871 14 82

### ortema.de







### Our partners



























