

Aachen, March 2026

## KOHL Group to part ways with tuning division by the end of 2026

**At the end of 2026, the KOHL Group will part ways with its AC Schnitzer division and cease its operations as a manufacturer of tuning parts for BMW and MINI. Various factors have made it no longer economically viable to operate the tuning products business in Germany. Existing inventory for BMW and MINI will be sold off through the end of the year, with warranties and after-sales support guaranteed beyond 2026.**

Rising development and production costs, as well as lengthy approval procedures within the German system, have increasingly put AC Schnitzer at a disadvantage compared to international competitors. “If we bring aftermarket parts to market eight or nine months after the competition, that speaks for itself,” explains Managing Director Rainer Vogel. Additionally, changing consumer behavior, difficult international market conditions, and the gradual decline of the internal combustion engine are weighing on the business.

Tariffs in the key U.S. market, rising raw material prices, volatile exchange rates, supplier issues, and persistent consumer reluctance amid a global economy that has been weakening for years have further exacerbated the economic situation. At the same time, the industry—including AC Schnitzer—has been increasingly unable to inspire young customers to embrace sporty driving.

The KOHL Group is in talks with interested parties regarding a potential acquisition of the brand. Regardless of this, existing inventory will be sold off by the end of the year. Fans and dealers can continue to purchase products for BMW and MINI across all categories—from engine tuning to exhaust systems and suspension optimization to forged wheels. Warranties and after-sales support are guaranteed beyond 2026.



Rainer Vogel  
Managing Director