

## BKS | THE LOCKING CYLINDER

Security for house and home has a name: BKS. Named after the two founders of the company, Bode and Kasten, and its original headquarters in Solingen, BKS has become a byword for locking cylinders and locks. Founded in 1903, the company initially manufactured door locks. The company came to prominence for its round cylinder, patented in 1938. This was the most common type of cylinder lock fitted to doors until well into the 1960s, when it was replaced with the now widely used profile cylinder. The latest development in BKS technology is the 'janus' cylinder system which can also be combined with either mechatronic or pure electronic entry systems. BKS GmbH has had a manufacturing plant in Velbert since the 1930s and this is the largest production site for locks in Europe. In addition to locks for residential doors, BKS makes locks for hotels, glass doors and prison cells as well as for sound-resistant and explosion-protection doors which were presented in an industry catalogue as far back as 1956. Since the 1950s, BKS has been the market leader for locks and fittings for escape and emergency routes out of football stadiums, airports, schools and office buildings. Since 2003, BKS has been providing the first complete range of products for emergency exits and escape routes which comply with the strict European standards EN179 and EN1125. Today, BKS forms part of the international business group, Gretsch-Unitas. But the name and reputation stay the same – literally no-one can escape BKS locks and locking cylinders.

