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Herbert Marner is retiring

Koelnmesse's CFO is entering retirement after more than 20 years with the company

Herbert Marner (66) is retiring after more than 20 years in Chief Financial Officer at Koelnmesse. On his last day of work on 31 May 2022, he will bid a fitting farewell to the staff.

Business partners, the Koelnmesse team and the Cologne community will remember Herbert Marner fondly. In the numerous farewell greetings that have already reached him, the long-standing head of finance and son of a family of winegrowers from the Ahr River region has been repeatedly associated with planning vision, the best networking in the region, an authentic personality and a steady hand in the turbulent trade fair business. The Chairwoman of the Supervisory Board, Cologne's Mayor Henriette Reker, praised Marner as "an old-school manager in the best sense", who had always retained a bit of start-up mentality and agility: "And when he is needed, he is right there!" The trade fair company's CEO, Gerald Böse, who shares

14 years of management with him, fondly remembers how they were "equipped with different temperaments and skills," and excellently complemented each other to jointly shape the future of Koelnmesse: "That is how we overcame the financial and economic crisis, managed comprehensive restructuring and turned Koelnmesse from the problem child of the trade fair sector into a role model for successful turnaround."

Herbert Marner was born in Dernau an der Ahr in 1955. After studying business administration and holding leading positions in the telecommunications and mobile communications sectors, he joined Koelnmesse in 2001 as Commercial Director. In addition to Finance and Controlling as well as Purchasing and IT, he was in charge of planning and implementing Koelnmesse 3.0, the largest investment programme in the company's history, as the person responsible for infrastructure. Starting in April 2007, he held the position of acting President and CEO for almost a year.

Marner himself looks back with pride on overcoming the company's crisis years at the beginning of the millennium, the reconstruction work since 2008 and the successful years before the pandemic: "It was crucial for me not only to know that the shareholders and political leaders were behind us, but also to feel the trust of the employees. I am grateful that we were able to count on an outstanding team during those decisive years, in which we made numerous changes and got the company on track. That motivated me in a very special way." His final message to Cologne: "Continue to nurture and support the jewel you have in Koelnmesse! It will continue to ensure the city's positive development in the future." His parting words: "Thank you, I have truly enjoyed it."

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Executive Board:

Gerald Böse (President and Chief

Executive Officer)

Oliver Frese

Herbert Marner

Chairwoman of the Supervisory Board:

Mayor of the City of Cologne

Henriette Reker

Headquarters and place of

jurisdiction:

Cologne

District Court Cologne, HRB 952

As of 1st June 2022, President and Chief Executive Officer Gerald Böse and Chief Operating Officer Oliver Frese will lead the company as a two-member management team. Volker Ahrberg, Vice President Finance and Controlling, will be responsible for financial issues as an authorised signatory for Koelnmesse.

About Koelnmesse:

Koelnmesse employs around 1000 people. As a city trade fair in the heart of Europe, it occupies the third largest trade fair grounds in Germany and, with almost 400,000 m² of hall and outdoor space, is among the top ten largest trade fair grounds in the world. Each year, Koelnmesse organises and manages around 80 trade fairs, guest events and special events in Cologne and in the most important markets all over the world. Its portfolio reaches over 54,500 exhibiting companies from 122 countries and around three million visitors from more than 200 nations. Until 2034, Koelnmesse is investing more than 700 million euro in the development of the trade fair grounds into the most extensive investment programme in its history, to allow it to cover all event formats in the future.

Photo material for Koelnmesse:

<https://www.koelnmesse.com/news/image-database/image-database.php>

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