



Press release

DMK Group realigns communications Bundling of the Corporate Communications and Public Affairs departments

Bremen, 01 August 2023. DMK Group, one of Europe's leading dairy cooperatives, is reorganising its own communications department and expanding the Corporate Communications division to include the area of Public Affairs. Oliver Bartelt, to date Global Head of Corporate Communications, will assume overall responsibility for the newly created department on 1 August 2023. In this function, he will lead the future topics in the food sector in terms of communication under one roof.

With over 20 locations worldwide and around 7,000 employees, DMK (Deutsches Milchkontor) is one of Europe's leading companies in the food industry. This size also results in a corresponding demand to actively participate in the change debates of this time, says CEO Ingo Müller. *"Oliver Bartelt came on board in 2017 during an exciting phase of our company's development and has been able to visibly contribute his expertise in change communication in recent years,"* Müller explains. *"We see that topics can no longer be categorised by stakeholder groups in terms of communication. Therefore, it is only a logical step to also bundle the exchange with politics and NGOs in this area of responsibility."*

By merging the two areas of Corporate Communications and Public Affairs, DMK wants to focus communication and dialogue more strongly on forward-looking topics: Climate and environmental protection, shortage of experts and management staff, and the nutrition of the future.

"The competence of companies to be able to act with commitment and initiative even in times of change is often a question of communication. It is not companies that change - it is above all people who change themselves and thus a company," says Oliver Bartelt, Global Head of Corporate Communications. DMK also considers innovation particularly in topics that are socially relevant. *"With its focus on tomorrow's issues and the associated strengthening of corporate communications, DMK is setting the course to be able to make an even more active contribution here. I am looking forward to the new tasks with my team,"* explains Bartelt. In the expanded function, he will continue to report directly to CEO Ingo Müller.

The previous Head of Public Affairs, Hermann Cordes, is leaving the company on good terms. *"After 30 years in various functions, I have been able to learn and move a lot. Now I would like to take on new professional challenges once again,"* Cordes explains. In 2022, Cordes took over responsibility as managing director of the Tarmstedt Exhibition as Northern Germany's largest trade exhibition in the field of agriculture, agricultural technology and renewable energies. *"Hermann Cordes has been a DMK institution. Over the past decades, he has accompanied DMK and its predecessor companies during not always easy waters and growth steps. I owe him my full thanks. For his new tasks, I wish him much joy and success,"* said Müller on Cordes' leave.

**About the DMK Group**

Employing around 6,600 employees at more than 20 locations in Germany, the Netherlands and other international hubs, Germany's largest dairy cooperative processes milk into foodstuffs of the highest quality. The product portfolio ranges from cheese, dairy products and ingredients to baby food, ice cream, whey products and vegan products. Brands such as MILRAM, Oldenburger, Uniekaas, Alete bewusst and Humana have earned the trust of consumers at home and abroad, making the company an established player in its home markets and selected target markets around the globe. As one of the largest suppliers to the German food retail industry with a total revenue of 5.5 billion euros, the DMK Group is one of Europe's leading dairy companies.

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