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Management handover at Messe Berlin

Dr. Christian Göke takes over as chief executive – long-standing CEO Raimund Hosch retires

Berlin, 27 June 2013 – Dr. Christian Göke (47) is due to take over as the new chief executive officer of Messe Berlin. At its regular meeting on 5 December 2012 the supervisory board appointed Dr. Goeke, who holds a doctorate in law, as the new chief executive officer from 1 July 2013. He takes over from Raimund Hosch, who is retiring.

"Messe Berlin has a wide-ranging and competitive programme of events which play an important part in attracting an even greater number of international audiences to Berlin. It is the goal of all our employees to continue along this path in the future in order to benefit Berlin", said Dr. Christian Göke.

The list of successes which Messe Berlin can look back on is impressive. From 2000 to 2012 the company's turnover doubled from 125 million to around 250 million euros. The 14 years of joint management by Raimund Hosch and Dr. Christian Göke witnessed the realisation of urgently needed building projects which have significantly strengthened Berlin's leading international standing as a venue for trade fairs and congresses. Notable milestones included the opening in September 2012 of Berlin ExpoCenter Airport, the new exhibition grounds adjacent to BER, and construction of the CityCube Berlin, a multi-purpose venue which can be used for conferences and is due to open in the first quarter of 2014. The main south entrance was completed ten years ago and perfectly directs the flow of incoming visitors onto the southern section of the exhibition grounds.

Immediately after taking office Raimund Hosch introduced a new concept. By establishing the Virtual Market Place, which presents exhibitors' products and services online regardless of trade fair dates, Messe Berlin reacted to the changes taking place in the digital world. Messe Berlin was the first trade fair company to introduce this service for its customers.

In terms of conference business, by attracting the world's largest medical congresses the German capital has now become the leader in this market segment. Messe Berlin also plays an important role abroad: ASIA FRUIT LOGISTICA and ITB ASIA are two events that have been launched in Asia, a growth region, where they have established a strong market position.

Raimund Hosch: "The successes achieved by Messe Berlin over the past 14 years are not least the result of implementing a modern corporate philosophy that focuses on offering industry-specific and market-oriented services amid international competition and making use of the business synergies in the metropolitan region of Berlin. It is because of this strategy that we are among the world's most in-demand companies for facilitating and concluding business. Messe Berlin is very well positioned for the future."