



The Management of WIKUS is complete again

WIKUS-Group sets a course for future security and strengthens its management with a recognized industry expert and sales specialist.

Spangenberg, October 11th 2024: *The market for sophisticated bandsaw solutions is undergoing profound changes. These upheavals are particularly evident through new competitors from China offering low-cost alternatives, but also through market exits, either in sub-markets or entirely.*

The WIKUS-Group consistently focuses on technological leadership and excellent quality, while also professionalizing and enhancing customer focus. In July, the first change in management was initiated, which now continues with the appointment of Sven Koepchen as Managing Director of Sales for the WIKUS-Group as of October 1, 2024. Initially introduced as an interim manager on July 1, 2024, Mr. Koepchen has impressed only with his comprehensive competence and experience in the steel processing industry, as well as by his quick comprehension and decisiveness, but also with his empathy and team spirit. Therefore, the Supervisory Board unanimously decided to permanently bind Mr. Koepchen to the WIKUS-Group.

Dr. Jörg Kullmann, Chairman of the Supervisory Board, emphasizes: 'With Mr. Koepchen, we have exactly the right man at the right time in the right place. We are pleased that we were able to make this arrangement with Sven Koepchen so quickly and welcome him as the new Chief Executive Officer of Sales in our WIKUS-Group. We have gained a top-tier professional from the steel industry for our company, who quickly became enthusiastic about our company and the challenging task.'

Sven Koepchen has extensive experience from various management positions at leading industry corporations, including ThyssenKrupp, ArcelorMittal, and Klöckner & Co, where he has worked for many years. He also recognizes the special advantage of a family business. 'The ability to make decisions quickly and implement them consistently in a family business is what makes this task particularly appealing to me,' says Sven Koepchen.



Sven Koepchen, Chief Executive Officer of Sales

In the past three months, Sven Koepchen visited all WIKUS locations worldwide, held many discussions, and gained a detailed understanding of the markets and the situation on site. As a result, initial measures have already been initiated. The extensive program to increase sales focuses particularly on expanding market presence in North America and strengthening sales in Asia.

The management of the WIKUS-Group, which in addition to Sven Koepchen still includes Jörg Utech (Finance) and Karsten Gutke (Technology), will further develop and implement the company's strategic realignment in the coming years in close coordination with the Supervisory Board.

About WIKUS

For more than 60 years, WIKUS GmbH & Co. KG in Spangenberg has been producing high-tech saw tools for a variety of industries in the metal sector, from steel production and steel trade to mechanical engineering, the automotive industry, aerospace, construction, foundries, and toolmaking. With an additional 10 locations, the WIKUS-Group employs around 700 people worldwide.

The products, exported to around 80 countries, are created exclusively through our own, often award-winning research and development expertise, and are produced exclusively at the Spangenberg site to ensure quality standards. The symbiosis of innovation capability, quality, and commitment to the German location is decisive.

The Kullmann family, now in its second and third generation, firmly supports WIKUS. They are represented on the Supervisory Board by Dr. Jörg Kullmann as Chairman, as well as Carolin Holst and Julia Kullmann, daughters of the late former managing partner Rolf Kullmann.

WIKUS-Sägenfabrik

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