Press release

**Durst and Koenig & Bauer appoint Robert Stabler to lead new joint venture company for digital packaging printing systems**

Würzburg, 09.07.2019
Durst, manufacturer of advanced digital printing and production technologies, and Koenig & Bauer, the oldest printing press manufacturer in the world with the broadest product range in the industry, have appointed Robert Stabler as Managing Director of the new joint venture effective August 1st. Koenig & Bauer Durst GmbH has been officially established early May following the clearance of antitrust regulations from the relevant authorities.

Robert Stabler, who grew up in the UK, has global experience in technology companies servicing the graphic arts and document management industries. Before joining Koenig & Bauer Durst, he was Senior Vice-President with Xerox’s Continuous Feed Business, based in Rochester, NY, USA. Previous executive roles also included HP and Agfa.

Business operations are now under way for joint development and marketing of single-pass digital printing systems for the folding carton and corrugated fiberboard industry. Koenig & Bauer Durst will have its registered office in Würzburg, Bavaria, Germany, and cooperate closely with both parent companies’ global network. Initially, the joint venture portfolio will comprise the Koenig & Bauer CorruJET 170 and the Durst SPC 130 – including all associated services and the ink business as well as the development of the VariJET 106.

 “I am really excited to take on this new challenge in the folding carton and corrugated packaging markets,” said Stabler. “Both are ripe for digital transformation with run lengths declining in both segments and brands crying out for very good, cost effective, short-run and versioning solutions. We will add all the competencies of Durst and Koenig & Bauer to leverage the best solutions. Durst with its expertise in digital imaging, production systems, inks and software integration, Koenig & Bauer with all its mechanical knowledge, high duty cycle process, engineering, paper transport capabilities plus, of course, the great go-to-market expertise of both teams.”

Christoph Gamper, CEO of the Durst Group, said: “We welcome Robert Stabler who has an impressive track record, is an inspirational leader and is accomplished in proactively managing change management as well as substantial experience in developing new markets. The team we’ll create for the joint venture will supply the necessary solutions in markets where digital production lines offer huge opportunities for the folding carton and corrugated fiberboard industries.”

Claus Bolza-Schünemann, CEO of Koenig & Bauer AG, commented: “This is the start of something very special in the printing and packaging industry. We are incredibly excited by the opportunities ahead of us and we are confident being able to form a superb team led by Robert Stabler. Our distinct technologies and market expertise will be combined to offer state of the art products, optimized solutions for our customers including a flawless service and support.”

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#### About Koenig & Bauer

Koenig & Bauer is the oldest printing press manufacturer in the world with the broadest product range in the industry. For more than 200 years, the company has been supporting printers with innovative technology, tailor-made processes and a wide array of services. The portfolio ranges from banknotes, via board, film, metal and glass packaging, through to book, display, coding, magazine, advertising and newspaper printing. Sheetfed and webfed offset and flexo printing, waterless offset, intaglio, simultaneous perfecting and screen printing or digital inkjet – Koenig & Bauer is at home in virtually all printing processes and is the market leader in many of them. In the financial year 2018, the approximately 5,700 highly qualified employees worldwide generated annual sales of more than EUR 1.2 billion.

Further information can be found at [www.koenig-bauer.com](file:///%5C%5CW9%5CVM%5CPresse%5CPresseformular%5Cwww.koenig-bauer.com)

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#### Durst. Advanced Digital Printing and Production Technology

Durst is a leading global manufacturer of advanced digital printing and production technologies. Within its sectors, Durst is a preferred partner when it comes to transforming and digitizing industrial production processes. Durst is a family business with an 80-year history, where values are focused on innovation, customer orientation, sustainability and quality. Further information about the Durst Group can be found on the website www.durst-group.com.