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External managers with key roles in the top decision-making and supervisory bodies

The international medical technology company Ottobock is strengthening its Management Board with external experience and expertise. Stefan F. Heidenreich was appointed to the Management Board in January. The top decision-making body elected him as Deputy Chairman of the Board in February.

Stefan F. Heidenreich brings his experience to the Management Board as Deputy Chairman of the Board

"With Stefan Heidenreich, we successfully recruited the perfect partner for our further development. He is customer oriented, user centred and focused on patient interests," says Professor Hans Georg Näder, Chairman of the Board and owner of Ottobock. "His experience in the consumer goods industry supports our increased focus on end customers, for instance with our exoskeletons. He also makes valuable contributions in key areas such as branding, marketing and digitalisation."

Co-owner EQT underscores the independent manager's importance. "I know Stefan Heidenreich from many years of successful collaboration. He took Beiersdorf to a new level. As a member of the Management Board, he is an ideal sparring partner for the Executive Board with Philipp Schulte-Noelle as CEO," says Marcus Brennecke, Global Co-Head Private Equity at EQT.

Stefan Heidenreich is looking forward to his new Management Board responsibilities: "I'm familiar with many successful companies, but the mix of innovative patient care and modern technology at Ottobock offers unique opportunities," he says.

Dr Bernd Bohr chairs the Supervisory Board for five more years

Dr Bernd Bohr will continue to chair the European Supervisory Board as the supervisory body of the SE & Co. KGaA for the next five years. This was agreed by the owners, the Näder family and EQT. The former head of the automotive division at Bosch has chaired the Supervisory Board since it was founded in 2017.

"With Bernd Bohr, Stefan Heidenreich and our partners at EQT, we have experienced and competent entrepreneurs by our side to professionally advise and supervise our Executive Board on our future journey," says Professor Näder.

Additional information:

About the Management Board of Ottobock Management SE

The decision-making body consists of the non-executive directors Professor Hans Georg Näder (Chairman), Stefan F. Heidenreich (Deputy Chairman), Marcus Brennecke (EQT) and Dr Joachim Kreuzburg (Sartorius) as well as the executive directors Philipp Schulte-Noelle (CEO), Jörg Wahlers (CFO) and Oliver Jakobi (CSO).

The European Supervisory Board of Ottobock SE & Co. KGaA

...consists of Dr Bernd Bohr (Chairman), Dr Joachim Kreuzburg (Deputy Chairman), Professor Dr Gesche Joost (Universität der Künste Berlin), Georgia Näder, Johannes Reichel (EQT) and Professor Dr Christoph Seibt (Freshfields, Bruckhaus, Deringer) on the capital side. The members on the employee side are Anja Rupprecht (Germany), Marcus Eder (Austria), Jean-Yves Audran (France) and Pia Upola (Sweden).

About Stefan F. Heidenreich

Stefan F. Heidenreich (58) studied business administration at the University of Kiel. He began his career as Brand Manager at Procter & Gamble. After various leadership positions with Reckitt Benckiser, Bertelsmann and the Hero Group, he was the CEO of Hero from 2004 to 2011. In 2012 he became the CEO of Beiersdorf. He launched the Blue Agenda business strategy with a focus on NIVEA the same year. With this compass and the increasing efficiency of business operations, the company's value more than doubled under his leadership. He has been active as an investor and senior advisor since 2020.

About Dr Bernd Bohr

Dr.-Ing. Bernd Bohr (64) completed his studies of mechanical engineering at Aachen University in 1983 and obtained a doctoral degree in control engineering. In 1983 he joined Robert Bosch GmbH at the Reutlingen plant, where he was in charge of production planning from 1986. In 1993, he became managing director for manufacturing at Nippon ABS Ltd., Tokyo. He assumed worldwide responsibility for the company's automotive electronics division in 1996 and managed the development of the ABS and Brakes division starting in 1998. In 1999, Bohr was appointed Managing Director of Robert Bosch GmbH, responsible for the Diesel Injection division with regional responsibility for Japan. From 2003 to 30 June 2013, he was chairman of the Bosch Automotive Group with responsibility for the worldwide automotive activities of the company. Today he advises and controls companies.

About Ottobock

Ottobock develops "wearable human bionics" – medical technology products for people with limited mobility in the fields of Prosthetics, Orthotics and Human Mobility (wheelchairs). The company, founded in 1919, also treats patients in its Patient Care division. Ottobock's mission is to improve their quality of life and increase health economic benefits. With the Paexo exoskeletons, Ottobock has transferred its expertise in biomechanics to applications for industry as well since 2012. Subsidiaries in 59 countries offer "Made in Germany" quality worldwide and employ more than 8000 people. The international activities of the company are coordinated from the head office in Duderstadt (state of Lower Saxony). Ottobock has been supporting the Paralympic Games with its technical expertise since 1988.

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