

## Bremen Cotton Exchange: Board Elects Stephanie Silber President

**Bremen, 18 June 2020:** In line with the Articles of Association, the election to the Executive Committee was held on 18 June on the occasion of the 146<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly of the Bremen Cotton Exchange.

With **Stephanie Silber** (40), the Board of Directors has elected a female president for the first time. Stephanie Silber has been Managing Director of Otto Stadlander GmbH for many years, an internationally networked Bremen cotton trading company with a long tradition and 100 years of history.

The previous President, **Jens D. Lukaczik** (54), Managing Partner of the globally operating service company Cargo

Control Germany GmbH & Co. KG, remains on the Executive Committee as Vice President. Also **Ernst Grimmelt** (53), Managing Director of the Europe-wide spinning and weaving mill with a focus on innovation and sustainability, Velener Textil GmbH in Velen, Westphalia was re-elected as Vice President. The same applies to **Fritz A. Grobien** (62), who has many years of experience in the cotton trade and is Managing Partner of Albrecht, Müller-Pearse & Co. Trade (GmbH & Co.) KG.



Stephanie Silber



Jens D. Lukaczik



Fritz A. Grobien



Ernst Grimmelt

“Like the whole world, the cotton industry is struggling with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the extent of which is yet to be seen”, said the newly elected President. “It is all the more important to promote cooperation and the exchange of information, but above all understanding between cotton producers, cotton traders and cotton processors. The Bremen Cotton Exchange is closely connected to all of these segments and through its importance in the textile chain can provide support during this difficult situation. I'm looking forward to helping shape this challenge as President of the Bremen Cotton Exchange.”

#### Roland Stelzer new to the Board



**Roland Stelzer**

New elections to the Board of Directors were also held during the General Assembly. **Roland Stelzer**, Managing Director of Gebr. Elmer & Zweifel GmbH & Co. KG, Bempflingen, was newly elected to the now enlarged board. Other members of the Board are: **Hannes Drolle**, Getzner Textil AG, Bludenz, Austria; **Jean-Paul Haessig**, RCMA Asia PTE LTD, Singapore; **Henning Hammer**, Otto Stadlander GmbH, Bremen, in Shanghai responsible for the Asian business; **Jan Kettelhack**, Hch. Kettelhack GmbH + Co.KG, Rheine; **Konrad Schröer**, Setex-Textil GmbH, Hamminkeln-Dingden; **Peter Spoerry**, Spoerry 1886 AG, Flums, also in the function as a representative of the Swiss textile industry, and **Axel Trede**, Cotton Service International GmbH, Bremen. **Manfred Kern** sits on the board as an advisory member from the Austrian textile industry.

A special feature of the Bremen Cotton Exchange: The members of the Executive Board and the Executive Committee largely belong to companies from various areas of the cotton supply chain, such as trade, processing and services. This gives the association access to an extensive network and worldwide information resources within the global cotton textile sector.



Due to the current contact restrictions, the General Assembly could not take place as usual in Bremen this year. The necessary votes of the ordinary members of the Bremen Cotton Exchange were carried out in advance by means of a written vote. The old and new Board met in the form of a web meeting.

**Contact:**

**Bremen Cotton Exchange**

Elke Hortmeyer, Director of Communications and International Relations

Wachtstrasse 17-24

28195 Bremen

Tel.: +49 421 3397016

E-mail: [hortmeyer@baumwollboerse.de](mailto:hortmeyer@baumwollboerse.de)

[www.baumwollboerse.de](http://www.baumwollboerse.de)



## **About the Bremen Cotton Exchange**

The Bremen Cotton Exchange is an internationally networked industry organisation and recognised service provider. It was founded in 1872 by Bremen merchants as cotton from manufacturing countries such as America, after first being tested for its quality, was delivered to the emerging textile industry in Europe through the Bremen ports. Based on its almost 150-year history and the experience gained in dialogue with the market, the Bremen Cotton Exchange is regarded by the industry as a recognised authority and a strong partner for its neutrality and independence. Today, this not only applies to the cotton trade, spinners/weavers and service providers for the cotton industry, but also to the downstream textile and clothing industry.

The Cotton Exchange is an international arbitration body for the settlement of disputes concerning the processing of commercial contracts and quality defects. Judgments by the Cotton Exchange's Arbitration Committee are made in accordance with the 1958 New York Convention. They are internationally recognised and therefore quickly enforceable.

Within the scope of its information activities, the Bremen Cotton Exchange is available to the public, the press and specialist representatives as a contact person for all questions relating to cotton as a raw material.

The Cotton Exchange has been running the International Cotton Association Quality and Research Centre Bremen GmbH as a joint venture with the International Cotton Association Ltd. (Liverpool) since 2011. This has made it the international centre for cotton quality testing, research, training and certification. Bremen is home to an excellently equipped, state of the art laboratory.

Every two years, the cotton world gathers in Bremen: Together with its testing laboratory, the Fibre Institute Bremen (FIBRE), the Bremen Cotton Exchange hosts the International Cotton Conference, which has become the world's leading conference in the field of cotton testing. Around 600 guests from all over the world regularly travel to the Hanseatic city to attend the high-ranking sessions at the Bremen City Hall and take the opportunity to make personal business contacts.