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Bremen Cotton Exchange: Stephanie Silber Re-elected President in the Anniversary Year

Bremen, 30 June 2022: The 148th Annual General Assembly of the Bremen Cotton Exchange took place on 30 June 2022, in the 150th year of the association.

The Board of Directors re-elected **Stephanie Silber** (42), Managing Director of Otto Stadlander GmbH, Bremen, as President of the Bremen Cotton Exchange. **Jean-Paul Haessig** (60), Director of Asian Cotton Traders PTE Ltd., Vietnam, is a newly elected Vice President. The previous Vice Presidents **Jens D. Lukaczik** (56), Managing Partner of the service company Cargo Control Germany GmbH & Co. KG in Bremen and **Fritz A. Grobien** (64), Managing Partner of Albrecht, Müller-Pearse & Co. Trade

(GmbH & Co.) KG, Bremen were confirmed in office. **Ernst Grimmelt** (55), Managing Partner of the spinning and weaving mill Velener Textil GmbH in Velen, North Rhine-Westphalia, resigned as a long-standing member of the Executive Committee, but will continue to provide advice and support as a member of the Board.



Stephanie Silber



Fritz A. Grobien



Jean-Paul Haessig



Jens D. Lukaczik

President Stephanie Silber said at the General Assembly: “It is a great honour and a pleasure for me to continue to lead the Bremen Cotton Exchange in this anniversary year. The next highlight will certainly be our week of celebrations in September with the International Cotton Conference. Personal exchange has been missing for too long and is all the more important in view of the geopolitical situation and ongoing challenges in the cotton industry. The uncertain political situation and worsening logistics problems, as well as future challenges, mean that there is a lot to talk about. Last but not least, the international exchange with network partners, members and stakeholders is one of the core tasks of the Bremen Cotton Exchange.”

The General Assembly approved the filing of accounts, accepted the Board of Directors’ annual report of the for the 2021 financial year and unanimously discharged the Board of Directors and management. Given the special situation caused by the pandemic and in view of the desire for continuous personal representation in the anniversary year, the Board had proposed extending the term of office of President Silber by one year.

Election of the Board of Directors



Dr Uwe Mazura

During the General Assembly, the Board of Directors was elected. New to the Board is **Dr Uwe Mazura**, General Manager of the Confederation of the German Textile and Fashion Industry. **Konrad Schroer**, Setex-Textil-GmbH, Hamminkeln-Dingden, resigned from the board in line with regulations, and was duly re-elected. **Peter Spoerry**, Spoerry 1886 AG, Flums/Switzerland, was also reappointed to the Board. He also represents the Swiss textile industry.



Other members of the Board are:

Hannes Drolle, Getzner Textil AG, Bludenz/Austria, **Henning Hammer**, Otto Stadtlander GmbH, Bremen, responsible for the Asian business in Shanghai, **Jan Kettelhack**, Hch. Kettelhack GmbH + Co. KG, Rheine, **Roland Stelzer**, Gebr. Elmer & Zweifel GmbH & Co. KG, Bempflingen and **Axel Trede**, Cotton Service International GmbH, Bremen. **Manfred Kern** represents the Association of the Austrian Textile, Fashion, Shoe and Leather Industry as an advisory member of the Board.

Guest Lecture: 100 Percent Cotton

This year's guest speaker, **Prof. Wiebke Ahrndt**, Director of the Übersee-Museum Bremen (Bremen Overseas Museum), spoke on the subject of 100 percent cotton. In her presentation, she addressed the importance of cotton as a raw material not only for the Hanseatic City of Bremen, but also for the emergence of overseas trade and globalisation. To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Bremen Cotton Exchange, the Übersee-Museum Bremen is opening a cotton exhibition in September which looks at the cultural story of the raw material in the past, present and future.

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

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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.