

press release

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Personnel changes at the Franke companies WESCO AG and berbel Ablufttechnik GmbH

Gregory Oswald Appointed New Managing Director of WESCO and berbel

Aarburg, 13 January 2025

The management of Franke Home Solutions has appointed Gregory Oswald as the new Managing Director of the subsidiaries WESCO AG and berbel Ablufttechnik GmbH. He succeeds Irina Leutwyler (WESCO) and Robert Brandon (berbel), who are leaving the company to pursue new professional opportunities.

Gregory Oswald, 44, is assuming his new position with immediate effect. To ensure a seamless handover, Irina Leutwyler and Robert Brandon will continue to support the company during a transitional period.

Barbara Borra, CEO of Franke Home Solutions, commented: "Gregory Oswald is ideally suited to this new role. With his extensive leadership experience, deep understanding of the DACH market and expertise in product management and marketing, he will continue the successful trajectory of WESCO and berbel. We respect the decision of Irina Leutwyler and Robert Brandon and regret their departure. We thank them both for their support during the acquisition of WESCO and berbel by the Franke Group last year and appreciate their willingness to stay on temporarily to support the integration process. We wish them all the best and every success in their future endeavours."

Gregory Oswald, who has been with Franke since 2015 and most recently served as Managing Director for the DACH region at Franke Home Solutions, expressed his enthusiasm for the new challenge: "I am proud to take on the responsibility of leading these two renowned brands and am excited to work with the teams to drive their future growth and development."

Irina Leutwyler stated: "Regretfully, I must leave the Franke Group for personal reasons, but I am looking forward to the coming months, during which I will work closely with Gregory Oswald and Robert Brandon to lay the groundwork for the long-term continuation and further development of WESCO and berbel as part of the integration process."

Gregory Oswald's former responsibilities as Cluster Head DACH will be managed on a temporary basis by Corrado Mura, Vice President Home Solutions EMEA.

The **Franke Group**, headquartered in Aarburg, Switzerland, is a global leader in the manufacturing and supply of solutions and equipment for domestic kitchens, quick-service restaurants (QSR), convenience stores and professional coffee preparation. The company operates worldwide, employing approximately 7,700



people across 35 countries. In 2023, the Franke Group achieved net sales of approximately 2.42 billion Swiss francs. The Franke Group is part of the Artemis Group, Switzerland. For more information, visit franke.com.

Franke Home Solutions is a division of the Franke Group and the world's leading provider of intelligent systems and solutions for private kitchens. Operating internationally, the division generated net sales of 932 million Swiss francs in 2023 with approximately 4,200 employees in over 30 countries. Its product range encompasses all aspects of the kitchen and beyond – from food preparation and cooking to cleaning, waste management and air purification. Franke Home Solutions delivers a seamless living experience that is simple, hygienic and eco-friendly. For more information, visit franke.com.

Founded in 1962, the **WESCO Group** is part of Franke Home Solutions, headquartered in Wettingen, Switzerland, and is a leading manufacturer specialising in extractor hoods and ventilation systems for kitchens, homes, offices and schools. With approximately 280 employees across locations in Switzerland (WESCO AG), Germany (berbel Ablufttechnik GmbH) and Italy (Createc srl), the WESCO Group generated net sales of 97 million Swiss francs in 2023. WESCO stands for high-quality extractor hoods and ventilation solutions "made for Switzerland", while berbel excels with innovative products "made in Germany". The WESCO Group combines exceptional expertise in ventilation and design, embodying the highest standards of quality, efficiency and innovation.

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Photos



Gregory Oswald, new Managing Director of WESCO and berbel, subsidiaries of Franke Home Solutions