

Takeover of an American competitor:

## **MEISER becomes world market leader for gratings**

The success story continues: With the acquisition of the US grating manufacturer IKG, headquartered in Houston, USA, MEISER has become the global market leader for gratings. No other company in the world produces more gratings than the Saarland-based company headquartered in Schmelz-Limbach. MEISER now has a total of 4,000 employees, ensuring unrivalled productivity. The company is now active in more than 50 countries, manufactures in 20 production facilities and will generate future sales of around 850 million euros.

The takeover of IKG in America took effect on 18 April. The shareholders had already signed the preliminary agreements on 13 March. The responsible US antitrust authorities approved the takeover without any conditions. The parties involved have agreed not to disclose the purchase price.

IKG is a renowned and well-known supplier of gratings in North America. The company employs around 350 people, is the market leader for gratings in the USA and can look back on a successful history of more than 100 years. The two production plants in Texas and the plant in Indiana are complemented by a modern production site in Mexico. IKG generates an annual turnover of approximately 180 million US dollars.

For this acquisition, MEISER has formed a consortium with the company Dutco from the United Arab Emirates. Dutco has been a long-standing partner of MEISER in the Middle East for almost 20 years and this successful partnership will now be continued in the USA.

Wolfgang Meiser, Managing Partner of MEISER, says: 'This acquisition marks MEISER's long-awaited entry into the North American market. This is a significant step for our company, a real milestone in its development into a global supplier. The existing plants in Germany will also benefit from this development. MEISER is regionally rooted, but internationally orientated. We consider this combination to be a powerful one that will also stand us in good stead in the coming years.'

'We are very impressed by the market presence of IKG and the very professional management in the USA; strategically, the acquisition of the market leader in the USA is the ideal solution for us. We are also delighted to be extending our existing partnership with Dutco to the USA. Their existing network in the US oil and gas industry will certainly support us,' says Ulrich Meiser, also Managing Partner of MEISER.

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MEISER is a family-run industrial company headquartered in Schmelz-Limbach, Saarland, and is active in five business areas that differ significantly in terms of sales markets and customer structures, but are very similar in terms of industrial production logic. Gratings continue to be the company's heavyweight and traditional core business. Gratings are used worldwide as industrial floor coverings, as walkways or shelves, and are used both in traditional industry and in architectural applications. Road safety barriers are another major area of business, as are steel profiles for vineyards, expanded metal products and steel substructures for ground-mounted photovoltaic systems.