



PRESS RELEASE

Franke Management AG
Franke-Strasse 2
P.O. Box 230
4663 Aarburg
Switzerland

Telephone +41 62 787 3131
www.franke.com

Franke is new shareholder at Duravit

Aarburg, April 4, 2016

The Swiss Franke Group has acquired an interest of 25 percent in Duravit AG, Germany. As part of the strategic partnership, the two companies plan to mutually develop innovative product series for the bathroom and kitchen area under their respective brands. They intend to set new lifestyle trends for even more quality of life in the bathroom and kitchen.

Subject to approval from the competition authorities, on March 29, 2016, Franke Group acquired a stake of 25 percent in Duravit, the German manufacturer of designer bathrooms and wellbeing systems, with headquarters in Hornberg. Franke and Duravit have a complementary product portfolio and are an almost perfect match. Both companies also have an international focus, strong brands and a great innovative capacity with a focus on outstanding design, high quality and intelligent functionality.

The participation lays the foundations for establishing a strategic partnership in the bathroom and kitchen area. The project business also holds very good prospects for additional opportunities for growth. The bundling of common strengths enables the partners to be even more successful in setting lifestyle trends for better quality of life in bathrooms and kitchens. This serves as the basis for further expansion and strengthening of their international market position.

Duravit CEO Dr. Frank Richter sees the positive effects of the partnership already now: "We see a lot of advantages on both sides. Together we can realize additional national and international growth potential in the bathroom and kitchen sector, both in the showroom and in the project business."

Alexander Zschokke, CEO of Franke Group, said: "Partnering with Duravit is an important milestone in the strategic development of the Franke Group. Both companies have excellent expertise, more than 100 years of experience and a high level of design competence. Not only is Duravit a strong development

partner for Franke, the corporate cultures match too – entrepreneurship is a top priority for both companies. Together we will set new standards in the bathroom and kitchen sector and experience a major upswing in growth."

Franke

Franke belongs to the Artemis Group and is a leading global provider of solutions and equipment for domestic kitchens, private bathrooms, semi-/public washrooms, professional food service and coffee preparation. The Franke Group operates worldwide and employs around 9,000 people in 39 countries, generating sales of around CHF 2.1 billion.

Duravit

The philosophy of the company, which was founded in 1817, is about "living bathrooms", and this is reflected in the collaboration with high-profile designers, such as Philippe Starck, Phoenix Design, EOOS, sieger design, and Matteo Thun. This results in innovative new developments with which Duravit repeatedly sets new standards - for different budgets and lifestyles. Duravit focuses on excellent design, using technology intelligently and highest quality standards. The Duravit product portfolio includes sanitary ware, bathroom furniture, shower and bath tubs, spa systems, shower toilets and accessories. Duravit produces at 11 locations worldwide, has about 5,800 employees and generated net sales of about 432 million euros in 2015.

Contact

*Gabriele Hepp
Head of Communications
Franke Holding AG*

*T +41 62 787 3358
M +41 79 108 3225
E gabriele.hepp@franke.com*