



PRESS RELEASE

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Gianluca Mapelli appointed Chief Operating Officer of Franke Group

Aarburg, Monday, January 8, 2018

The Franke Group has appointed Gianluca Mapelli as its new Chief Operating Officer and member of the Group Management Board. Gianluca Mapelli replaces Lukas Burkhardt, who is leaving Franke at his own request to pursue new challenges.

Gianluca Mapelli has taken over as Chief Operating Officer on January 1, 2018, and has also been named a member of the Group Management Board. In his new role, he is responsible for Group operations, including the Procurement, Production, Logistics and Supply Chain Management departments, and the Group-wide Operational Excellence Program. Gianluca Mapelli replaces Lukas Burkhardt, who is leaving Franke at his own request, after three successful years, to pursue new challenges.

Gianluca Mapelli joined Franke Group in April 2016 as Operations Director Business Unit Hoods at the Group's subsidiary Faber S.p.A, which is based in Fabriano, Italy. Faber is one of the world's largest developers and manufacturers of hoods for domestic kitchens. The 47-year-old Italian previously spent 14 years at Safilo S.p.A, the second-largest manufacturer of eyewear, where he held various key management positions, including eight years as Managing Director in China and, more recently, Plant Director in Italy. Gianluca Mapelli graduated from the Polytechnic University of Milan with a degree in aeronautical engineering.

Commenting on the management change, Alexander Zschokke, CEO Franke Group, said: "We regret the departure of Lukas Burkhardt. Thanks to his commitment and high level of expertise, he has made a significant contribution to increasing efficiency and productivity at Franke through his systematic development of our worldwide Operational Excellence initiative. At the same time, we are delighted to be able to fill this position internally with Gianluca Mapelli. He is a manager with international experience

who, in addition to in-depth knowledge of Lean Manufacturing, has many years of experience in the manufacture of metal and plastic components. Gianluca Mapelli is already very familiar with our business strategy, which will ensure a seamless transition.”



Image caption:

Gianluca Mapelli took over as Chief Operating Officer and became a member of the Group Management Board on January 1, 2018.



Image caption:

Lukas Burkhardt, Chief Operating Officer of Franke Group, left Franke Group on December 31.

Franke belongs to the Artemis Group and is a leading global provider of solutions and equipment for domestic kitchens, private bathrooms, semi-/public washrooms, the professional foodservice sector, and coffee preparation. The Franke Group operates worldwide and employs around 9,000 people in 40 countries, generating sales of over CHF 2.0 billion.

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