Press Release

# Koenig & Bauer signals commitment to an open-minded and tolerant society

Globally active press manufacturer joins a growing network of “Businesses for a Cosmopolitan Saxony”

* Training and employment for refugees
* Contacts and business partners on practically all continents
* Promotion of open-mindedness and tolerance

Radebeul, 05.02.2020

At the beginning of 2020, the Koenig & Bauer Sheetfed business unit in Radebeul joined a growing number of globally active companies and organisations from the region in the association “Businesses for a Cosmopolitan Saxony”. As a member of this association, the company will be supporting a range of concrete measures aimed at promoting the integration of refugees and migrants in local business and industry.

Already in the past, Koenig & Bauer has placed its weight behind efforts to promote democracy and tolerance and to assist the integration of refugees. In 2015, for example, two young refugees from Pakistan, who had been forced to flee their home country for political and religious reasons, were accepted into vocational training at the company and began an apprenticeship as mechatronics technicians. After passing the final examinations set by the Dresden Chamber of Industry and Commerce last year, they were subsequently offered permanent contracts to work in the press assembly centre.

In the meantime, a 32-year-old engineer from Syria has also taken up employment at Koenig & Bauer Sheetfed, initially on a time-limited basis. He used to live on the outskirts of Damascus and came to Germany at the beginning of 2016. Since August 2018, he has been working as a draughtsman in the design group responsible for large-format sheetfed offset presses.

Staff from Koenig & Bauer travel regularly to countries all over the world, whether for sales negotiations, press installations or service assignments, or to participate at international trade fairs and similar events. At the same time, customers and partners from the most diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds are frequent visitors to Radebeul. They come to obtain the latest information at first hand, to finalise agreements or to complete the factory acceptance of a purchased press, for example. Ralf Sammeck, CEO of Koenig & Bauer Sheetfed, emphasises the special relationship: “We live an open-minded and cosmopolitan approach and are delighted at every opportunity to share our mindset and experience with others.”

This sometimes also happens very publicly. At a number of home games of the local football club Dynamo Dresden last season, Koenig & Bauer used the touchline advertising boards to champion an open-minded and tolerant society. Ralf Sammeck hopes that his call will be heeded not only by his employees, but indeed by all Saxons: “Challenge xenophobia and populism wherever they rear their head. Join the cause to preserve our democratic values.”

Interesting website: [www.welcomesaxony.de](http://www.welcomesaxony.de/)

#### Photo 1:

Skilled workers Bilal Ahmad (2nd from left) and Saad Malik (centre) proudly present their training certificates. After obtaining the required vocational qualifications last year, they received permanent employment contracts from Ralf Sammeck, member of the Koenig & Bauer management board and CEO of Koenig & Bauer Sheetfed, Jochen Mann, head of training (2nd from right) and Markus Rasche, head of human resources (right).

#### Photo 1:

A Syrian engineer is well integrated into the design department at Koenig & Bauer Sheetfed

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#### About Koenig & Bauer

Koenig & Bauer is the world’s second-largest printing press manufacturer with the broadest product range in the industry. For more than 200 years, the company has been supporting printers with innovative technology, tailor-made processes and a wide array of services. The portfolio ranges from banknotes, via board, film, metal and glass packaging, through to book, display, coding, magazine, advertising and newspaper printing. Sheetfed and webfed offset and flexo printing, waterless offset, intaglio, simultaneous perfecting and screen printing or digital inkjet – Koenig & Bauer is at home in virtually all printing processes and is the market leader in many of them. In the financial year 2018, the approximately 5,700 highly qualified employees worldwide generated annual sales of more than EUR 1.2 billion.

Further information can be found at [www.koenig-bauer.com](file:///%5C%5CW9%5CVM%5C%40GMT-2019.04.09-10.16.26%5CPresse%5CPresseformular%5Cwww.koenig-bauer.com)