



Traditional company, ANKER, has a new majority shareholder

With a new shareholder structure and numerous future-oriented plans in the pipeline, the woven carpet specialist, ANKER, is starting a new era. After lengthy negotiations and a comprehensive M&A process that was initiated in 2019, the traditional Düren company has now successfully concluded the closing process of this merger.

The new majority shareholder is the Chinese family-owned company, OFC Wuxi.

Continuity will be preserved thanks to the founding family's shareholder, Ms Vera Ahlemann, née Schoeller.

The Chinese market leader in the textile floor covering market was founded in 2003. OFC maintains three production locations in China with their own manufacturing machines, which annually produce around 30 million square metres of carpet tiles. The new shareholder also runs two development centres, eighteen sales branches and also operates in many other countries including Japan, Singapore and Malaysia, as well as being active in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the USA.

The new company configuration signifies a decisive step towards the future for both companies. According to Mr Zhou, the owner of OFC Wuxi, a powerful, internationally oriented alliance is formed together with ANKER, which both sides can profit from. The Chinese company will also place a great deal of emphasis upon the preservation, development and autonomy of ANKER.

In future the company headquarters in Düren will – thanks to its central geographic location – act as the logistics hub for Central Europe.

An advisory board will be assembled to act as a link between management and shareholders. Both companies complement each other perfectly in terms of their product range. This means it will be possible for the Düren team to expand their own portfolio with high quality OFC tile products. By the end of 2020, the new products produced by the Chinese manufacturer will be marketed by ANKER in both the German market and abroad.



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Even the international focus of the ANKER brand will continue to be promoted and intensified. In this way OFC allows ANKER to gain direct access to the prospering Chinese aviation market. ANKER operates as a fully integrated company. In addition to the manufacture of tufting products, it also has the largest rod weaving mill in Europe. OFC will expand its product range with the weaving products produced in Düren for the high end market. This includes carpets made from spun yarn as well as products made from recycled raw materials and customised solutions from the high-quality sector which are all market leaders in their segments.

Thanks to the new majority shareholder and the opportunities and possibilities associated therewith, the course for future business success for the next few years and decades has been optimally set for the Düren company. With its 166 years of history, there is also a sense of duty to retain the tradition of the Düren company as a woven carpet specialist.

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