Press Release

# Generational Change on the Koenig & Bauer Executive Board Completed: Dr. Stephen Kimmich Will Succeed Dr. Andreas Pleßke as CEO, Dr. Alexander Blum Appointed New CFO

* Dr. Stephen Kimmich – previously CFO and Deputy CEO – succeeds Dr. Andreas Pleßke as CEO at the Annual General Meeting on June 4, 2025
* Dr. Alexander Blum appointed as the new CFO with effect from July 1, 2025
* Dr. Andreas Pleßke will take on special responsibilities as member of the Executive Board within the group after the annual general meeting and will retire as planned at the end of the year

### 

Würzburg, 20.03.2025

### Dr. Stephen Kimmich appointed as the next CEO of Koenig & Bauer AG from June 2025

Dr. Stephen Kimmich, CFO and Deputy CEO, will succeed the previous CEO, Dr. Andreas Pleßke, who is scheduled to retire as planned on December 31, 2025 and will assume special responsibilities within the group as a Member of the Executive Board until then.

Dr. Andreas Pleßke confirms: “I am very pleased that Dr. Stephen Kimmich is succeeding me as CEO. He has proven in recent years as CFO and Deputy CEO that he can lead Koenig & Bauer successfully. With his extensive wealth of knowledge – both in our markets and technologies, in mechanical engineering and in finance – he is the ideal person for this position. In addition, every generational change always brings new impulses for a company.”

### Mechanical engineer and business economist with extensive management and capital market experience

Dr. Stephen Kimmich has been with Koenig & Bauer since 2020 and has taken on increasing responsibility for the company during this time. He studied mechanical engineering and business administration in the USA, UK and Germany. His 25 years of global industrial experience in mechanical engineering and the automotive industry have given him not only a deep understanding of international business processes, but also the ability to lead and transform companies in a dynamic environment.

At Koenig & Bauer, he initially served as CFO, responsible for finance, capital market communications, IT, and strategic M&A. In December 2023, he was appointed Deputy CEO and, in April 2024, additionally assumed responsibility for the business segment Special as a Member of the Executive Board. Now, the next step is taking place with his appointment as successor to Dr. Andreas Pleßke as Chairman of the Executive Board at the Annual General Meeting in June 2025. The term is for five years.

Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Prof. Dr. Raimund Klinkner, summarizes: “With Dr. Stephen Kimmich, we have the ideal candidate to take on the role of CEO in the generational transition. In addition to his international experience and his profile as an engineer and financial expert, he has built up a profound knowledge of our business processes, products, markets, and customers over the past five years at Koenig & Bauer.”

Dr. Stephen Kimmich adds: “Koenig & Bauer looks back on a success story spanning over 200 years. Over the last five years, I have cultivated a deep passion for this excellent company and our industry. I look forward to leading Koenig & Bauer into the future together with the new management team and our dedicated employees, and most of all to being successful together with our customers and partners.”

### Dr. Alexander Blum appointed as next CFO

The Supervisory Board of Koenig & Bauer AG has appointed Dr. Alexander Blum as the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for a three-year term, effective July 1, 2025. He succeeds the current CFO, Dr. Stephen Kimmich.

Dr. Alexander Blum has extensive and long-standing experience in finance. He studied business administration and earned his doctorate before beginning his career in industry. Over the past 20 years, he has successfully served as CFO in various companies in the IT sector, logistics, and mechanical engineering, among others. He brings experience from a broad range of family businesses, private equity-led companies, and publicly-traded companies.

Ms. Dagmar Rehm, Deputy Chairwoman of the Supervisory Board, added: “With Dr. Alexander Blum, we have gained an excellent candidate who brings extensive international experience in the financial and capital markets sector and will help shape the future as CFO of Koenig & Bauer.”

Dr. Alexander Blum will begin his work at Koenig & Bauer on May 1, 2025, to ensure a smooth transition of the future CEO and CFO roles.

### Planned reduction of the Executive Board is underway

The Group's restructuring, announced in November 2024, is being rapidly advanced. It essentially envisages a reduction from three to two business segments and a reduction of the Executive Board from five to two members.

Dr. Andreas Pleßke, CEO of Koenig & Bauer, will assume special responsibilities as a member of the Executive Board following the transfer of functions at the Annual General Meeting and will retire as planned at the end of the year. He has carefully prepared the succession arrangements and the simultaneous generational transition, combined with a reorganization of the Group's segments, together with the Supervisory Board.

Due to the elimination of the COO position in December 2024, Christoph Müller's resignation from the Executive Board in March 2025, and the departure of Ralf Sammeck, who will retire in June 2025, the Executive Board will be adjusted to the planned size of two members as of January 1, 2026.

### Group restructuring almost complete

By focusing on two segments, the Group can respond even quicker to customer requirements. In addition to the CEO and CFO on the Executive Board, Koenig & Bauer has appointed two new members to the Group Management team in recent months. With Christian Steinmaßl, who is responsible for various areas in the newly created Special & New Technologies segment, and Markus Weiß, who leads the Paper & Packaging Sheetfed Systems segment, the Group has the expertise on board to best address its strategy and challenges.

The Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Prof. Dr. Raimund Klinkner, expressed his satisfaction: “Within just one year, we have now completed a comprehensive restructuring of the group. This commitment is the tailwind with which the new management team will shape the future of the company and the industry.”

#### Photo 1:

CEO Dr. Andreas Pleßke will hand over the baton to the current CFO, Dr. Stephen Kimmich, at the Annual General Meeting on 4 June 2025

#### Photo 2:

Dr. Alexander Blum will become the new Chief Financial Officer from 1 July 2025

#### Contact person for the press

Koenig & Bauer AG  
Dagmar Ringel  
+49 931 909 6756  
[dagmar.ringel@koenig-bauer.com](mailto:dagmar.ringel@koenig-bauer.com)

#### About Koenig & Bauer

Koenig & Bauer is a globally active printing press manufacturer headquartered in Würzburg (Germany). It supplies machines and software solutions covering the entire printing, finishing and converting process, with a particular focus on packaging. Machines from Koenig & Bauer are capable of printing on practically all substrates – the portfolio ranges from banknotes to board, corrugated, film, metal and glass packaging, and includes book, display, coding, decor, magazine, advertising and newspaper printing. With a history extending back more than 200 years, Koenig & Bauer is the oldest printing press manufacturer in the world and is today at home in virtually all printing processes. Together, the group companies count a total of around 5,700 employees. Koenig & Bauer operates manufacturing plants at eleven locations in Europe, alongside a global sales and service network. The annual revenue in the 2023 financial year was around €1.3bn.

Further information can be found at [www.koenig-bauer.com](http://www.koenig-bauer.com)