



PRESS RELEASE

European Association of Communication Directors

Brussels, 10 November 2006

New European network for communication professionals founded

Over 100 founding members from 23 countries have founded a new network for Communication Directors and Spokespersons in European companies, associations and political institutions. The participants of the first meeting signed the founding document of the European Association of Communication Directors on the evening of 8 November in Brussels. It is the association's aim to represent the interests of the profession on the European level. Dr Herbert Heitmann, Head of Global Communications at SAP AG, was elected President by the founding general assembly.

„We want to network communication managers and spokespersons from a wide range of sectors, countries and fields all over Europe“, the new president Dr Herbert Heitmann points out. „Our most important goals are developing uniform standards for communication across Europe and fostering qualification among our profession.“

By means of professional events, the EACD strives towards building networks among its members as well as training them. The organisation will work non-partisan and support its members by practical services and informative media in their day-to-day work.

The other members of the board:

Managing Vice President is Florence Ranson, Public Relations Manager of the European Banking Federation. Elected Vice-Presidents are Arja Suominen, Senior Vice President Corporate Communications of Nokia, and Laurynas Bucalis, Head of the Government Press Office in Lithuania. Stephen Hogan, Communications Manager at the Airports Council International, will be Treasurer.

The General Assembly furthermore elected six Assessors: Orlando Arango, Senior Information Officer of the European Investment Bank, Isabel Borgas, Head of Optimus Institutional Communication of Sonae, Neil Corlett, Spokesman and Head of the Press Service of the ALDE-Group in the European Parliament, Dirk Delmartino, EU Communications Director of Microsoft, Thomas Ellerbeck, Head of Corporate Communications & Government Relations of Vodafone D2, Jan Hol, Senior Vice President Communications of océ N.V.

Further information: www.eacd-online.eu

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