



**Verband
Deutscher
Reeder**

ANSCHRIFT
Burchardstr. 24
D-20095 Hamburg

BRIEF
Postfach 30 55 80
D-20317 Hamburg

TELEFON
+49.40.35097-238

E-MAIL
presse@
reederverband.de

WWW
reederverband.de

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Changes to the VDR Management team

Prof. Dr Dirk Max Johns resigns from Management effective 15 August 2019

Prof. Dr Dirk Max Johns will be leaving the Management of the German Shipowners' Association (Verband Deutscher Reeder, VDR) effective 15 August 2019. He plans to devote even more time and effort to his lecturing activities as Professor at the Hamburg School of Business Administration (HSBA) and will be available to the German Shipowners' Association in an advisory capacity in future. At the HSBA he is in charge of the university course of studies of the Maritime Management bachelor programme as well as of the Business Development master programme.

Johns, a member of the Management of the German Shipowners' Association since 2012, had initially joined the Association in 2005 as Director of Communications, and in the year 2010 he had been placed in charge of Centralised Services within the Association. In addition, he was responsible for national and international employer topics and, for instance, was a successful chief negotiator for the international maritime shipping industry at the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Geneva. Previously he had spent ten years in managerial functions with the German TV station ZDF.

VDR President Alfred Hartmann cordially thanked Prof. Dr Johns (aged 53) for his past performance, adding: "I'm really pleased that he will continue to assist us as a consultant with his expertise, experience and key contacts and that he will closely monitor labour law topics of particular importance to maritime shipping and also represent the German Shipowners' Association internationally."

Prof. Dr Johns' further tasks will be assumed by the members of Management, namely Ralf Nagel as Chief Executive Officer and Dr Martin Kröger as Managing Director, in tandem with their past activities.

About the German Shipowners' Association (VDR)

The German Shipowners' Association (*Verband Deutscher Reeder, VDR*) is responsible for representing the common business and social policy interests of German shipping companies at federal and state government level as well as in relation to European and international bodies. The VDR was established in 1907, and in 1994 it merged with the Association of German Coastal Shipowners. With a membership of around 220, the VDR represents the bulk of Germany's merchant fleet. Further particulars are available at www.reederverband.de.

Printable photographs of Dirk Max Johns:

<https://www.reederverband.de/presse/pressefotos.html>

Press contact:

[Christian Denso](mailto:christian.denso@reederverband.de), +49 40 350 97-238