

Press Release

Vivonio expands management and focusses on group-wide collaboration

Munich, 29/08/2022. Further reinforcement for the Vivonio Furniture Group: After the position of Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) was already filled at the beginning of the year by Oliver Hentze, Erik Kolb is now taking over the newly created role of Chief Operating Officer (COO) and is simultaneously being appointed Managing Director in the leadership of the Vivonio Furniture Group. Market needs are changing, for example the issues of digitisation and sustainability, thus prompting the need for greater collaboration moving forward. Erik Kolb's role will focus on accelerating group-wide improvement projects, standardising working methods and processes and the procurement of a platform for the different departments to exchange ideas and technical knowledge.

"Enshrining company-wide cooperation and the sharing of expert knowledge in our organisations is the order of the day for both current and future challenges", says Elmar Duffner, CEO of Vivonio Furniture Group. "Erik Kolb is an outstanding addition to our group: a technology enthusiast and passionate problem-solver who, with years of leadership on consulting projects and transformation processes in and outside of the country, has proven several times over that he has what it takes to put his solutions into practice. This makes Erik Kolb the right choice to set our company up for the future in times of change".

After earning two graduate degrees, one in engineering with a speciality in mechanical engineering and emphasis on manufacturing technology, and the other in business studies, both at RWTH Aachen, Erik Kolb accumulated five years of job experience at the business consultancy McKinsey. He primarily supervised projects in production and logistics companies here, with a focus on strategic development. The production expert spent another four years

deepening his knowledge as a transformation contractor in companies with private equity investment. With his specialist expertise and leadership experience, Erik Kolb is perfectly primed for his role as Chief Operating Officer and Managing Director at Vivonio. After this expansion, going forward Vivonio's management will consist of Elmar Duffner, CEO, Niels Ackermann, CFO, and Erik Kolb, COO.

About Vivonio:

The Munich-based Vivonio Furniture Group was founded in 2012, and today joins seven of Europe's leading furniture manufacturers under one roof. Besides MAJA Möbel Kasendorf and MAJA Möbel Wittichenau, Leuwico, fm Büromöbel, Noteborn, Staud und KA Interior also belong to the Vivonio Group. They count all major and relevant furniture chains throughout Germany and Europe among their customers.

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