

## **EANS-News: K+S KALI GmbH / Changes in Senior Management**

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Kassel (euro adhoc) - Kassel, 15 May 2009

K+S KALI GmbH  
Changes in Senior Management

At its meeting held on 13 May 2009, the Supervisory Board of K+S KALI GmbH, Kassel, appointed Steffen Kirchhof as a new member of the senior management and as personnel director starting from 1 August 2009. His mandate will run until 31 July 2012. Moreover, he will be remaining in his previous position as head of the Personnel holding unit in K+S Aktiengesellschaft.

Dr. Thomas Nöcker has tendered his resignation from the position of personnel director of K+S KALI GmbH as of 31 July 2009. In future, he will dedicate himself completely to his responsibilities as member of the Board of Executive Directors of K+S Aktiengesellschaft.

The mandates of the previous members of the senior management, Dr. Ernst Andres and Dr. Ralf Diekmann, were each extended by five years starting from 1 January 2010 until 31 December 2014.

Note to editors

Printable portrait photographs of Messrs. Kirchhof, Dr. Nöcker, Dr. Andres and Dr. Diekmann are available at [www.k-plus-s.com](http://www.k-plus-s.com)

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Profile:

Steffen Kirchhof

Member of senior management,  
Personnel Director of K+S KALI GmbH  
from 1 August 2009

Steffen Kirchhof was born in Frankfurt am Main in 1967. Following his law studies he served legal traineeships in e.g. Würzburg, Karlstadt, Kerpen and Bonn until 1998. In 1999, he joined the K+S Group at its Kassel site as an expert in the field of employment law and social law. From 2002 to 2004, Mr. Kirchhof was employed as head of Executive Support in the personnel department at the Kassel site. Since 2004, he has been heading the Personnel functional unit. Starting from 1 August 2009, he will become member of the senior management of K+S KALI GmbH as personnel director. Mr. Kirchhof is married and has two children.

Profile:

Dr. Thomas Nöcker  
Member of the Board of Executive  
Directors of K+S Aktiengesellschaft  
and until 31 July 2009  
Member of the Senior Management of K+S KALI GmbH

Dr. Thomas Nöcker was born in Neukirchen-Vluyn (North Rhine-Westphalia) in 1958. After his studies of law and after having subsequently obtained a doctorate at Münster, he served legal traineeships in e.g. Düsseldorf and Montreal, Canada. In 1991, he joined RAG Aktiengesellschaft, where he held various positions. Most recently, he was responsible for the central staff division, a position he held until 1998. Subsequently, he was appointed to the Board of Executive Directors of RAG Saarberg AG in 1998, where he was assigned responsibility for personnel, legal affairs and IT management/organisation. Since August 2003, Dr. Nöcker has been a member of the Board of Executive Directors of K+S Aktiengesellschaft. He is responsible for personnel and holds the position of Personnel Director. He is also responsible for the complementary business segments logistics (KTG) and trading business (CFK) as well as for purchasing, IT-Services, property management and knowledge management. Dr. Nöcker has tendered his resignation from the position of personnel director in the senior management of K+S KALI GmbH as of 31 July 2009.

Profile:

Dr. Ernst Andres  
Member of the Senior Management  
of K+S KALI GmbH,  
Marketing and Sales

Dr. Ernst Andres was born in Düdelsheim (Hesse) in 1955. After studying agricultural science and subsequently obtaining a doctorate in Göttingen, he joined Kali und Salz AG as a specialist consultant in 1984. In 1985, he became head of the agricultural crop fertilization unit and headed the Eastern Europe application advice department from 1993. Dr. Andres headed the product marketing unit from 1996 until the end of 2000. Subsequently, in 2001, he took over the management of Potash Import & Chemical Cooperation (PICC), New York, a marketing subsidiary of K+S KALI GmbH. In 2004, he returned to the Kassel headquarters as head of sales at K+S KALI GmbH. He has been appointed to the senior management of K+S KALI GmbH with effect from 1 January 2007. Dr. Andres is married and has two children.

Profile:

Dr. Ralf Diekmann

Member of the Senior Management  
of K+S KALI GmbH,  
Production and Technology

Dr. Ralf Diekmann was born in Oetinghausen (Westphalia) in 1954. He studied engineering and process technology at the University of Braunschweig. He joined Kali und Salz AG in 1981. After serving in various positions at the Sigmundshall and Heringen sites, he was works assistant at the Wintershall plant from 1985 to 1988. Subsequently, he took over the management of the potassium chloride and Kieserite factory at the Hattorf site. In 1989, he was awarded a doctorate by TH Darmstadt. In 1991, Dr. Diekmann moved to the Kassel headquarters and headed the process technology department until 1994. In 1994, he returned to the Sigmundshall site and initially headed factory operations there before becoming plant manager in 1995. He has been appointed to the senior management of K+S KALI GmbH with effect from 1 January 2007. Dr. Diekmann is married and has two children.

Further inquiry note:

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Chairman of the Supervisory Board: Dr. Ralf Bethke  
Board of Executive Directors: Norbert Steiner (Chairman), Joachim Felker, Gerd  
Grimmig, Dr. Thomas Nöcker  
Registered Office: Kassel  
Commercial Register: Kassel HRB 2669

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