

## Press release

### **Andreas Holzer, member of *bardusch* group's business management team, is new President of ETSA**

Brussels / Ettlingen / Basel, 9 September 2020: The European Textile Services Association (ETSA) has elected the Swiss Andreas Holzer as its new President for the next three years. Andreas Holzer, a member of the business management team of the *bardusch* group, is taking over the role from Thomas Krautschneider, CEO of the Austrian company Salesianer. ETSA's members held their first meeting under Mr Holzer's presidency on 8 September 2020.

"I feel honoured to be the President of the ETSA. Its main mission is to represent the Association's members, which are leading textile service providers, their supplier firms in Europe and national associations." He said the Covid crisis had highlighted the importance of industrial laundries as local suppliers of vitally important undertakings. "Clients such as hospitals and foodstuffs companies have become aware how resiliently and reliably our branch works. We are on the spot and are able to supply them with hygienically clean textiles - quickly and flexibly at all times. It's true that this is what we have always done; it's just that in the past less public attention was paid to the services and skills of textile service providers", said Mr Holzer.

Mr Holzer, who holds an engineer's qualification from the prestigious Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), is a member of the business management team of the German company *bardusch Beteiligungen GmbH & Co. KG*, with responsibility for the operations of the *bardusch* group's non-German businesses. For the past three years he has also been Chairman of the Board of Directors of *bardusch AG* (Switzerland); as its CEO from 2008 to 2018, he developed the company into one of the leading textile service providers in Switzerland.

Mr Holzer wants to take advantage of increased public awareness of the benefits of using textile services providers during the Covid crisis to increase the branch's reputation in the long term. "Client proximity, delivery security, speed and high standards of hygiene are the defining features of textile service firms. We will also be launching a series of new campaigns", said Mr Holzer. Our business model is sustainable and matches the current mindset in society with its shift away from disposables to reusables and a circular economy. Our branch is fully committed to sustainability. This means durable textiles, energy efficiency, optimisation of water use, environment-friendly detergents, short local supply chains, and the acceptance of social responsibility in respect of employees and within the supply chain.

With an annual turnover of around 13 billion euros and some 140 000 jobs in the European Union, the textile services industry is an important part of the European economy. In recent years the market has grown in nearly every segment, and according to one study it could expand over the next few years to a turnover of around 46 billion euros.

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### ***bardusch***

The *bardusch* group, based in Ettlingen, was founded in 1871; it is family-owned, currently by the fifth generation. With facilities in six European countries (France, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Spain and Switzerland), *bardusch* is a full textile service provider that ensures the end-to-end supply of hygienically clean textiles. About 90 000 undertakings in the health, industry and craft sectors, the foodstuffs and pharmaceutical industries, and the high-end restaurant sector benefit from *bardusch*'s innovative textile management and expertise. The *bardusch* group has a payroll of about 3 600 employees. It is a founding member of ETSA; a member of the business management team of the *bardusch* group was recently elected as the Association's President. [www.bardusch.com](http://www.bardusch.com)

### **ETSA – European Textile Services Association**

ETSA has represented the textile service industry in Europe for more than 25 years. The Association promotes networking and the sharing of best practices among its 35 members, which are leading textile service providers and their supplier firms, national associations, and research institutes. It is also committed to continuing the development of technologies and processes and resource efficiency. Using textile services is a reliable, sustainable and cost-efficient alternative to using disposable textiles. ETSA has launched a number of campaigns on the subject: [www.textile-services.eu](http://www.textile-services.eu) and [www.rentedtextiles.com](http://www.rentedtextiles.com).