

WE-EF joins Fagerhult Group

The shareholders and joint venture partners of exterior lighting specialist WE-EF have unanimously decided to join the Stockholm/Sweden-based Fagerhult Group. This change towards centralised ownership is expected to pave the way for a more streamlined organisational structure – with the aim of further expanding the internationally-respected WE-EF brand, its professional product portfolio as well as global sales. The acquisition is expected to be concluded within the first quarter of 2017, pending approval by the German Federal Cartel Office (Bundeskartellamt).

“By joining the Fagerhult Group, with its decentralised structure, we are confident to have secured the future prospects and expansion of WE-EF”, says WE-EF Managing Director Stephan Fritzsche. “While the shareholders and joint venture partners agreed to sell their interest to the Fagerhult Group, WE-EF will continue to operate autonomously, under its well- established and highly respected brand.”

Founded in Bispingen, northern Germany, in 1950, WE-EF has since developed from a small, family-owned company to a globally active manufacturer of exterior lighting equipment, with a worldwide network of partners and distributors. WE-EF is recognised globally for its professional lighting solutions for urban as well as architectural applications. In addition to the head office in Bispingen and a second facility in Neuendorf im Sande, the WE-EF Group consists of joint ventures in France, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States as well as in Thailand and Australia.

Stephan Fritzsche and Thomas Fritzsche will remain in their positions as Managing Directors of WE-EF LEUCHTEN GmbH at the head office in Bispingen, and WE-EF LIGHTING Co Ltd in Thailand, respectively. Moreover, Stephan Fritzsche has been appointed WE-EF Group Managing Director. Together with the global WE-EF team, the successful international business in the exterior and architectural market segments will continue to be enhanced and expanded. All other current Managing Directors will also remain in their positions within the Group.

“We see plenty of potential for powerful synergy with WE-EF’s ascension into the ranks of the Fagerhult Group,” notes Johann Hjertonsson, CEO of the Fagerhult Group. For example, Fagerhult sales channels can be used in addition to the tried-and-tested WE-EF distribution network, thereby significantly strengthening the Group’s presence in the outdoor lighting market.

With the acquisition, the Fagerhult Group’s turnover in the outdoor segment will increase to more than 100 million euros. As of the end of the financial year in June 2016, WE-EF had 484 employees and recorded consolidated group sales of approximately 57 million euros.

January 11, 2017 / For more information contact:

WE-EF LEUCHTEN
Robert Diedrich
Toepinger Str. 16, 29646 Bispingen
Tel +49 5194 909 146
r.diedrich@we-ef.com

AR-PR
Andrea Rayhrer Kommunikation & Public Relations
Alexanderstraße 126, 70180 Stuttgart
Tel +49 711 6200 7838
andrea.rayhrer@ar-pr.de

WE-EF group companies included in this transaction are:

- WE-EF LEUCHTEN GmbH; Bispingen, Germany
 - WE-EF LEUCHTEN GmbH & Co. KG; Bispingen, Germany
 - WE-EF TRADING & DESIGN GmbH; Bispingen, Germany
 - WE-EF LUMIERE S.a.r.l.; Satolas-et-Bonce, France
 - WE-EF LIGHTING Co. Ltd.; Bangplee, Thailand
 - WE-EF HELVITICA SA; Geneva, Switzerland
 - WE-EF LIGHTING Ltd. Nottingham, UK
 - WE-EF LIGHTING Pty. Ltd.; Braeside, Australia
 - WE-EF LIGHTING USA LLC; Warrendale, USA
- Plus
- Flux Eclairage S.A.S.; Satolas-et-Bonce, France

WE-EF LEUCHTEN

GmbH & Co. KG
Toepinger Strasse 16
D-29646 Bispingen
Germany
Tel +49 5194 909 0
info.germany@we-ef.com
www.we-ef.com

About Fagerhult

Fagerhult is one of Europe's leading lighting companies, with 2,700 employees in more than 20 countries. Fagerhult develops, manufactures and markets innovative and energy-efficient lighting solutions for professional indoor, retail and outdoor environments.

The Group includes such strong brands as Fagerhult, Ateljé Lyktan, LTS, Whitecroft Lighting, Designplan Lighting, Eagle Lighting, I-Valo, Arlight, Lighting Innovation and LED Linear. AB Fagerhult is listed on the Nasdaq OMX Nordic Exchange in Stockholm.

About WE-EF

WE-EF is a global manufacturer of high-performance exterior luminaires renowned for outstanding engineering design and innovative optical systems. Established in 1950 in Germany, WE-EF is recognised worldwide as a leading exterior lighting specialist that provides professional lighting solutions for various applications, ranging from urban spaces to architectural projects. As a pioneer and innovator of a wide range of application-specific modular LED lens technologies, WE-EF develops optical systems that deliver photometric efficiency together with high visual comfort.

WE-EF is dedicated to the philosophy of combining form and function, resulting in striking and timeless product designs. Precision in the design process, careful consideration of material selection and high-quality manufacturing processes ensure that WE-EF luminaires are considered to be a benchmark of product performance, reliability and longevity as well as ease of installation. Responsible resource management is practised across all areas of operation, from product life-cycle assessments to sustainable business procedures.

WE-EF products illuminate projects such as the Federal Chancellery in Berlin, the State Parliament of Vaduz, Leeds University in the UK, the Sydney Opera House, the Brisbane Riverwalk, Gardens by the Bay in Singapore, the King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC) in Riyadh, the Santa Fe Railyard Park, the Kauffmann Center for Performing Arts, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Lincoln Center Plaza in New York and last, but not least, Landsberg am Lech's main square, Ottoplatz/Köln-Deutz train station and the pier at Heiligendamm Baltic resort.

we-ef

WE-EF LEUCHTEN
GmbH & Co. KG
Toepinger Strasse 16
D-29646 Bispingen
Germany
Tel +49 5194 909 0
info.germany@we-ef.com
www.we-ef.com

Selected projects



01 The pier at Heiligendamm Baltic resort, Germany
Architects: b&o Ingenieure, Hamburg
Lighting Designer: Institut für Gebäude + Energie + Licht
Planung, Prof. Dr.-Ing. Thomas Röhmhild, Wismar
Photo: Frieder Blickle



02 Gardens by the Bay, Singapore
Architects: Wilkinson Eyre Architects, London/Hong Kong
Lighting Designer: Lighting Planners Associates, Singapore
Photo: Toshio Kaneko



03 Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
Architects (renovation): OLIN, Philadelphia
Lighting Designer: L'Observatoire International, New York
Photo: Alexis Nollet



04 The Federal State Parliament, Vaduz, Liechtenstein
Architects: Hansjörg Göritz, Hanover
Lighting Designer: Licht Kunst Licht, Bonn/Berlin
Photo: Lukas Roth



05 Pforzheim Central Bus Station, Germany
Architects: Metaraum Architekten, Stuttgart
Lighting Designer: Day & Light Lichtplanung, Munich
Photo: Zoöy Braun



06 Main Square Landsberg am Lech, Germany
Landscape architects: Iohrer.hochrein landschaftsarchitekten
und stadtplaner gmbh, Munich
Lighting Designer: Day & Light Lichtplanung, Munich
Photo: Frieder Blickle

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r.diedrich@we-ef.com

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Alexanderstraße 126, 70180 Stuttgart
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