

Dr. Jochen Koeckler

Chairman of the Managing Board,
Deutsche Messe AG

Born: 8 August 1969, Hamm/Westphalia
Married, two children



Dr. Jochen Koeckler is chairman of the Managing Board of Deutsche Messe AG based in Hannover, Germany. He was appointed to the Board on 1 April 2012 and took over the chairmanship on 1 July 2017. In his executive role, he is responsible for the business units “Industry, Energy, Logistics” with the trade fairs in these industries and “Digital Business & Transformation”. Koeckler is also responsible for the divisions Hosted Trade Fairs, Hosted Events & New Trade Fairs, HR, Auditing, Protocol and the Strategic Program Management. In addition Koeckler oversees the subsidiaries Deutsche Messe Interactive (DMI), event it, Elektro Messehaus Hannover GmbH, Messe Energie GmbH, Deutsche Messe Technology Academy GmbH and Deutsche Messe Beteiligungsgesellschaft (DMB).

On graduating from high school and completing his compulsory military service, Koeckler commenced his university studies in agricultural economics and policy, gaining a doctorate from the University of Bonn in 1999. His doctoral thesis, undertaken as part of an international EU research project, was on the development of an agricultural policy information system to quantify the anticipated impacts of EU accession, with specific reference to the Hungarian agriculture sector.

In 1999, Koeckler commenced employment with the German Agricultural Society (DLG), where he served in various roles, including Managing Director of the Exhibition Department and, from 2008 to 2012, Deputy CEO. During his tenure at DLG, he was responsible for organizing the Society’s trade fairs worldwide. Under his leadership, the AGRITECHNICA show in Hannover became the world’s biggest trade fair for agricultural technology. In addition to overseeing this two-yearly trade fair in Hannover, Koeckler was responsible for national-level DLG trade shows in Poland, Russia, China and the USA. Dr. Koeckler left DLG to take up his role on the Managing Board of Deutsche Messe in April 2012.

With 302 million euros of revenue in 2016, Deutsche Messe AG ranks among the world's five largest trade fair companies. In 2016, Deutsche Messe planned and staged 129 trade fairs and congresses around the world – events which hosted a total of about 40,000 exhibitors and some 3.6 million visitors. The company’s event portfolio includes such world-leading events as CEBIT (Business Festival for Innovation and digitization), HANNOVER MESSE (industrial technology), LABVOLUTION (lab technology), CeMAT (intralogistics and supply chain management), didacta (education), DOMOTEX (carpets and floor coverings), INTERSCHUTZ (fire prevention, disaster relief, rescue, safety and security), and LIGNA (woodworking, wood processing, forestry). With approx. 1,200 employees and a network of 58 sales partners, representatives and branch offices, Deutsche Messe is present in about 100 countries.