

Dr. Wolfram von Fritsch

Chairman of the Managing Board,
Deutsche Messe AG

Born: 21 August 1961, Düsseldorf
Married, four children



Dr. Wolfram von Fritsch is the Chairman of the Managing Board of Deutsche Messe AG based in Hannover, Germany. He was appointed to the Board on 1 April 2008 and took over the chairmanship on 1 July of that year. In his executive role, he is responsible for Marketing, Finance, Internal Audit, HR and Legal, Corporate Strategy and Digital Business.

Von Fritsch holds a doctorate in law. After graduating from high school, he undertook his compulsory military service and completed an apprenticeship in banking. He then studied law, pursuing his studies to doctorate level and passing the second state exam before choosing a career in business over the legal profession.

Von Fritsch started his working career in 1993 at the Deutsche Bahn Group, where he worked until 2000. His initial role there, from 1993 to 1996, was as the Assistant to the then Chairman of the Board of Management of Deutsche Bahn AG, Heinz Dürr. This was followed by four years as Head of Project Management at DB Cargo in Mainz. During that time he also undertook stints abroad at CSX Transportation in Florida, USA, and at Japan Railways in Tokyo. In 2000 he left Deutsche Bahn to take up a position as Managing Director at Partner für Berlin Gesellschaft für Hauptstadtmarketing mbH, Berlin. In 2003 he returned to Deutsche Bahn AG, where he served until 2008 as CEO Northern Region at DB Regio AG. During that same period, from 2003 to 2008, he also served as Supervisory Board Chairman at Verkehrsverbund Bremen/Niedersachsen GmbH (transport alliance for Bremen and the state of Lower Saxony) and, from 2004 to 2005, as Chairman of the Executive Board at Regionalbahn Schleswig-Holstein GmbH. Dr. von Fritsch joined Deutsche Messe in April of 2008.

With 329.3 million euros of revenue and a profit of 9.4 million euros in 2015, Deutsche Messe AG ranks among the world's five largest trade fair companies. In 2015, Deutsche Messe planned and staged 134 trade fairs and congresses around the world – events which hosted a total of over 42,000 exhibitors and some 4.2 million visitors. The company's event portfolio includes such world-leading events as CeBIT (digital business), HANNOVER MESSE (industrial technology), LABVOLUTION with BIOTECHNICA (lab technology and biotechnology), 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 66 representatives, subsidiaries and branch offices, Deutsche Messe is present in more than 100 countries.

Von Fritsch holds numerous external board memberships and honorary posts: Member of the Supervisory Board, TÜV Nord AG and TÜV e.V.; Member of the Supervisory Board, Hannover Marketing und Tourismus GmbH (HMTG); Member of the Supervisory Board, ALSTOM Transport Deutschland GmbH; Vice President,

Hannover Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK Hannover); Member of the Executive Board, Association of the German Trade Fair Industry (AUMA); Member of the Executive Board, Industrie-Club Hannover e. V.; Member of the External Economic Relations Advisory Board at Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy; Member of the Economic Advisory Board, Nord/LB; Member of the Advisory Board, Bankhaus Hallbaum; Member of the Economic Advisory Board, Deutsche Welle; Member of the Supervisory Board, VHV; Member of the Board of Trustees, DIAKOVERE gGmbH.