

Customer and Supplier Information

December 2020

At the coming of a New Year – 150 Years KRAFFT

Dear Business Partner,

What a year! How will we evaluate this year ten years or more from now? There was always more than enough advice on what the right or wrong measures should be. It wasn't because of a lack of that!

We at KRAFFT were faced with very big challenges this year:

- Once again, we were able to post record sales and, in conjunction with WUMAG TEXROLL in Krefeld, will substantially exceed the 30 million euro mark.
- A large investment was made at the founding site in Düren with new extensions to our existing buildings, energy-efficient retrofitting, and the purchasing of machines such as a new stone grinding machine, a new belt grinding machine as well as additional lathes.
- The further integration of the new colleagues from WUMAG TEXROLL in Krefeld is progressing and is becoming more and more enjoyable for both sides.
- And, of course, the effects of the corona pandemic. Although if we had no known or confirmed case among our colleagues, the precautions to help hinder the spread of the pandemic made processes and cooperation more difficult and, of course, slowed us down.

One of the challenges alone would have been enough, but you can't always choose how things go and so the entire KRAFFT team had to face these issues. The fact that the adherence to deadlines has also suffered because of this is an unpleasant consequence for which we apologize and ask for your understanding! However, our fundamental commitment is to keep the production sites in Düren, in Germany and in Europe safe in the long term. Our employees think that's great.



The fact that we weren't able to celebrate our 150th anniversary as planned is very regrettable and particularly difficult for us renowned partylovers here in the Rhineland region. Realistically, however, we have to acknowledge that this is a small problem compared to how the pandemic has hit other companies and employees.

One should be careful with certain terms, but, in general, we can feel gratitude and humility for how we got through the year.

It is noteworthy that, in view of the many pressing problems, topics come to the foreground that are hardly comprehensible for medium-sized entrepreneurs. Comprehensive sets of compliance rules were sent, although compliance with rules and laws is a matter of course for every honest businessman! This year has shown that the world would be different if a large number of politicians had to adhere to these regulations. We all, more or less, face the same challenges at work and in our families and society, regardless of origin or religion. There is a lot that connects people and little that really separates them. Having respect doesn't hurt.

The author of these lines lives in Bonn and this city wanted to celebrate the 250th birthday of its famous son, Ludwig van Beethoven, this year. What would be more appropriate than to quote the "Ode to Joy" in the fourth movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, which was made the official symbol of Europe in 1972 as a hymn:

"... all people become brothers and sisters ..."

We wish you all the best for the New Year from Düren and, hopefully, a few peaceful days with your, probably small, circle of families and friends.



With kind regards from your KRAFFT team in Düren – stay healthy.

About KRAFFT:

KRAFFT is one of Europe's leading manufacturers of and specialists for rotationally-symmetric components. The knowledge gained from building plants for the production of paper and cardboard was consequently aligned to new products and product segments:

- KRAFFT Rollers – KRAFFT Walzen** is the company's flagship brand for rollers, cylinders and drums
- KRAFFT Pulleys** pulleys for the conveyance of bulk materials as a drive, tensioning and deflection drum in conveyor belt systems
- KRAFFT Turning Technologies** turning parts and large turning parts are used in plant construction and engineering, shafts and mandrels
- KRAFFT Engineering** Engineering and projecting, turn-key systems
- KRAFFT Services** service and maintenance, repair, assembly

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