Press Information
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Planning the Future: E/D/E’s Second Sustainability Report

With the title "Planning the Future", E/D/E presents its second sustainability report. Since the first report, the topic was advanced in many aspects.

Wuppertal – The Wuppertal-based purchasing association E/D/E published its second sustainability report today. On all in all 40 pages, the report delivers a comprehensive impression of the developments and projects regarding economic, social, societal and ecological responsibilities. Numerous ideas were put into practice in the years since the last report.

Core With its second sustainability report E/D/E emphasizes its leading role in industrial wholesale distribution and documents its activities and projects in the sustainability sector on 40 pages. Divided into the categories Economy, Social questions, Society and Ecology, the report gives an overview on E/D/E’s efforts, pointing out progress and successes. "Since four years, sustainability is a firm component of our entrepreneurial strategy. We deal with various topics analytically, initiate projects incorporating the entire company, and document course and results", explains Hans-Jürgen Adorf, Chairman of the E/D/E Management.

Especially noteworthy developments from the past two years are construction of a day-care facility for children on the company premises, reduction of paper-use in E/D/E about 10 percent, lowering CO2-emissions of fleet-vehicles or the electronic invoice-service, which also helps E/D/E members on their way into the mode of the paperless office. In order to advance the topic of sus-
tainty throughout the entire company, a competence group was founded, within which protagonists from the sections of personnel, logistics, facility management and communications gather regularly and develop new activities.

Sustainability is traditionally held in high regard at E/D/E. "We achieved a lot in order to secure the economic future of our company, of our members, suppliers and employees, in the long run. Entrepreneurial responsibility also means to us that we strive for our society as a whole, and keep an eye on the careful usage of our natural resources", resumes Hans-Jürgen Adorf. "But the path is still a long one to walk. We also want to dedicate ourselves intensively to the topic in the future and be a good example to our cooperation-partners."

The report with the title "Planning the Future" is distributed to members and suppliers of E/D/E as well as to employees and various associations, institutions as well as societal, cultural and social facilities of the municipality of Wuppertal. With the aid of external interview-partners, amongst them Prof. Dr. Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker, amongst others Co-president of the Club of Rome, the report introduces the various perspectives on the topic of sustainability. On the frontcover and the four picture-pages, the E/D/E bench-marks from the individual sections are being portrayed, which E/D/E initiated and furthered significantly.

The cover for instance shows Dr. Eugen Trautwein, Chairman of the E/D/E Advisory Board, who is seen on the construction site for the new day care-facility with two children, which will visit the facility from 2014 onward. The E/D/E training offensive, the future-project eDC, electronic invoice-service and the new building for the "Junior Uni" in Wuppertal, whose construction is sponsored by E/D/E and the EDE foundation, are shown on two double pages. "Commitment within the city of Wuppertal is an important part of E/D/E's sustain-
ability strategy“, emphasizes Hans-Jürgen Adorf. Each year, additionally to those huge projects, 100,000 Euros are provided for societal and social projects in Wuppertal typically at the close of each year.

E/D/E

The E/D/E (Einkaufsbüro Deutscher Eisenhändler GmbH) is Europe’s largest purchasing and marketing association in industrial B2B, with 1000 affiliated medium-sized trading companies and 354 further retailers. These companies trade in tools, machines and company equipment, building fittings and building elements, sanitation and heating, steel and mounting technology, welding technology, security systems and industrial technology as well as occupational safety products. Most of these member companies primarily supply to commercial buyers from industry, trade and local councils. Part of E/D/E group are also the subsidiaries ETRIS Bank GmbH, EDE International AG, ZEDEV AG as well as DELCREDIT España S.A. and DELCREDIT France S.A.S. .

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