

Press release Company Richter akustik & design GmbH & Co. KG

The company Richter Furniertechnik GmbH & Co. KG – the original name of Richter akustik & design GmbH & Co. KG today - was founded in 1984 as a natural veneer edge producer. Soon it was realized that in this segment only process improvements were possible but no further innovations. Added to this was the fact that the market was over-saturated and the production of veneer edges was becoming a bottle neck to our other material developments. For this reason, we decided in 2010 to sell this section in order to be able to fully focus on the development of new products – innovative surfaces for the acoustics, the design and the fire protection field – and on their international distribution.

On international trade fair shows, we could exchange ideas and discuss new applications for acoustic elements and surfaces with architects, designers and planners. In doing so, we took advantage of our strength to think out of the box and to transfer innovations from other industries to our own profession. As such, for example the micro-perforation of wooden materials evolved, a punching technology, which has already been used in the field of sheet metal forming for a long time. Acoustic-Lightboard® was born and has since given distinction to our industrial sector – with Richter akustik & design as a forerunner.

There was a similar development with regard to the surface LightBeton®. Architects expressed their interest to us for designing interior rooms with authentic concrete. We looked around the construction industry and gathered the necessary information. The result is renowned.

With the uniqueness of our surface technologies, we have won numerous new customers from most different sectors. Architects, fitters, shop and trade fair show constructors work with our design and acoustics surfaces and set exciting trends in all fields like shop construction, shop systems, trade fair show construction, exhibitions, bars, hotels, restaurants, public buildings and living rooms.

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**Richter akustik & design GmbH & Co. KG**  
St.-Annener-Straße117  
49326 Melle / Germany  
Telefon: +49 (0) 5428 9420-0  
Telefax: +49 (0) 5428 9420-45  
[info@richter-akustik-design.de](mailto:info@richter-akustik-design.de)  
[www.richter-akustik-design.de](http://www.richter-akustik-design.de)

**Press contact**  
WAN Werbeagentur Anker & Naber, Bünde  
Bernd Anker  
Telefon: +49 (0) 5223 68686-16  
E-Mail: [bernd.anker@wan-online.de](mailto:bernd.anker@wan-online.de)

Our innovative surfaces also attracted the attention of our competitors, of course. We look at it with peace, for competition always is a motor for new developments, too. We do not offer just materials, but solutions with a unique added value.

To us, innovation includes sustainability and a careful use of resources as central issues. The carrier material of the Acoustic Lightboard® e.g. consists of paper combs that are completely made of post-consumer recycled cellulose. Especially resource-efficient is the natural stone surface StoneVeneer with its real stone layer of only some tenths of a millimeter.

Our latest product is MineralVeneer. This is a homogenous material on the basis of mineral fibers, pigmented stones and cementitious parts. MineralVeneer has properties that have never been attained before: a pleasant surface touch, positive fire ratings as well as being easily processed. MineralVeneer was awarded the prize "Best of the Best" at the interzum in Cologne in 2015, like our other products.

In our factory in Melle/St. Annen, more than 40 staff members produce the surface materials of the future. At the time being, our output is about 7,000 m<sup>2</sup>, but we can increase our capacities up to 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> at any time. We are especially proud of our own development division with a new laboratory; for here is being created what makes us special: unique surfaces for demanding customers.

In everything we do, we want to be among the best. – This is our motto, and based on this, we will continue developing ourselves and our products.

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Bernd Anker  
Telefon: +49 (0) 5223 68686-16  
E-Mail: [bernd.anker@wan-online.de](mailto:bernd.anker@wan-online.de)