



News Release

AIBI appoints new President and strengthens its Board.

Hamburg, 22 May 2024, Jean-Manuel Lévêque has been appointed as the new AIBI President and Guido Vanherpe and Kari Meltovaara as Vice Presidents. Four new members have joined the AIBI Board.

During its General Assembly, held in the margins of the 38th AIBI Congress in Hamburg - Germany, the AIBI members have elected Jean-MaueL Lévêque, Chairman of Novepan, as the new AIBI President. The members warmly thanked the outgoing President, Georg Heberer, Wiener Feinbäckerei, for his work in support of AIBI and industrial bakers, and appointed him Past President.

Guido Vanherpe, CeO of La Lorraine Bakery Group, and Kari Meltovaara, CeO of Leipomo Rosten Oy, were appointed First and Second Vice Presidents. The AGM also appointed Tobias Schumacher, the new Managing Director of the Verband Deutscher Großbäckereien, as Treasurer.

Following the recent accession of three new associations from Slovakia, Poland and Ukraine to the AIBI membership, the General Assembly welcomed three new Board members: Viktor Guman (SZPAC / Vamex), Jacek Gorecki (SPP / Lantmannen) and Yurii Duchenko (President of the Ukrainian Bakers' Association). Barbara Rupnik also handed over to Jana Ramus (Slovenian Chamber of Commerce and Industry).

"Our industry is undergoing intense mergers and acquisitions, while at the same time facing systemic operational changes in the areas of sustainability, access to raw materials and energy, the need to adapt to workforce changes and digitalisation, and the internationalisation of our business. AIBI is our common asset to successfully address these and I am proud to lead AIBI's strategy for the next two years. I see both the commitment of all the companies that are collectively members of our European Federation and the strong partnership with our colleagues in the bakery value chain, including the artisan bakers, our suppliers and the downstream distributors of our products, as a key element of success. While just coming back from the 38th AIBI Congress, we all took stock of the ongoing changes and the strength of our partnerships, and I look forward to reinforcing AIBI's role in the success of our entire bakery, patisserie and confectionery sector, fresh and frozen," said Jean-Manuel Lévêque.



Jean-Manuel Lévêque



Guido Vanherpe



Kari Meltovaara

AIBI is the International Association of large plant bakers. Through its Member Associations, it represents over 500 bakers from industrial / multinational companies to those operating centralized/regional workshops, in the European Union and Ukraine, producing over 35 Mio tpa of bread/bakery products. Their wide diversity of products include bread, specialty bread, fine bakery and pastries, which are delivered in finished, bake-off and frozen form. AIBI is the interface between its members and the institutional and non-institutional stakeholders at EU and international level.

For further contacts:

Didier Jans
Secretary General
info@aibi.eu

AIBI Aisbl, Grand Place 10 , B-1000 Brussels – www.aibi.eu