**Lapp Group Stuttgart**

**Entrepreneur Andreas Lapp celebrates his 60th birthday**

Stuttgart, 04 March 2016

He is a thoroughbred businessman, blessed with passion, sincerity and intelligence. Andreas Lapp, Chairman of the Board of Lapp Holding AG in Stuttgart, celebrates his 60th birthday on the 6th of March. Andreas Lapp's entrepreneurial mentality was instilled in him from very early on. His parents and founders of the Lapp Group, Ursula Ida and Oskar Lapp, taught him from a very young age that the company mantle would pass to him in the future. "As children, we played with cable drums in our garden in Stuttgart-Vaihingen and during the holidays we assembled SKINTOP® cable glands in the company", recalls Andreas Lapp.

Today, as Chairman of the Board of Lapp Holding, he is responsible for a globally active company with around 3,300 employees and revenue of €886 million (financial year 2014/2015). Since the untimely death of his father in 1987, Andreas Lapp has successfully led the company in his spirit, together with its founder, his mother Ursula Ida, and his brother Siegbert. Together, they have turned the Stuttgart-based Lapp Group into one of the leading suppliers of integrated solutions and branded products in cable and connection technology. The Lapp Group is therefore the perfect example of a "hidden champion".

Andreas Lapp studied law and business studies in Tübingen in southern Germany, before entering the company. His father had already opened international subsidiaries in the USA, Italy, and Great Britain. Under the leadership of Andreas Lapp, this strategic internationalisation was continued. "The secret to our success is to be as close to our customers as possible and to consistently focus on their needs", explains Andreas Lapp. Both the Lapp Group and its customers have developed an international focus alongside each other, with the Stuttgart-based cable experts becoming a global player in the process. Further subsidiaries were founded in Europe and the company entered the Asian market as early as the mid-90s. Whilst other companies focused on China, Andreas Lapp always saw India as an important anchor for the Asian continent. India has provided reliable growth for the Lapp Group ever since, with the company having two production plants and a sophisticated sales network there. This was followed by new international subsidiaries, including in South Korea, Brazil, Indonesia, Russia and South Africa. One of the largest investments in the company's history was the construction of a service and logistics centre in 2013, which was unique in the sector. The latest development is the new European headquarters at the company's base in Stuttgart. Today, the Lapp Group includes over 40 sales companies and 18 production sites. The company also cooperates with around a hundred international representatives.

Andreas Lapp: "With our plants, sales companies and representatives, we are in a very good position. The focus now is to support our customers with our innovative products through the fourth industrial revolution. In addition to this, we also want to unlock new sectors. We have already seen significant success here, such as in renewable energies and e-mobility. We have also recently launched a tailored range of connection products for the foodstuffs industry."

Particular importance for business leader is the company's family orientation. This is enshrined in the company's corporate philosophy, alongside "customer focus", "success" and "innovation". This family focus can be seen in a range of measures. The family founded the Lapp Academy to provide training for staff, and the company hosts an annual international football and volleyball tournament for employees, which takes place in a different country every year. The company also offers coaching and the opportunity to work from home. U.I. Lapp GmbH, the largest single company within the Lapp Group, was awarded the "career and family" certificate, awarded under the patronage of the Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, for its family-focused business culture. U.I. Lapp GmbH is also in the final round of award-winning companies in 2016.

For decades, the business family has also assumed social responsibility. In 1992, the Oskar Lapp Foundation was founded to support research into heart diseases. The family also helps employees combine work and family life by supporting the charity Kind e.V. A recent donation of €500,000 helped fund the construction of the "Bärcheninsel" (Teddy Bear Island) daycare centre in Stuttgart's Dürrlewang district. The town hall in Möhringen and construction of a pavilion for the Pestalozzi school in Vaihingen are also projects that were only possible thanks to financial support from the Lapp family.

Cultural exchange between Germany and India is another issue that is particularly important to Andreas Lapp. Since 2001, he has been Honorary Consul of the Republic of India for Baden-Württemberg and Rhineland Palatinate. Every year, he hosts the wine festival "Stuttgart meets Mumbai" in the Indian metropolis. In Stuttgart, he also provides significant support to the Indian Film Festival and founded the Indian Business Centre, which helps Indian companies to quickly gain a foothold in Germany.

The Lapp Group is well placed for the future. The company is currently led by Andreas Lapp and three more members of the board from outside the family. His brother, Siegbert E. Lapp, is chairman of the supervisory board of Lapp Holding AG, whilst his mother Ursula Ida Lapp continues to perform the same role at U.I. Lapp GmbH and is honorary chairwoman of Lapp Holding AG. Andreas Lapp hopes that the company's family tradition will continue, and that his children will assume responsibility in the company. "I would be happy if they followed in my footsteps and continued the work that my parents began."

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**Find the image in printable quality** [**here**](http://www.lappkabel.de/fileadmin/DAM/Global_Media_Folder/news/news/presseseite/Andreas_Lapp.jpg)

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**About the Lapp Group:**

Headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany, the Lapp Group is a leading supplier of integrated solutions and branded products in the field of cable and connection technology. The Group’s portfolio includes standard and highly flexible cables, industrial connectors and screw technology, customized system solutions, automation technology and robotics solutions for the intelligent factory of the future, as well as technical accessories. The Lapp Group’s core market is in the industrial machinery and plant engineering sector. Other key markets are in the food industry as well as the energy and the mobility sector.

The Lapp Group has remained in continuous family ownership since it was founded in 1959. In the 2014/15 business year, it generated consolidated revenue of 886 million euros. Lapp currently employs approximately 3,300 people across the world, has 17 production sites and 39 sales companies. It also works in cooperation with around 100 foreign representatives.