

## Press release

### **Jochen Friedrichs appointed CEO of Xella's new business unit Ursa, Björn Baum appointed CTO of Ursa, Dr. Michael Leicht takes over as Chief Digital Officer of Xella Group**

Duisburg, November 9, 2017. **Today, Xella International GmbH announced changes in the management of Ursa, whose acquisition was formally closed end of October, as well as in the Executive Committee of the Xella Group. The CEO of Ursa will be the experienced Xella manager Jochen Friedrichs, who will also take a seat on the Xella Group Executive Committee as part of this appointment. Dr. Michael Leicht, currently Head of HR and, as of now also Chief Digital Officer (CDO) of the company, is also appointed to the Xella Group Executive Committee.**

"In the new management team, we deliberately rely on experienced executives from both Xella and Ursa, who will continue to drive the growth of Ursa as part of the Xella Group," says Dr. Jochen Fabritius, CEO of the Xella Group.

Jochen Friedrichs has been appointed as CEO of Ursa. He was responsible for the acquisition of Ursa on the Xella side and therefore already has detailed knowledge of both Ursa and Xella. Björn Baum becomes CTO of Ursa, and will additionally remain Head of Xella Group's Energy Management. The experienced Ursa manager Joaquín Lozano Agramunt will remain CFO. In addition, Ana Lluch Martinez (Chief Legal and HR) and Gonzalo de las Alas-Pumariño (Head of Technology and Projects) will be members of the Ursa Executive Committee.

In his new role, Jochen Friedrichs will become a member of the Executive Committee of Xella Group, which also includes the CEOs of the other Xella business units. From now on, the Digital Division will also be directly represented on the Executive Committee in person of Dr. Michael Leicht. Dr. Leicht takes over the role of Chief Digital Officer (CDO) of Xella Group from Jochen Friedrichs in addition to his role as Head of HR.

"The digital transformation is one of the key strategic initiatives for our company. Against this background, we have decided to appoint Dr. Leicht in his CDO role as member of the Executive Committee," says Fabritius.

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**About Xella\***

Xella Group is a leading, internationally operating solution provider of building materials and related industries, with sales of 1.5 billion euros and 6,700 employees (as of 2016). Xella is one of the pioneers in digitally supported building processes and will consistently follow the chosen profitable growth path.

Xella is headquartered in Duisburg/Germany, with 97 plants in 20 countries and sales organizations in more than 30 countries. In many of its market segments Xella holds a leading position.

The success of Xella is based on strong brands in the premium segment, a superior service portfolio, a solid business model, and systematically expanded cost leadership.

Xella's products are sustainable both in manufacturing and use. Therefore, they make an important contribution to the construction of long-lasting, energy-efficient, and high-quality buildings, and thus to environmental protection and the conservation of resources.

Xella is led by an experienced management team including Dr. Jochen Fabritius (CEO) and Dr. Jens Kimmig (CFO).

Further information on Xella Group can be found on the internet at: [www.xella.com](http://www.xella.com)

\*(Figures for Ursa pro forma included, figures for Fels pro forma excluded.)

**About Ursa**

Ursa is one of the leading European insulation provider with the headquarters in Madrid. With approximately 399 Million euros turnover (status: 2016), Ursa is one of the major insulation players in Europe, focused on mineral wool and extruded polystyrene (XPS) as solutions for insulating residential or non-residential buildings, both new or being renovated.

Ursa has 13 production sites in 9 countries and commercial presences in around 40 markets in Europe, Middle East and Northern Africa. Ursa employs around 1,700 people in countries such as Germany, France, Russia, Poland, Slovenia, Austria, Czech Republic, Italy, Spain, Belgium, UK, etc.