

Press release

Vaillant Group grieves for Franz Wilhelm

Remscheid, 20 September 2018 – Franz Wilhelm, Partner of the Vaillant Group and former long-term Managing Director, passed away on 13 September 2018 at the age of 92. As a passionate entrepreneur, he drove ahead the successful development of the family-owned company with great energy and untiring commitment.

Franz Wilhelm joined the company in 1955. The business graduate began his career as an assistant of the Management Board. In 1966 followed the appointment as Managing Director. In this capacity, he assumed entrepreneurial responsibility until 1989. During Franz Wilhelm's time as Managing Director, Vaillant grew to become one of the largest and until today one of the most successful companies in the international heating industry. After his retirement as Managing Director, Franz Wilhelm became member of the Partners' Board, where he worked equally successful from 1989 to 1994. He received honors repeatedly from important committees and associations of the heating industry. Franz Wilhelm was also awarded the Bavarian medal of distinction (Bayerischer Verdienstorden).

Franz Wilhelm was a distinguished and distinctive figure for the family company. Entrepreneurial vision, dedication and his great humanity were attributes that defined him throughout his entire life. The Partners' Board, the Management Board and everybody at the Vaillant Group will keep him in honored memory.

VAILLANT GROUP

The **Vaillant Group** is an internationally active company based in Remscheid, Germany, which operates in the fields of heating, ventilation and air-conditioning technology. As one of the global market and technology leaders, the Vaillant Group develops and manufactures customised products, systems and services to provide a comfortable living environment. Its product portfolio ranges from efficient heating devices based on conventional energy sources to system solutions for using renewable energy. In the financial year 2016, the company, which has been family-owned since its foundation in 1874, generated sales of around 2.4 billion euros with its workforce of over 12,000.

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