

PRESS RELEASE

Fernando Carro Resigns from Bertelsmann Executive Board

Gütersloh, July 14, 2017 – Fernando Carro, Member of the Bertelsmann Executive Board and CEO of Arvato, is leaving the company by mutual agreement, on the best of terms, and with immediate effect to take on new professional challenges. During his time in office, major decisions were made regarding the future strategic development of Arvato and its four Solution Groups: Arvato Customer Relationship Management (CRM), Arvato Supply Chain Management (SCM), Arvato Financial Solutions, and Arvato Systems. Carro successfully completed the integration of Arvato's administrative staff into the Bertelsmann Corporate Center and incorporated the printing business of Mohn Media and the CD and DVD manufacturer Sonopress, which had remained with Arvato, into the Bertelsmann Printing Group division. At Arvato itself, Carro made important strategic decisions regarding internationalization, won international business clients, and provided impetus for strengthening the pace of innovation and organic growth.

Christoph Mohn, Chairman of the Bertelsmann Supervisory Board, said: "The Supervisory Board regrets Fernando Carro's departure and wishes him all the best in his personal and professional future. On behalf of the Supervisory Board, I would like to thank him for his 24 years of successful work for Bertelsmann in various management positions. Arvato's four solution groups are well positioned for a successful development."

Further to Carro's departure, the reporting lines at Arvato will be redrawn: The CEOs of Arvato CRM and Arvato SCM, Andreas Krohn and Frank Schirrmeister, will report to Bertelsmann Chairman & CEO Thomas Rabe from now on; Krohn and Schirrmeister will remain members of the Bertelsmann Group Management Committee. The CEOs of Arvato Financial Solutions and Arvato Systems, Frank Kepsch and Matthias Moeller, report to Bertelsmann CFO Bernd Hirsch. The position of Arvato CEO, including a seat on the Bertelsmann Executive Board, will not be refilled. Rolf Hellermann will remain CFO of Arvato, and Thomas Mackenbrock remains Chief Strategy Officer (CSO). The nine-strong Arvato Board will thus consist of the three Bertelsmann Executive Board members Thomas Rabe (Chairman), Bernd Hirsch, and Chief HR Officer Immanuel Hermreck, who will oversee Arvato's HR work; the four Solution Group CEOs Andreas Krohn, Frank Schirrmeister, Frank Kepsch, and Matthias Moeller; and Rolf Hellermann and Thomas Mackenbrock.

Thomas Rabe, CEO of Bertelsmann, said: “Fernando Carro has made important contributions to the transformation of Bertelsmann over the past few years, most recently as CEO of Arvato, and prior to that in establishing Bertelsmann’s businesses in Brazil and Latin America, and in dismantling the club and direct-marketing businesses. On behalf of my colleagues, I would like to thank Fernando Carro for his achievements. We wish him every success in his next steps. At the same time, I look forward, together with my colleagues Bernd Hirsch and Immanuel Hermreck, to an even closer cooperation with the managers of Arvato’s various business units. Entrepreneurial thinking and short decision paths will shape this cooperation. Arvato plays a central role in the Bertelsmann strategy. Since 2012, we have invested around 1.5 billion euros in the Arvato business. The four Arvato solution groups are well positioned for further growth.”

Fernando Carro, Bertelsmann Executive Board member and CEO of Arvato, said: “I would like to thank the Supervisory Board and the members of the Management Board for their support and our trustful cooperation over the years. Bertelsmann is a fascinating company, in which I was privileged to tackle many entrepreneurial tasks over 24 years. My responsibilities as CEO of Arvato were truly exciting; the division is very well positioned and has excellent prospects. I sincerely wish Bertelsmann, Arvato and all our employees only the best for the future.”

Fernando Carro (52) has worked for Bertelsmann in various management functions since 1993. Since 2015, he has sat on the Bertelsmann Executive Board in his capacity as Arvato CEO, having earlier served as President of Latin America and Spain on the Bertelsmann Group Management Committee, where he supervised Bertelsmann’s operations on the Iberian Peninsula and expansion in the South American growth markets. He also oversaw Bertelsmann’s club and direct-marketing businesses since 2007, serving as CEO of the Direct Group Bertelsmann division from 2007 to 2011. Carro studied business engineering at the Technical University of Karlsruhe after completing an apprenticeship as an industrial manager. He came to Bertelsmann through the Corporate Junior Executives Program. Just one year after joining the company, he was appointed Managing Director of the Etrasa academic publishing company in Madrid, and of Heinrich Vogel Verlag in Munich in 1998. In 1999, Carro was appointed to the Executive Board of Bertelsmann Springer before moving to Barcelona as Managing Director of Círculo de Lectores two years later. In 2005, he became a member of the Direct Group Executive Board, simultaneously taking the operational helm of Germany’s Der Club Bertelsmann as its CEO.

Career Stations

since July 2015

Chief Executive Officer Arvato and Member of the Executive Board
Arvato, Gütersloh

2013

President Latin America and Spain
Bertelsmann, Gütersloh/Germany

2012

Member of the Group Management Committee
Bertelsmann, Gütersloh/Germany

2011

CEO Club and Direct Marketing Businesses
Bertelsmann, Gütersloh/Germany

2007

CEO Direct Group Bertelsmann
Gütersloh/Germany

2005

Member of the Direct Group Divisional Board
Gütersloh
Managing Director, German Club business
Berlin / Rheda-Wiedenbrück

2001

Managing Director of Círculo de Lectores
Barcelona/Spain

1999

Member of the Bertelsmann Springer Divisional Board
Munich/Germany

1998

Managing Director of Heinrich Vogel Verlag
Munich/Germany

1994

Managing Director of Etrasa
Madrid/Spain

1993

Bertelsmann Junior Executive Program
Gütersloh/Germany

1991–1993

President AIESEC International
Brussels, Belgium

1990–1991

President AIESEC Germany
Bonn/Germany

About Bertelsmann

Bertelsmann is a media, services and education company that operates in about 50 countries around the world. It includes the broadcaster RTL Group, the trade book publisher Penguin Random House, the magazine publisher Gruner + Jahr, the music company BMG, the service provider Arvato, the Bertelsmann Printing Group, the Bertelsmann Education Group and Bertelsmann Investments, an international network of funds. The company has 116,000 employees and generated revenues of €17.0 billion in the 2016 financial year. Bertelsmann stands for creativity and entrepreneurship. This combination promotes first-class media content and innovative service solutions that inspire customers around the world.

For further questions, please contact:

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