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**P R E S S R E L E A S E**

# General Members Assembly: The big picture and new Advisory Board members of the PNO

**Hanover, Germany – April 02, 2019:** As part of this year’s annual members meeting of the PROFIBUS Nutzerorganisation e.V. (PNO) on April 01, 2019, the PNO’s Board of Directors reported on the technological development, marketing activities and budget of 2018 and presented corresponding plans for the current year. The main topic was the positioning of the PI (PROFIBUS & PROFINET International) technologies PROFIBUS, PROFINET and IO-Link and the planned implementation considering the increasingly concrete activities regarding Industry 4.0. Against this backdrop, the Board of Directors described the big picture of technologies from PI to members in attendance.

The election of a new Advisory Board member was also held, as Uwe Gräff (Harting) is no longer able to hold this office due to a lack of time resulting from his appointment to the Harting Managing Board. Frank Welzel (Harting) was elected as a new member of the Advisory Board upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors and Advisory Board at the annual members meeting. Frank Welzel is Director of Global Product Management at HARTING Electronics GmbH.

The Advisory Board of PROFIBUS Nutzerorganisation e.V., which is comprised of the Board of Directors, the heads of the Technical Committees and at least five elected representatives, controls the technical orientation and further development of the PROFIBUS, PROFINET and IO-Link communication technologies. The members of the Advisory Board, which are elected at members assembly, are supported in their work by the heads of the seven Committees responsible for the respective technology, quality-assurance and marketing topics and who are appointed by the incumbent Advisory Board.

Due to his assuming of a new responsibility at Siemens, Dirk Vielsäcker is no longer available to head the “CB PROFINET” and “C1 Marketing” Committees. For this reason, the Advisory Board appointed Steffen Stang (Siemens AG) as the new head of these Committees at its most recent session upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors and the Advisory Board are looking forward to excellent cooperation with the new Advisory Board members and would like to thank Uwe Gräff and Dirk Vielsäcker for their many years of work and plethora of ideas which have always given a positive direction to new topics of the PNO and wish them all the best in the future.

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