Rudolf Hans Zillgith retires from Kronen operations

Rudolf Hans Zillgith has retired from the operational business of Kronen GmbH, completing a management transition that began in 2018. Responsibility for the company's operations now rests with Managing Directors Stephan Zillgith (Spokesman of the Management Board), Eric Lefebvre (Technical Director), and Johannes Günther (Sales Director).

The three directors have served alongside Rudolf Hans Zillgith on the Management Board since 2018, each overseeing their respective divisions. His retirement marks the final step in the company's planned generational transition.

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Rudolf Hans Zillgith will remain involved as a shareholder of Zillgith Beteiligungs GmbH, the holding company with a majority stake in Kronen GmbH and investments in companies in the Dutch food industry that complement Kronen's product portfolio.

"When I look back at the development of Kronen GmbH over the past few decades, I feel extremely grateful and proud. Together with its committed team, this medium-sized company has evolved to become an internationally successful partner for the food industry," said Rudolf Hans Zillgith.

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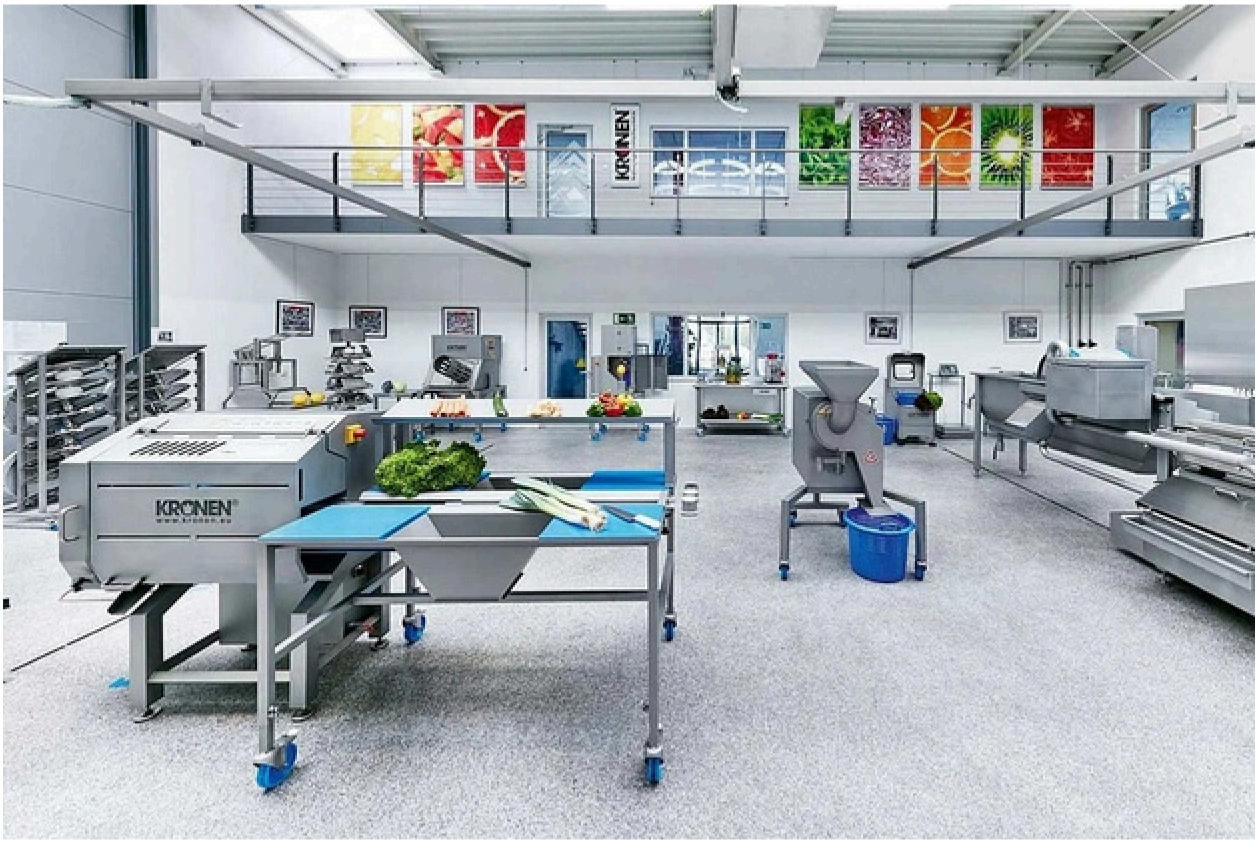
"I would like to thank all employees, customers, partners, and supporters who have helped shape the company throughout this journey. The current members of the Management Board have been working together successfully for many years, know the company down to the finest detail, and are sure to continue its chosen path with a great deal of competence and responsibility. I would like to wish them every success."

Rudolf Hans Zillgith acquired the company, then known as Kronen Nahrungsmitteltechnik, in 1998 after a career at Hobart. During his tenure, Kronen expanded its operations, including the construction of its headquarters in Kehl-Goldscheuer, Germany, and increased its international activities.



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Today, Kronen GmbH, including WS Edelstahltechnik, which it acquired in 2020, employs around 130 people. Since 1998, annual turnover has increased from about €5 million (US$5.8 million) to €25 million (US$29.0 million), and the company's products are sold in around 120 countries.

In 2025, Kronen signed a marketing agreement with Urschel Laboratories, under which the U.S. company distributes Kronen solutions in the United States, Mexico, Asia and Italy.

"The retirement of my father, Rudolf Hans Zillgith, from the company's operational business concludes the generational change that we already initiated back in 2018," said Stephan Zillgith. "On behalf of the entire Management Board and all employees, I would like to thank Rudolf Hans Zillgith for his extraordinary entrepreneurial commitment."

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