



**iapd**

international association  
of plastics distribution

## media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **IAPD Member Nick Kraguljac Receives Prestigious Appointment from Austrian President**

Overland Park, KS — The International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD) congratulates Nick Kraguljac, who was recently honored by the President of the Republic of Austria with the title “Kommerzialrat.” The appointment was based on an endorsement by the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Justice, together with the nomination by the Austrian Federation of Economy. Having accepted the title, Mr. Kraguljac is entitled to preside as independent judge in the Austrian court of trade and economic affairs.

The Austrian title “Kommerzialrat” is bestowed upon persons who have had an outstanding record of economic influence on the Republic, professional skills and personal integrity and have served actively over a long period of time in the Austrian Economic Federation. According to Mr. Kraguljac, “It may be possible for me to serve on a presiding court, but as this type of judge is a lay judge, in reality such judges are very seldom called up to serve. This very old title goes back to the time when Austria was an Empire and it used to be an appointment to full judge. Today, only such Kommerzialräte are called who also have a formal university degree in law. As I do not have a full law degree, only several law credits within my MBA, I do not expect to act as Judge too often. Nevertheless, I am quite proud of it.”

“I’ve known Nick for many years and I am thrilled to see him receive this honor,” said IAPD CEO Susan Avery, CAE. “He is a successful business leader, an advocate for industry growth and a great contributor to both IAPD and EPDA. This recognition is much-deserved and Nick will perform his independent judge duties well.”

Nick Kraguljac is a member of the board of directors of the Klepsch-Group, including the ZL-corporations in the United States. Amongst other positions he is Director of Sales and Marketing of Zell-Metall Austria, a long-time European Plastics Distributors Association (EPDA) member company. The ZL-corporations are members of IAPD and Mr. Kraguljac is a former IAPD board member. He currently serves on the IAPD International Strategy Task Force. In addition, he is head of the Chemical Industry of the State of Salzburg, is a board member of the Chemical Federation of Austria and serves in various sector groups of the European Plastic Converters, which is part of the European Union (EU)

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organization in Brussels, Belgium. Currently he is involved in a committee to reduce plastic waste going to landfills and another committee working toward the free trade agreements between the EU and United States.

### **About IAPD**

The International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD), established in 1956, brings together distributors, fabricators, manufacturers, manufacturers' representatives, recyclers and service providers in an environment which encourages a free flow of ideas and information that help members build their businesses. Every program and service we provide is designed with the simple goal of helping our members increase profitability. Membership in IAPD is an affordable business investment. IAPD provides training, connections with customers and suppliers and information about developments that impact the industry. What makes IAPD unique is a commitment to educating customers and other key end-users about plastics. In other words, IAPD works with members to build the demand for plastics. Central to this effort is the reinforcement of the value of distribution.

Connect with IAPD:



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