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## / BACKGROUND OF SIEGLINDE VOLLMER //

### **Fräulein Sieglinde Vollmer – a woman committed to her family**

**As managing director, Sieglinde Vollmer has played a crucial role in the success of VOLLMER Werke in Biberach. She is the daughter of the company founder Heinrich Vollmer and, over the decades, she has been a helper of those in need, a calming influence in times of crisis, a sympathetic ear and the kind-hearted soul of the company – she is simply Fräulein Vollmer, committed to her family. To this day, she is a Member of the Board and Curator of the Sieglinde Vollmer Foundation.**

When Sieglinde Vollmer – also affectionately known as “Fräulein Vollmer” within the company – looks back over her life, she also inherently looks back over the history of VOLLMER Werke. However, this would have been inconceivable at the beginning of her life. “As a child, I did not have any clear notion of my father’s company,” Sieglinde Vollmer says. She was born in Biberach in 1924, fifteen years after the founding of the engineering company by her father Heinrich Vollmer. “My father sent me to be educated at a girl’s high school, and prepared me to manage a large household as a wife and mother,” she recalls, describing her childhood.

However, due to the Second World War, things did not go according to plan. She spent a month in labour service in Slovenia, before completing business training and attending a school for interpreters in Munich. Sieglinde Vollmer learned to speak English and Spanish fluently, as well as French, Italian and Russian – and discovered her love for travelling.

She has borne the title “Fräulein” (“Miss” in English) proudly her entire life and, instead of becoming a wife and mother, committed herself entirely to the VOLLMER family company. One year after the death of her father in 1961, she took up a role in the Exports department at VOLLMER, where her foreign language skills were of vital importance. As early as 1964, she assumed the role of Managing Director alongside her brother Udo Vollmer, and has played a crucial role in leading this medium-sized company to success since 1987. She came to know and love the VOLLMER Werke company, which was the life’s work of her father. Her multilingualism opened doors, her warmth was often the start of long-standing business relationships, and her expertise formed a solid foundation for those relationships. As a strong woman in the

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engineering industry, Sieglinde Vollmer has developed the traditional company into a world market leader for grinding and eroding machines. "I feel an obligation to the legacy of my father. The company is my family," she states proudly.

The employees of VOLLMER Werke also appreciated this, as they worked together with her to guide the company into the future and overcome numerous crises. The employees were even willing to accept short-time work or cancellation of company parties from time to time, and the company gave back to its employees in equal measure in good times. This has not only made VOLLMER successful, but has also united it into a cohesive whole – there is good reason that the company motto is "Once VOLLMER, always VOLLMER". In the view of "Fräulein Vollmer from Biberach", this is definitely true.

"What I consider to be important is people, whether they are the porter or the managing director," Sieglinde Vollmer states. Fräulein Vollmer's warm manner and sense of family are captivating – she gives VOLLMER Werke a unique profile. It is therefore no surprise that the company has decided that the foundation she established to preserve the family company to which she has faithfully dedicated her life should be named the "Sieglinde Vollmer Foundation". Her life achievements have also been recognised by the town of Biberach in October 2022: The mayor of Biberach, Norbert Zeidler, named her an honorary citizen of the town of Biberach in recognition of her achievements as a businesswoman and committed member of her community.

"For grinding and sharpening, we need to use diamonds," summarised Norbert Zeidler on her 90th birthday. "But you are the jewel of the company."

(approx. 4500 characters)

## Press picture



**Caption:** Sieglinde Vollmer was made an honorary citizen of the city of Biberach in 2022 for her lifetime achievements.

### **About the VOLLMER Group**

With its comprehensive range of machinery, the VOLLMER Group – which has sites in Germany, Austria, Great Britain, France, Italy, Poland, Spain, Sweden, the USA, Brazil, Japan, China, South Korea, India, Russia and Thailand/Taiwan – enjoys global success as a tool machining specialist in the areas of both production and service. The range of products offered by this leader in technology includes the most advanced grinding, eroding, laser and machining tools for rotary tools and circular saws in the woodworking and metalworking industries, as well as for metal-cutting band saws. In offering this, VOLLMER draws heavily on the company's long-standing expertise and its strengths: Local contacts for efficient communication channels, quick decisions and rapid action by a family-run company. The VOLLMER Group currently employs approximately 800 workers worldwide, with around 580 of these at the main headquarters in Biberach alone, including more than 75 trainees. The company invests around eight to ten per cent of its turnover in the research and development of new technologies and products. The VOLLMER Group is a reliable partner and provider of technology and services to its customers.

Further information and relevant images are available at:

<https://www.vollmer-group.com/en-uk/company/press/press-releases>

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