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Koelnmesse and the German Agricultural Society (DLG) are combining forces globally to support selected food value chains

+++ Strategic alliance should expand existing formats and develop new trade fairs in international growth markets +++ A shared portfolio forms a complete value creation chain from production to processing for select industries +++ The first common project aims at the expansion of Anuga FoodTec India Dairy in New-Delhi +++

Koelnmesse and the German Agricultural Society (DLG) wish to work together even more closely in future in order to connect the food and agriculture economy along the entire value creation chain with joint trade fairs. In a strategic alliance, they want to expand existing events and develop new trade fair formats in international growth markets. Both partners sealed the cooperation and its goals on 10 September 2026 in Cologne in a joint Memorandum of Understanding.

"With the DLG, we want to work together to further develop the cooperation with a strong partner in order to further advance our respective trade fair portfolios for the agricultural and food industries internationally and offer our customers worldwide even more. As a builder of bridges in growth markets throughout the entire world, we open even more doors for our customers by completely covering the value creation chain in the food sector together", says Bastian Mingers, Vice President Trade Fair Management of Koelnmesse GmbH.

Shared formats open up new international market chances

The focus of the alliance is on new and existing trade fair, congress and knowledge formats in the fields of food and food technology, new food and alternative protein sources as well as affiliated segments of modern livestock farming with a focus on milk production and processing. These should be internationally expanded, increasingly interlocked with one another and complemented by future themes like digitalisation and artificial intelligence. For companies this means new access to international markets, target groups and specialised networks along the entire value creation chain.

"As DLG, we contribute our specialised competence and our network, especially in the fields of food & food technology and the milk economy, to this alliance. Together with Koelnmesse, we want to network events more intensively, develop new formats and make future themes like sustainable production digitalisation, artificial



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Intelligence and resource efficiency more visible internationally", says Jens Kremer, Managing Director of DLG Markets GmbH. As an association with more than 30,000 members, the DLG is an innovation platform and a leading network in the agriculture and food industry. With leading global trade fairs like AGRITECHNICA and EuroTier and as specialised partners and industry sponsors of the Koelnmesse events Anuga FoodTec, ISM Ingredients and ISM Manufacturing as well as many regional events and partnerships, it has a strong international trade fair network at its disposal. One special competence of the DLG lies in connecting agriculture, food production and food technology. It thereby brings together practice, science and economy along the entire value creation chain - from plant cultivation and animal husbandry through processing and food technology to food quality, sustainable production and new agricultural and food systems.

Many years of cooperation are being expanded upon

The alliance between Koelnmesse and DLG builds on many years of cooperation at Anuga FoodTec and the previous ProSweets Cologne, today ISM Manufacturing & ISM Ingredients. Anuga FoodTec, which takes place every three years, is the world's leading supplier trade fair for food and beverage production and reflects the entire process chain in Cologne - from processing and packaging to automation, food safety, digitalisation and sustainability. It is supplemented by a growing international network of food tech events, including in India, Italy, Brazil and Colombia. The established Anuga FoodTec promotes trust, increases international visibility and provides regional formats with access to a worldwide industry network. How successful this is shown by Anuga FoodTec India, which is this year already celebrating its 20th edition in Mumbai.

Global Dairy Alliance connects the entire milk value creation chain

As its first joint project, Koelnmesse and DLG wish to expand their cooperation in the milk economy. Under the title "Global Dairy Alliance", milk production, processing, packaging and quality assurance should be more closely linked with one another. The goal is to merge existing events and networks and develop new, international formats from these.

The first point of contact is Anuga FoodTec India Dairy in New-Delhi. The trade fair, first organised in 2026, brings together participants from dairy production, processing, packaging and technology and is part of the worldwide network of Anuga FoodTec. Koelnmesse and DLG want to further develop the format in a targeted fashion and link it more closely with agricultural primary production. The country is the largest milk producer in the world and represents around one quarter of global milk production.

Anuga FoodTec and Inhouse Farming are cooperating more closely with New Food

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Another result of the strategic alliance is the closer cooperation between Anuga FoodTec and the Inhouse Farming Convention of the DLG. In the New Food segment, both formats combine complementary competences along the value creation chain: the Inhouse Farming Convention shifts the focus to innovative production systems, new raw materials sources, indoor and vertical farming solutions, alternative proteins as well as cellular agriculture; Anuga FoodTec supplements this perspective with technologies for industrial processing, packaging, automation, food safety and resource efficiency.

Customers of both events thus receive additional access to specialised knowledge, target groups and business contacts - from the development of new production systems to scalable processing of marketable food.

You can find photos of the signing of the agreement and trade fair impressions from the portfolios of both partners here: [Download link](#)

The DLG (German Agricultural Society), founded in 1885 by Max Eyth, stands for productivity and resource protection in a sustainable and innovation-friendly value creation chain of agriculture and food. The goal of the DLG is to promote progress with the transfer of knowledge, quality and technology. The DLG has more than 30,000 members, it is non-profit, politically independent and internationally networked. As one of the leading organisations of its industry, it organises the DLG Markets trade fairs and events in the segments of agriculture, the food economy and food technology. The DLG TestService tests food, agricultural engineering and equipment. With its Competence Center Agriculture and Food as well as the media of the DLG publishers, the DLG stands for independent know-how transfer. In addition to this, the DLG formulates solutions for the challenges facing agriculture and the food economy in numerous national and international expert committees. www.dlg.org

Koelnmesse - industry trade fairs for the food technology sector: Koelnmesse is an international leader in organising trade fairs in the field of food and beverage processing. Anuga FoodTec, ISM Manufacturing (previously ProSweets Cologne) and ISM Ingredients are established, leading global trade fairs hosted in Cologne. In addition to these, Koelnmesse also stages further food technology trade fairs with different areas of focus and content in key markets across the world, including in Brazil, India, Italy and Colombia. With these global activities, Koelnmesse offers its customers tailored events and leading regional trade fairs in a variety of markets, thus guaranteeing sustainable international business. Koelnmesse is also ideally positioned in the field of food and beverages with its leading international trade fairs Anuga and ISM as well as its global network with further events.

The next events:

Anuga FoodTec India, Mumbai, India, 29 Sept. - 1 Oct. 2026

Labotec, Parma, Italy, 27 - 28 Oct. 2026
Cibus Tec, Parma, Italy, 27 - 30 Oct. 2026
ISM Manufacturing, Cologne, Germany, 31 Jan. - 3 Feb. 2027
ISM Ingredients, Cologne, Germany, 31 Jan. - 3 Feb. 2027
Anuga FoodTec, Cologne, Germany, 23 - 26 Feb. 2027
OneCan, São Paulo, Brazil, 6 - 8 Apr. 2027
Anuga FoodTec India Dairy, New Delhi, India, 28 - 30 Apr. 2027
Andina Pack | Anuga FoodTec Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia, 9 - 12 Nov. 2027

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