



## Costa Group Strengthens Leadership Team

June 19, 2018

**Genoa, June 19, 2018** – Costa Group, Europe's leading cruise company, strengthens its leadership team with a newly created communications function. Effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, **Achim Bahnen** has joined the company as **Vice President, Head of Communication & Public Affairs**.

In this role, he will oversee all corporate communications and public affairs activities of Costa Group coordinating with its brands Costa Crociere, AIDA Cruises, and Costa Asia. He reports directly to Michael Thamm, Group CEO Costa Group & Carnival Asia.

*"Achim Bahnen brings very broad and high-level experience in communications to our leadership team", said Michael Thamm. "In this new role he will strengthen our strategic communications planning and stakeholder relationships in order to support the further expansion of our business. I congratulate Achim on joining Costa Group and look forward to closely working with him."*

Achim Bahnen started his career as a journalist at Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, was head of division at the German Federal Ministry of the Interior and held leading positions at SAP and Merck KGaA. Most recently he worked as an independent communications consultant.

*Costa Group is the leading cruise company in Europe and Asia, headquartered in Genoa (Italy). The 26 ships of the brands Costa Cruises, AIDA Cruises and Costa Asia together have a total capacity of more than 74,000 beds. The fleet will be further strengthened by seven new vessels by 2023. The company has a global workforce of 27,000 employees working onboard and in its 20 offices in 14 countries.*

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