

## Change in management at the Clauen sugar factory

**Rico Unger is the new Head of Factory in Clauen. He succeeds Jörg Vietmeier, who is taking on a new Group wide role within the Operations function.**

**Braunschweig, 15 April 2026** – A change in management took place at the Nordzucker factory in Clauen on 13 April 2026. Jörg Vietmeier will in future act as Manager of Knowledge Transfer & Strategic Projects within the Operations function. His successor in Clauen is Rico Unger, who has been with the Nordzucker Group since 2012.

Rico Unger was most recently Head of GoGreen, responsible for the group-wide programme to decarbonise production in the sugar factories; from 2019 to 2022, he accompanied the integration of three Mackay Sugar plants into the Group in Australia. As Head of Factory in Clauen, he now reports to Torsten Bigalke, Managing Director Germany: “In Rico Unger, we are gaining an experienced colleague with operational strength and broad experience. I would like to thank Jörg Vietmeier for his commitment in Clauen and am very pleased that we have found a highly qualified successor in Rico Unger.”

Jörg Vietmeier has held various management positions at Nordzucker since 2003, including in production, engineering, and investment and project management. From 2016 to 2025, he was Head of Factory in Schladen, before moving to the sugar factory in Clauen. With Jörg Vietmeier’s new role in Operations, Nordzucker is strengthening the systematic transfer of knowledge across the group as well as the implementation of strategic projects.

### **Nordzucker**

Nordzucker is one of the world's leading producers of sugar from sugar beet and sugar cane. The group produces sugar products in various forms, such as white sugar, raw sugar, refined sugar, organic sugar, specialities and liquid sugars. Nordzucker also produces animal feed, molasses, fertilisers and fuels, as well as electricity. In the 2024/2025 financial year, the company generated sales of 2.8 billion euros.

With its revised Fields for Growth strategy, Nordzucker is focusing on two areas: firstly, strengthening the profitability of its existing business by investing in sustainability and optimising its cost structure. Secondly, Nordzucker is aiming for further diversification as part of its planned growth outside the EU sugar market.

Nordzucker is committed to sustainability, from the farmer to the consumer, and is making sustainability an integral part of the company. In its processing and value chain, Nordzucker attaches great importance to regional cultivation, with short transport routes, the highest quality and social standards, and complete utilisation of crops. The goal is to make all production at its plants CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral by 2050 at the latest.

High-quality products and services, growth prospects and continuous improvement are the driving force behind a dedicated and international team of around 4,100 employees at 19 European and Australian locations. [www.nordzucker.com](http://www.nordzucker.com)