

## **German-Indian Round Table Introduces New Speaker**

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Dr. Andreas Waldraff becomes new Speaker of GIRT in Germany, taking over from Rudolf Weiler – Rajnish Tiwari presented as new head of GIRT Hamburg

Dr. Andreas Waldraff (UFB.B GmbH, Berlin) officially becomes the new Speaker of the German-Indian Round Table (GIRT) in Germany. During the meeting of the GIRT in Hamburg, on 23rd of February 2010, and in the presence of Consul General of India Dr. B.M. Vinod Kumar, former Speaker Rudolf Weiler handed over his role to his successor from Berlin Dr. Andreas Waldraff.

Rudolf Weiler the managing director of DIGISOUND Electronic GmbH, located in Norderstedt / Hamburg, was one of the founders and a driving force of the German-Indian Round Tables. Within nine years Rudolf Weiler initiated the foundation of nine German-Indian GIRT Round Tables which are now spread all over Germany and one Round Table is based in India. Two large German delegations of SMEs titled 'Mittelstand Goes to India' brought Rudolf Weiler and the GIRT organisation great acknowledgement and reputation throughout Germany and India.

The new GIRT Speaker Dr. Andreas Wafdraff promised that the successful concept of the German-Indian Round Tables will be kept, which means that the GIRT will remain a forum where businessmen of all kind can exchange their India-related experience. As Dr. Waldraff stated, the GIRT would neither be an institution nor a consultancy, but a meeting point for businessmen with similar interests and bound to strict neutrality.

In order to reach in future even more businessmen engaged in Indo-German ventures, the German-Indian Round Table wants to show a more distinct profile and seek more recognition from the media and institutions related to business with India. As a first step Dr. Waldraff announced that GIRT is planning to renew their website and introduce a free accessible database related to Indo-German business for service providers and customers.

Rajnish Tiwari becomes new head of GIRT in Hamburg

At the same meeting Rajnish Tiwari from the Hamburg University of Technology (TUHH) succeeded Rudolf Weiler as the head of the German-Indian Round Table in Hamburg. Rajnish Tiwari who is a research fellow in the field of Indo-German business relations wants to continue the work of GIRT in Hamburg in the spirit of his predecessor. The new head of the



Hamburg GIRT will especially pay attention to the biannual major event India-Week Hamburg which will be held in 2011 Speaker. Rajnish Tiwari intends to preserve and intensify the excellent relations to the political and cultural circles of Hamburg and the different communities in the city.

About German-Indian Round Table (GIRT)

The German-Indian Round Table (GIRT) was founded in 2001 and forms a loose federation of businessmen with strong ties and interests in India. GIRT is targeting to inform about India and improve Indo-German business relations. Members of GIRT support cultural and social activities related to India. German-Indian Round Tables are organised regularly in Aachen, Berlin, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Hanover, Leipzig/Halle, Munich, Nuremberg, Stuttgart und New Delhi. GIRT connects about 3,000 people from the Indo-German business community. The head of the local GIRTs and the speakers work on a non-profit basis.

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