

WARNING NOTICE
concerning illegal activities of
Construct Data Verlag GMBH,
the publisher of the Fair Guide catalogue

Dear Friends, Exhibitors and Exhibition Organizers,

we hereby declare that Polish Trade Fair Corporation joins the group of foreign national and international exhibition associations, headed by UFI – the Global Association of the Exhibition Industry, which severely condemns the activities of the company Construct Data Verlag GMBH, the publisher of the Fair Guide on-line catalogue.

It is not a long time ago when we first heard the information that Construct Data Verlag GMBH appeared on the European exhibition market. Last year and also this year we informed our members about the activities of the company, which is attempting to dishonestly obtain substantial amounts of money from the clients of exhibition industry – exhibitors and exhibition organizers – for offering promotional services.

Unfortunately last months have shown that the activities of Construct Data Verlag GMBH increased their scope, not only in Europe, but also on the American and Asian markets. What is worse, we have been informed by several Polish exhibition organizers their clients, that Construct Data Verlag GMBH is also targeting Polish companies, by sending them certain order forms. Those companies, unaware of the financial consequences resulting from sending back the signed form, agreed to the proposal of including their descriptions in the Fair Guide on-line catalogue.

Construct Data Verlag GMBH intentionally misinforms exhibitors and exhibition organizers by sending them a skillfully drafted application form, offering the promotion of the company in the Fair Guide catalogue.

The form:

- contains vague information about the publisher of the Fair Guide catalogue, which on the one hand, states that the publisher is an organization independent of any exhibition organizer or marketing organization, but on the other, it mentions the name of a particular organizer with the names of events organized by them, which may suggest that it would be a register in an existing trade fair catalogue;
- contains the statement that the return of the signed form will update *the already existing free register in the Fair Guide catalogue* (consisting of the full name of the company, address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail);
- contains very complicated wording of the order, located at the bottom of the page in small print; *the order states that returning the signed order form and not canceling that decision by a registered letter within 10 days from the date, is equivalent to agreeing to the publication of the register in the Fair Guide on-line catalogue and obligates the sender to the payment of 971 Euro / year for the next three years*; the order form also states that the date of issuing the first invoice is date of the beginning of the contract. And failing to send a registered letter with the decision of resignation from the provided services, minimum three months before the contract termination, means agreeing to further, paid cooperation with the company according to the described conditions.

We appeal to those of you, who have received or will receive by post a similar form to the one attached:

1. Under no circumstances are you to fill it in, sign it and send it back to Construct Data Verlag GMBH;

2. If, by mistake, you have sent or you will send the signed form to Construct Data Verlag GMBH, which means agreeing to the above-mentioned financial terms, you are required to cancel the order by a registered letter. And no matter if such a cancellation has been sent to the company, do not make any payments and ignore all requests for payment related to the order and the issued invoice, sent by the company or any cooperating debt-collecting companies. As we are informed by our foreign partners, there has never been a case that Construct Data company tried to use the court or any legal way to collect money from any client.
3. If you know of any case of receiving and signing such forms, please immediately inform the exhibition organizer mentioned in the form, Polish Trade Fair Corporation and The Austrian Embassy in Poland, which will help to collect evidence in order to take legal steps in the future.
4. In order to learn more about the situation, please familiarize yourself with the extensive data published by our foreign partners from the exhibition industry at the following websites, press articles as well as legal opinions and statements in the European Union.

- www.ufi.org,
- www.ufi.org/media/thetradefairsector/fairguide/german_press_information.pdf
- www.auma.de/start.aspx?sprache=e&spdata=2
- www.auma.de/content.aspx?sprache=e&cnt=meldung65
- www.aeo.org.uk,
- www.iaem.org,
- www.stopecg.org/construct_data_fairguide.htm

CONTACT DETAILS:

Polish Embassy in Vienna
Hietzinger Hauptstraße 42 C
A -1130 Wien

Telephone exchange: Tel.: +43 87015-0, Tel.: +43 87015-100
Emergency phone: +43 87015-220
Fax: Tel.: +43 87015-222

e-mail: sekretariat@BotschaftRP.at ; info@botschafttrp.at www.BotschaftRP.at

Austrian Embassy in Poland
The Ambassador of Austria in Poland
Dr Alfred Längle
ul. Gagarina 34, 00-748 Warszawa
tel. 022 841 00 81-84; fax 022 841 00 85
e-mail: warschau-ob@bmaa.gv.at
Internet: www.ambasadaaustrii.pl
www.bmaa.gv.at/warschau

Department for Trade
ul. Idzikowskiego 7/9
02-704 Warszawa
tel. 022 843 79 09, 022 843 99 32; 022 843 99 42
fax 022 843 95 05
e-mail: warschau@austriantrade.org

Minister of Economy and Work
Bundesminister für Wirtschaft und Arbeit (BMWA)
Dr. Martin Bartenstein
Stubenring 1
A-1010 Wien
e-mail: minister@bmwa.gv.at

Department for Competition
Abteilung C1/6
Dampfschiffstraße 4
A- 1030 Wien