

PRESS RELEASE

GIRP announces appointment of Honorary President, Mr René Jenny

Lisbon, 18 October 2021

Lisbon, Portugal – The European Healthcare Distribution Association (GIRP) is delighted to announce the appointment of Honorary President, Mr René Jenny.

Mr René Jenny's appointment as Honorary President follows his recent announcement to retire from professional activities in the sector. René Jenny stepped down as GIRP President in 2019 after a period of 14 years but remained on the Board. At the end of this year, he will also step back from this position. During his tenure as GIRP President, he made significant progress in advancing the mission of GIRP.

GIRP President, Mr Bernd Grabner commented "I would like to thank Rene for his invaluable contribution and dedication to GIRP's mission over the years. His longstanding achievements will continue to make GIRP the strong and effective association it is today. René was at the helm of the organisation during some of the most turbulent times in the sectors' history, and through his committed perseverance and expert leadership he effectively navigated the association through many challenges to come out a more efficient and effective voice for the sector."

In announcing that he is stepping back from his daily activities and involvement in the healthcare distribution sector, René Jenny stated that he "accepted with great honour the lifetime title award and looks forward to remain part of the healthcare distribution community well into the future". He commented, "it is truly an esteemed privilege to take up to this title and become Honorary President. I will continue to endeavour to put my utmost into supporting the current leadership into advancing this organisation's mission in the years to come albeit in an honorary and non-executive role."

GIRP's Annual General Meeting and Conference is taking place this afternoon and tomorrow, offering a platform to experts and key actors to highlight many current and future issues placed under the spotlight including digital transformation, resilient supply chains, crisis preparedness, advances in vaccine, healthcare products and services distribution, medicines shortages and the upcoming EU overhaul of the EU pharma legislation are all featuring in the discussion.

For more information please contact:

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European Healthcare Distribution Association (GIRP) ([website](https://www.girp.eu))

GIRP, the European Healthcare Distribution Association, is the umbrella organisation for full-service healthcare distributors in Europe. It represents the national associations of over 750 pharmaceutical wholesalers serving 34 European countries, as well as major international and pan-European healthcare distribution companies. GIRP members employ over 140,000 people and distribute around 15 billion packs of medicines as well as a wide range of healthcare products per year. As the vital link in healthcare, they are committed to developing and providing innovative and efficient healthcare products and services to improve health and wellbeing of patients across Europe.