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Sanden Corporation

## Sanden Europe at SCHUFA Congress ~ ESG Data as Key to Strategic Transformation ~

At the recent SCHUFA Congress on May 14th and 15th, 2025, our colleague Anna-Lena Pernkopf, Head of European Sustainability at Sanden International (Europe) GmbH, the European subsidiary of Sanden Corporation (Head Office: Iseaki City, Gunma Prefecture, Japan), was invited to join the expert panel discussion “#ESG Sustainable Finance – Wie Banken und Unternehmen die Regulatorik erleben.”

”The event brought together high-level representatives from finance, industry, and regulation to explore how standardized ESG data can help manage sustainability risks and unlock opportunities for transformation.



Anna-Lena Pernkopf (SIE)

### ● A Real-Economy Perspective from Manufacturing

The SCHUFA (Schutzgemeinschaft für allgemeine Kreditsicherung) is Germany’s leading credit rating agency, traditionally known for assessing creditworthiness. With an increasing focus on sustainability data, SCHUFA is now positioning itself as a key player at the intersection of finance and ESG regulation.

Anna-Lena contributed the important perspective of the manufacturing sector, sharing insights into the challenges of implementing ESG regulations like the CSRD within a global corporate structure. She emphasized the coordinating role of Sanden Europe in driving ESG progress across the wider group — especially when navigating diverse regulatory environments. The panel was expertly moderated by Heidrun Odenweller Klügl and included the following distinguished experts:

#### Participating Companies and Titles in the Panel Discussion

- Chief Sustainability Officer, Deutsche Bank AG
- Co-Head, European ESG Team & Head of Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations, Linklaters LLP
- Head of Sustainability, UmweltBank AG
- Partner, Deloitte GmbH / Former Member, German Government’s Sustainable Finance Advisory Council

## ● Key Takeaways for the ESG Journey

There was strong agreement that structured, reliable ESG data is essential for transparency and comparability. A shared conclusion emerged: ESG data collection works best when financial and real economy actors collaborate to establish efficient, standardized models.

This enables companies to shift their focus from administrative data gathering to what really matters: driving the transition forward and managing ESG-related risks effectively.

Ultimately, this approach turns regulatory complexity into a strategic opportunity for transformation.

## ● What It Means for Sanden

Anna-Lena's contribution ensured that the voice of the real economy—and specifically the manufacturing sector—was actively represented.

By highlighting Sanden's proactive role in coordinating ESG across international structures, she strengthened our position in the ongoing ESG dialogue.

Her participation reflects Sanden's commitment to shaping a more sustainable and resilient future—not only by complying with regulations, but by helping define how they are applied in practice.



## [ Reference Links ]

- Sanden International (Europe) GmbH <https://www.sanden-europe.com/>
- SCHUFA (Schutzgemeinschaft für allgemeine Kreditsicherung) <https://www.schufa.de/>

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