

Press Release

ROFU to restructure itself as a debtor in possession

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Area: Restructuring

ROFU Kinderland Spielwarenhandelsgesellschaft mbH headquartered in Hoppstädten-Weiersbach, Rhineland-Palatinate, has filed for restructuring under debtor-in-possession proceedings. Following this, the Local Court of Idar-Oberstein ordered provisional proceedings on 19 January 2026.

The company has filed for debtor-in-possession proceedings to safeguard its long-term viability. Under such an arrangement, management remains in charge and is supported by restructuring specialists. Mr Marcus Katholing from PLUTA Management GmbH will join management as chief restructuring officer and be supported by Ms Daniela Jeske. Working together with both ROFU managing directors – Mr Michael Fuchs and Mr Michael Edl – over the coming months, they will guide the company through the proceedings and implement the restructuring process. Advice on matters of insolvency law will be provided by PLUTA Rechtsanwälts GmbH, with a team led by attorney Mr Stefan Warmuth.

The court has appointed attorney Ms Annemarie Dhonau (LL.M.) from law firm Schiebe & Collegen as provisional insolvency monitor. She will oversee the proceedings and ensure the interests of the creditors are protected. The aim of the proceedings is to enable the company to

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About PLUTA

PLUTA assists companies facing legal and financial challenges. The firm provides support for reorganisations and transactions and helps companies to restructure and maintain their operations in crisis and insolvency situations. If necessary, PLUTA restructuring experts may also assume leadership roles in other businesses. Since the company was founded in 1982, PLUTA has constantly grown and today has a staff of approximately 500 employees in Germany, Spain and Italy. More than 290 business and management experts, attorneys, business lawyers, tax consultants, public auditors, certified accountants, economists, banking and bookkeeping experts, engineers and insolvency administration specialists, many with multiple qualifications, ensure practicable and economically sound solutions. PLUTA is one of the top restructuring companies, as demonstrated by rankings and awards from INDat, JUVE, The Legal 500, Who's Who Legal, brand eins, Wirtschaftswoche and Focus. Further information is available at www.pluta.net.

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reposition itself economically and structurally under its own direction.

Company continuing to operate at the 100+ stores

ROFU is an established toy and baby product retailer in the southwest of Germany with a total of 104 stores in seven German states. It has been selling toys from all well-known brands for over 40 years. Children's books, exercise books, craft kits, puzzles and board games round out its offering. Other key segments are seasonal decorations for the home and costumes for children and adults for the annual Carnival celebrations.

"Our specialist stores with their attractive product range are still open at the usual times and all are continuing to operate without any restrictions. Customers can also use our online shop to place orders as normal. We will hold discussions with our suppliers and business partners to ensure business continuity. In the past few months, we have already drawn up a restructuring plan to put our company on a viable footing. We will now continue to implement these measures under the debtor-in-possession proceedings," said managing director Mr Michael Fuchs. Those responsible have already informed the roughly 1,970 employees about the latest developments. Their salaries are guaranteed for a period of three months thanks to specific substitute benefits provided under German insolvency law. The company is also liaising closely with the Markant purchasing association to ensure suppliers can continue to make deliveries to ROFU as they have up to now.



Stefan Warmuth

Rechtsanwalt, Diplom-Kaufmann,
Steuerberater

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ROFU has had to file for debtor-in-possession proceedings due to weak Christmas business, persistent customer reluctance to spend, increased costs all along the value chain and intensive competition. As part of a comprehensive strategic realignment, ROFU will position itself to meet the current challenges in the non-food sector. Against this backdrop, the company is focusing on brick-and-mortar retailing, as the very heart of the ROFU Kinderland brand, combined with strong omnichannel integration. The company will also further improve processes, increase efficiency in inventory and space management and work more closely in partnership with suppliers. The aim is to develop the company's strengths in a targeted way while adapting its structures to the conditions in the market.

Chief restructuring officer Mr Marcus Katholing said, "The debtor-in-possession proceedings give us an opportunity to accelerate the implementation of the necessary operational restructuring measures. ROFU will also continue the process already begun to find an investor. We want to put the company on a viable footing with a new investor."

"The debtor-in-possession proceedings open up future prospects for the company. I will oversee the proceedings in the interests of the creditors over the coming months," said provisional insolvency monitor Ms Annemarie Dhonau. Debtor-in-possession proceedings are in-court restructuring proceedings to rescue and rehabilitate financially distressed companies. The respective company can act independently and continue to operate, supported

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by experienced restructuring experts and supervised by an insolvency monitor.

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