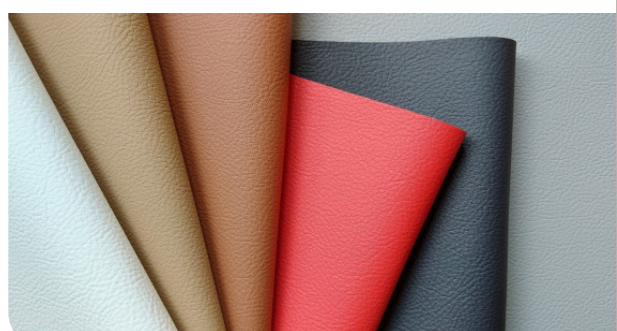




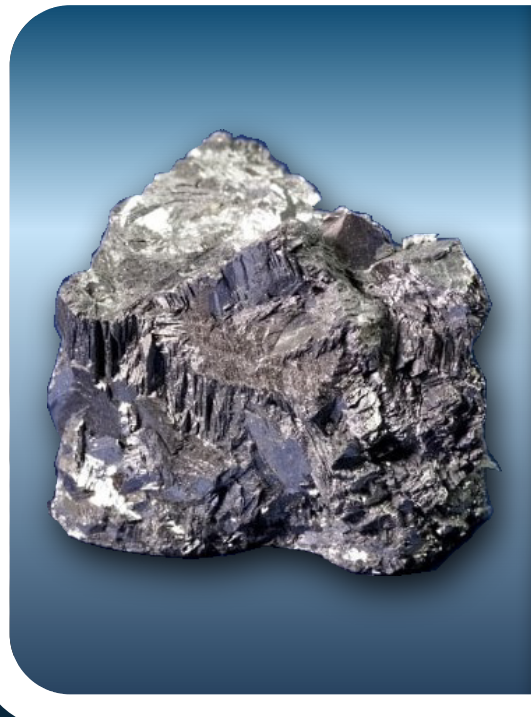
Novelties at Interzum 2025!

Following our successful presence at Heimtextil in January, this year we were able to present ourselves for the second time at an international specialist trade fair: Interzum in Cologne. As the world's leading trade fair for furniture production and interior design, it attracted over 60,000 visitors - and our stand was also very busy. The focus was on the expansion of our proven VOWAclassic stock collection, which met with great interest. These include the high-quality cover material F3029 with bi-elastic carrier, now available in six new embossed finishes, as well as the universal imitation leather for upholstery F3378, which is available in six new colours.

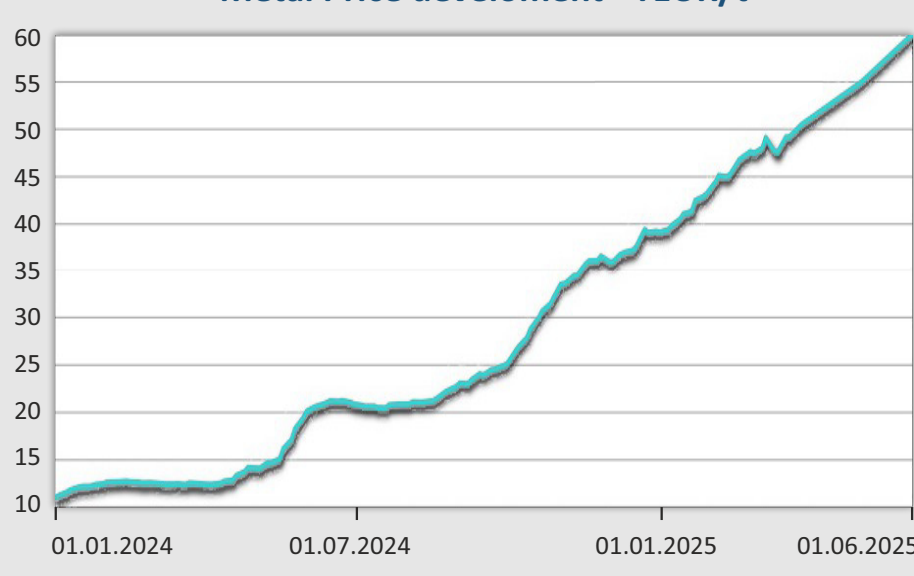


Antimony Trioxide

Price explosion endangers flame retardancy?



Metal Price development - TEUR/t



China's ongoing export restrictions and the trade conflict with the USA have led to a massive shortage of the semi-metal antimony for over a year - with serious consequences: The prices for the flame retardant antimony trioxide obtained from it, which is used in flame-retardant technical coatings and imitation leathers, have increased more than tenfold since January 2024! There is no relaxation of the situation in sight. On the contrary, further bottlenecks - up to unavailability - are to be expected in the coming months. Our development team has therefore been working intensively on alternative solutions since the beginning of the shortage so that we can continue to offer reliable, flame-retardant materials in the future.

125 Years

An exciting journey through time

In the footsteps of our company founder Bernhard Maerker



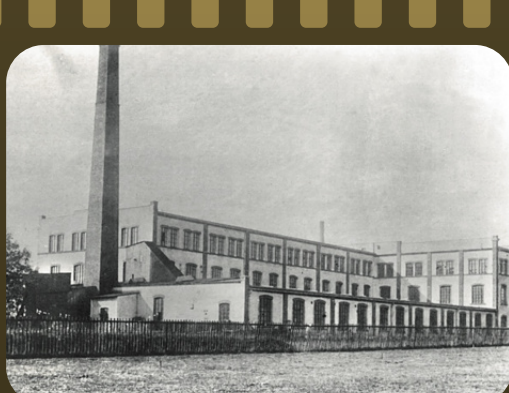
Company founder Bernhard Maerker around 1910

This year, our company in Treuen celebrates a special jubilee: 125 years of company history. However, the roots of our company go back even further - to the year 1884. At that time, Bernhard Maerker (born in 1854) founded his own leather cloth factory in Rautenkrantz, having previously gained valuable experience at the Friedrich Eduard Keffel leather cloth factory in Tannenbergesthal.

His success enabled him to move to Treuen in 1900, where he acquired a former weaving and spinning mill. The new location not only offered more space, but also opportunities for expansion - with colour-printed oilcloth tablecloths as an additional product segment. After turbulent years, marked by the First World War and economic crises, Bernhard Maerker died in 1930 after a lengthy illness.



Factory in Morgenröthe around 1884



Factory in Treuen around 1900



First vehicle fleet around 1924

On May 16, 2025, our department heads and foremen embarked on a journey back in time to the origins of our company. During their visit to the Heritage Association "Topas" in Tannenbergesthal, they were able to discover exciting exhibits from the life of Bernhard Maerker and the region's textile history.



Please note our summer holidays from 28.07.2025 - 08.08.2025!

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