PRESS RELEASE

*STEYR ARMS GmbH*

*22th April 2025, Austria*

**Gerard Wayne Weber is taking the helm of STEYR ARMS USA as the new CEO**

**Austrian-based company STEYR ARMS GmbH, with a history spanning over 160 years, has appointed Gerard Wayne Weber as Chief Executive Officer for the United States. He assumed the position on April 14 and will lead the brand's development from its U.S. headquarters in Alabama. The appointment of the seasoned executive marks another step in the *Go West* strategy, aimed at expanding in the world’s largest market for handheld firearms.**

*“We are thrilled to welcome Wayne Weber on board! With his extensive experience and deep knowledge of the firearms market, we are one step closer to realizing our vision for STEYR ARMS in the United States, especially in terms of business growth and expanding our manufacturing footprint in the region,”* says**Milan Šlapák, CEO of STEYR ARMS GmbH.**

STEYR ARMS aims for long-term success in a market that generates annual demand for handheld firearms exceeding five billion dollars. The company’s core strategy is therefore a strong localization of its operations in the U.S. market. This includes the product portfolio, manufacturing, supply chain, and commercial representation. In 2025 alone, the company plans to introduce three new products designed specifically for the American market.

*“STEYR ARMS has exceptional technological capabilities and a reputation that deserves greater recognition in the U.S. market. I am proud to contribute to the next chapter of this iconic brand. I believe that with a clear plan and a well-crafted strategy, we can reach a broad range of American customers, both in the civilian and government sectors,”* says **Wayne Weber CEO of STEYR ARMS Inc. (USA)**.

Weber brings over 30 years of industry experience. He spent 24 years at Heckler & Koch USA, including eight years as its President. He led the largest handgun procurement in the history of U.S. law enforcement and played a key role in the introduction of products such as the MR556, MR762, and VP9. A former U.S. Air Force instructor and a longtime advocate of the Second Amendment, Weber has been a steadfast supporter of Americans’ right to bear arms.

Since 2024, STEYR ARMS has been part of the RSBC Defence fund, managed by the investment group RSBC. In addition to the Austrian STEYR ARMS, the portfolio also includes the Slovenian firearms manufacturer AREX. The fund focuses on long-term investments in manufacturers with global growth ambitions, emphasizing technology, efficiency, and local adaptation.

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Founded in 1864 and headquartered in Steyr, Austria, STEYR ARMS is one of Europe’s leading firearms manufacturers. The company holds a strong position in the segment of hunting rifles as well as firearms for professional users in law enforcement and the military. Among its most successful products is the iconic Steyr AUG, which is part of the standard equipment of more than twenty armed forces worldwide. Thanks to its compact design, the Steyr AUG is also widely used by special police units. The company is also well-established in the field of precision rifles, pistols, and accessories for both professional (military, police, special forces) and civilian (hunting, sport shooting) markets. STEYR ARMS GmbH is the 100% owner of STEYR ARMS Inc., its subsidiary headquartered in Bessemer, Alabama, United States. For more information, visit [www.steyr-arms.com](http://www.steyr-arms.com)

RSBC Defence is part of the RSBC investment group and focuses on investments in the defense industry, manufacturing, and related technologies. The fund’s main assets include the Slovenian industrial company AREX and the traditional Austrian long gun manufacturer STEYR ARMS. The fund is designed for investors seeking to diversify their portfolios by investing in a dynamically growing sector focused on the production and provision of services for security and defense forces. For more information, visit [www.rsbcdefence.cz](http://www.rsbcdefence.cz)