Standard Terms and Conditions for Purchases and Contracts

These Standard Terms and Conditions for Purchases and Contracts shall form an integral part of all contracts entered into with our suppliers and contractors (hereinafter referred to as “Supplier”), and shall apply also in current or future relationships. Any deviating agreements, including, but not limited to, conflicting terms and conditions of our Suppliers, as well as side agreements are subject to our express written approval in each case in order to be effective and become an integral part of the contract.

1. Quotations and binding contracts
1.1 The Supplier shall submit quotations to us free of charge. In its quotations, the Supplier shall adhere to our inquiry with regard to quantities, quality and design and in case of deviations therefrom expressly point these out in writing. The preceding sentence shall apply accordingly to the Supplier’s acknowledgement of orders.
1.2 Our purchase orders are binding on us only if we have expressly placed them as such.

2. Prices
2.1 All prices quoted to us by the Supplier and/or prices agreed upon with us are fixed prices exclusive of value-added tax.
2.2 The compensation for all goods and services ordered from the Supplier (including any certificates, drawings, assessments, etc., that may be required, in German and English), and all ancillary costs (also including costs of transportation, insurance, customs, and packaging) and shall be free of place of use specified by the Supplier.
2.3 Any goods/services not included in a contract shall be compensated by us only if we ordered them from the Supplier prior to the delivery of the goods and the performance of the services.
2.4 Any charge based on numbers of items, measurements and weights shall be subject to the values determined during our receiving inspection.

3. Periods and dates
3.1 The periods and dates specified in our purchase orders are binding on the Supplier.
3.2 If it becomes evident to the Supplier that a date/period will be exceeded, the Supplier shall notify us without delay of the reason and the expected duration of the delay.

4. Contractual penalty
4.1 If as a result of default the Supplier exceeds one or several of the dates/periods agreed upon with it, the Supplier shall pay to us a contractual penalty at the rate of 0.1% of the net contract price for every business day the date/period is exceeded. The amount of the contractual penalty shall be limited – even in the event that several individual dates/periods have been exceeded – to a maximum of 5% of the net contract price.
4.2 The reservation of the right to impose a contractual penalty may be asserted only if final payment is made. Payment of the contractual penalty shall not release the Supplier from its contractual obligations nor from the Supplier being subject to further damages, in particular for default.

5. Shipment, passing of risk, and insurance
5.1 Delivery items shall be forwarded to the place of use specified by us or in case of accidental loss or accidental deterioration of these goods shall pass to us. All samples, catalogues and printed material, if not otherwise noted, must always be sent to us separately from the delivery items.
5.2 The Supplier must ensure that the delivery items/services and the presentation and packaging thereof do not allow to make any conclusion as to their origin and provenance.
5.3 On the day of dispatch of each shipment the Supplier shall provide us with a dispatch notice (in duplicate) specifying our order number, the quantity and exact description of the goods. Otherwise, we are entitled to refuse taking receipt of the shipment at the Supplier’s expense.
5.4 The Supplier must take out insurance at its expense for all delivery items at replacement value for the period until they are delivered to us (acceptance of performance) covering accidental loss (in particular due to fire and theft) and accidental deterioration.
5.5 We reserve the right to refuse taking receipt of/accepting partial deliveries, excess delivery or incomplete shipments that have not been agreed upon.
5.6 We are entitled to refuse taking delivery of an item for as long as it is the opinion of the Supplier, or for other reasons, that the shipment be delayed or that it is not at the Supplier’s disposal in good condition.
5.7 If we have agreed with the Supplier that the shipment not be made to us but to a third party, the Supplier must provide proof to us of the shipment to such third party by way of a receipt from that third party.

6. Provision of materials, documentation, and prevention of accidents
6.1 The Supplier is liable for the loss of or damage to anything provided by us (material, substances, etc.). In the event of loss of, damage to, or defects of items provided by us, the Supplier must interrupt the processing thereof without delay and notify us in writing.
6.2 Any items provided by us shall be treated and processed on our behalf and shall remain our property during any phase of treating or processing. Should such processing involve other items not belonging to us, we shall be co-owners of the new item at the ratio of the value of our order to that of all components used to produce the new item and the Supplier’s expenses for the processing thereof. To this extent, the Supplier shall store the items on our behalf free of charge. This shall apply accordingly if the title to the items provided by us is lost by mixing and blending.
6.3 All documents and data provided by us to the Supplier shall not be used for any purpose other than the preparation of the quotation and the performance of the purchase/work order. The Supplier must keep them in safe custody, protect them from third party access (confidentially) and return them to us without delay and without special request together with all copies thereof upon completion of our inquiry or our purchase/work order. To this extent, the Supplier’s right of retention / right to withhold performance is excluded.

7. Invoices and payments
7.1 Upon delivery of the goods/services in conformity with the contract, the Supplier shall submit its invoices for each delivery separately, in triplicate, citing the order number and, where applicable (cf. Sec. 5.7 hereof), with a reference to the contract. The statutory amount of the VAT shall be stated separately in all invoices of the Supplier.
7.2 The Supplier’s payment claims against us shall be due and payable thirty (30) days after receipt of the delivery/acceptance of work and submission of the documents pertaining thereto and of proper and verifiable invoices pursuant to Clause 7.1 above, but no earlier than at the contractually agreed date of delivery or completion of work. Should we pay within ten (10) days of receipt of the invoice / delivery, the Supplier shall grant us a two percent (2%) cash discount.

8. Set-off and retention
8.1 Any set-off by the Supplier with counter-claims of the Supplier against claims we have against it shall not be effective unless such counter-claims are uncontested or have been established as final and absolute.
8.2 The Supplier is not entitled to retain items to be delivered or services to be performed because of any counter-claims of the Supplier against us from previous transactions or other transactions under a current business relationship.
8.3 We have the right to declare the set-off against the Supplier’s claims with any claims to which we are, or any other company affiliated with the Heinrich Römer Group, is entitled, if and to the extent there is no statutory exclusion of set-off (such as the prohibition to set off against claims based on torts). Set-off shall be permitted also in cases where cash payment from one party and payment by bill of exchange or other consideration from the other party on account of performance (i.e. the bill of exchange or other consideration shall not operate as a discharge until honored) has been agreed upon. These agreements may refer to the balance only, as the case may be. If the claims fall due at different dates, they shall be settled taking the corresponding value dates into account.

9. Defects
9.1 If the delivery item / service is defective, we shall assert statutory claims and rights in the event of defects, without any restriction, with the proviso that the period of notice of defect pursuant to Section 377 German Commercial Code (Handelsgesetzbuch; HGB) shall be at least eight (8) business days. In the event of latent defects, in particular in the case of defects that become apparent only at the time of processing or putting the shipment / service into operation, the period of notice of defect shall start to run only upon the discovery of any such defect.
9.2 If the delivery item / service is defective, we are entitled to the statutory claims and rights in the event of defects, without any restriction, with the proviso that the period of notice of defect shall start to run only upon the discovery of any such defect.

10. Liability
10.1 Claims for damages and the compensation of expenses by the Supplier (hereinafter referred to as “Damage Claims”) against us
shall be excluded, regardless of their cause in law, unless they are based on the provisions of the Product Liability Act or the violation of our contractual or statutory obligations by willful misconduct or gross negligence, injury to health and bodily injury of the Supplier caused by a breach of duty for which we are responsible, the assumption of a guarantee of quality, or the violation of essential contractual obligations by us (fundamental obligations). Essential contractual obligations (fundamental obligations) are those the fulfillment of which provides for a proper performance of the contracts to be entered into on the basis of these Standard Terms and Conditions and the compliance with which our Supplier may generally expect.

In the event of violation of essential contractual obligations (fundamental obligations), the Supplier’s claim for damages against us shall be limited to the foreseeable and typical damage of this type of contract, unless we are liable for willful or gross negligent breach of duty, injury to health and bodily injury of the Supplier or for the assumption of a guarantee of quality. A damage is typical of a certain type of contract/foreseeable if the materialization of the damage is typically to be expected if a specific obligation characteristic of that contract is violated.

A breach of duty by our duly authorized representative or by persons employed in the performance of our obligations shall be deemed equal to a breach of duty by us. The provisions above do not constitute a reversal of the burden of proof to the Supplier’s disadvantage.

10.2 The Supplier shall, when developing and manufacturing the item to be delivered / service, observe the state of the art in science and technology and comply with all mandatory laws, perform a comprehensive operational test and quality control prior to the delivery of the item / service, and adequately document all measures taken to fulfill these obligations, keep this documentation for eleven (11) years, and grant us or a third party specified by us the right to inspect such documentation at any time. To this extent, the Supplier’s right of retention / right to withhold performance is excluded.

10.3 Should any third party claim damages from us for a product defect, the Supplier shall indemnify and hold us harmless against any such claim if and to the extent that the loss or damage was caused by the raw materials, partial products provided by the Supplier or items delivered / services performed by the Supplier. The Supplier is further obligated to compensate us for any expenses and loss or damage arising from or in connection with a product recall. We shall inform the Supplier to the extent possible and reasonable of the substance and extent of the recall to be carried out and provide the Supplier with the opportunity to make a statement. The Supplier’s liability under the law shall remain unaffected thereby.

11. Data protection

We are entitled to electronically store the Supplier’s data required as part of the business relationship and the data of the individual contracts with the Supplier in accordance with the law, and process and use this data according to the law for our operational purposes.

12. Place of performance, place of jurisdiction, applicable law and interpretation of these Standard Terms and Conditions

12.1 The place of performance for all items to be delivered and services performed by the Supplier shall be the place of use specified by us.

12.2 The Local Court or Regional Court (Amtsgericht / Landgericht) having jurisdiction at the place of business of the Company shall be the exclusive place of jurisdiction for any and all disputes arising directly or indirectly from the contractual relationship with the Supplier, including disputes from a deed, a bill of exchange, or a check.


12.4 Should these Standard Terms and Conditions be translated in another language than German, the German version of these Standard Terms and Conditions shall always govern in the event of doubts regarding the interpretation hereof.

13. Severability clause

Should any provisions of a contract with the Supplier for the delivery of goods or the performance of services of which these Standard Terms and Conditions are an integral part, be or become ineffective the effectiveness of the remainder of that contract shall not be affected thereby. To replace the invalid provision, we shall agree upon a provision with the Supplier that matches the economic intent of the original provision fully or to the greatest possible extent in a legally effective manner.

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