

**General Conditions of Sale of BIEBER + MARBURG GMBH + CO KG**

Version August 2014

(english)

**1.0 Conclusion of contract / terms**

1.1 These General Conditions of Sale (Conditions) shall apply to all present and future contracts with commercial buyers and with public legal entities according to sec. 310 BGB (German Civil Code) in regard to deliveries and other services. In case of direct sales ("Streckengeschäfte"), the producer's conditions pursuant to its price list and shipping instructions shall apply in addition to these conditions. The Buyer's purchase conditions shall not be binding even if we do not expressly object to them again after their receipt.

1.2 Our offers are open and subject to change. Oral agreements, promises, assurances and guarantees made or given by our sales staff shall not be binding unless confirmed by us in writing, this demand being met also in cases of telefax and e-mail transmission.

1.3 Any trade terms shall, in cases of doubt, be interpreted according to the Incoterms as amended from time to time.

**2.0 Delivery**

2.1 Our commitment to deliver is subject to our own correct and timely self-delivery, unless we are responsible for the deficient or late self-delivery.

2.2 Any confirmation as to delivery times shall only be approximate. Delivery times shall commence with the date of our order confirmation or with the date of the call for delivery respectively and are subject to the timely clarification of all details of the order as well as of the fulfillment of any of the Buyer's obligations, e.g. to produce official certifications, to provide letters of credit and payment guarantees or to pay agreed installments.

2.3 Any agreed delivery time or date shall be considered to be met if the goods have left the works or the warehouse at such time or date. If the goods fail to be dispatched at the agreed time for reasons not attributable to us, the agreed delivery time shall be considered to have been met at the day on which the goods are notified to be ready for loading.

2.4 We shall be entitled to make partial deliveries at reasonable quantities. We may also exceed or reduce the agreed quantities as appropriate. Where quantities are indicated as "circa", we may exceed or fall below the agreed quantity up to 10 pct.

2.5 Where the contract provides for continuous deliveries, the Buyer shall divide the quantities and grades of the goods into approximately equal monthly shipments and / or full loads. Otherwise we shall be entitled to specify them at our own fair and just discretion.

2.6 Where the single calls for delivery exceed the total contractual quantity, we shall be entitled, yet not committed, to deliver the surplus quantity and invoice it at the prices applicable at the time of the call or the delivery.

**3.0 Prices and Payment**

3.1 Unless otherwise agreed, only such prices and terms shall apply as contained in our price lists effective at the time when the contract is concluded. The goods will be invoiced "gross for net".

3.2 In cases of ex-work sales, we are entitled to raise the agreed price to the same degree to which our seller raises its price before the goods are being shipped, provided there is a period of more than three months between the conclusion of the contract and the shipment. The Buyer may, in such cases, withdraw from the contract provided his declaration of withdrawal reaches us immediately after we have declared the price raise.

3.3 Unless otherwise agreed or stated in our invoices, payment shall be made without cash discounts immediately upon delivery and in such a manner that we can dispose of the sum on the due date. Any payment transfer costs shall be borne by the Buyer.

3.4 The Buyer may retain or set off any counterclaims only in so far as such claims are undisputed or have become legally binding and as they are not based on the same contractual relation with the Buyer and as they would not entitle him to refuse the fulfillment his contractual duties under section 320 BGB.

3.5 Any agreed cash discount relates to the invoiced value of the goods and will only be granted if and in so far as the Buyer has completely paid all payables due at the time of the discount. Unless otherwise agreed discount periods shall begin with the date of the invoice.

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3.6 Should the Buyer exceed the payment deadline or should he default in payment, we will debit him with interests at 8 pct-points above the basic rate of interest, unless higher rates have been agreed upon. We reserve the right to claim additional damage resulting from late payment.

3.7 Should it become evident after the conclusion of the contract, that payment is jeopardised by the Buyer's lack in financial means, or should the Buyer be in default with a considerable portion of the amount due or should other circumstances arise which show a material deterioration in the Buyer's financial position after the conclusion of the contract, we shall be authorised to make use of rights under section 321 BGB and to make due any and all of our non statute-barred accounts receivable resulting from the same commercial relationship. Buyer's ability to perform shall be deemed jeopardised also if the Buyer is for at least three weeks in default with a considerable portion (10% or more) of the amounts due; further, in case of a considerable downgrading by a credit insurance.

#### 4.0 Dispatch and Passing of Risk

4.1 Unless otherwise stipulated, we shall be entitled to choose the forwarding agent or the carrier. We will buy insurance only if requested by the Buyer.

4.2 The goods will be delivered unpacked and not be protected against rust. Where so provided by trade usage will the goods be packed. Any package, protection and/or transport device will be supplied according to our experience and at the Buyer's cost. We will take back such devices at our warehouse within a reasonable period of time. We will not bear any costs for their re-transport or disposal. In case of transports of pallets to our warehouse and from our warehouse to our supplier the costs in accordance with our pallet list effective at the time will be deducted.

4.3 In all transactions, including freight prepaid and freight-free deliveries, the risk of loss or damage to the goods shall pass to the Buyer at the time where we hand them over to the forwarding agent or to the carrier, at the latest with their departure from the works or the warehouse. The Buyer shall unload the goods at his costs.

4.4 The Buyer shall immediately call for delivery of those goods which have been notified to him as ready for dispatch. Otherwise we are entitled, upon reminder, to ship such goods at the Buyer's cost and risk or to store them at our discretion and to invoice them to the Buyer.

4.5 Can, by reasons not attributable to us, the goods not be shipped or will it become substantially difficult to ship the goods via the designated route or to the designated place within the designated time, we reserve the right to ship them via a different route or to a different place. Any additional costs will be borne by the Buyer. We will, in such cases, ask the Buyer for his prior comments.

#### 5.0 Retention of Title

5.1 All goods delivered to the Buyer shall remain our property (Reserved Property) until all of the Buyer's accounts resulting from the business relationship with him, in particular any account balances have been settled. This condition shall apply to any future as well as any conditional claims including accepted notes and such cases where the Buyer will affect payments on specifically designated claims. As soon as the Buyer has settled his accounts with us in full, he shall obtain title to those goods which were delivered to him before such payment was effected.

5.2 With regard to processing or manufacturing of the Reserved Property, we shall be deemed to be manufacturer within the meaning of section 950 BGB without committing us in any way. The processed or manufactured goods shall be regarded as Reserved Property within the meaning of clause 5.1 of these Conditions. In cases where the Buyer manufactures, combines or compounds the Reserved Property with other goods, we shall obtain co-ownership in the new goods in proportion to the invoiced price of the Reserved Property to the invoiced price of the other goods. If, by such combining or compounding our ownership expires, the Buyer herewith transfers to us any rights which he will have in the new stock or goods in proportion to the invoiced price of the Reserved Property, and he will keep them in safe custody free of charge. Our co-ownership rights shall be regarded as Reserved Property within the meaning of clause 5.1 of these Conditions.

5.3 The Buyer may resell the Reserved Property only within the normal course of his business in accordance with his normal business terms and provided he is not in default of payment and provided also that any rights resulting from such resale will be transferred to us in accordance with clause 5.4 through 5.6 of these Conditions. The Buyer shall not be entitled to dispose of the Reserved Property in any other way.

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5.4 The Buyer hereby assigns to us any claims resulting from the resale of the Reserved Property. Such claims shall serve as our security to the same extent as the Reserved Property itself. If the Reserved Property is resold by the Buyer together with other goods not purchased from us, then any receivables resulting from such resale shall be assigned to us in the ratio of the invoiced value of the other goods sold by the Buyer. In the case of resale of goods in which we have co-ownership rights according to clause 5.2 of these Conditions, the assignment shall be limited to the part which corresponds to our co-ownership rights.

5.5 The Buyer shall be entitled to collect any receivables resulting from the resale of the Reserved Property. This right shall expire if withdrawn by us, at the latest if the Buyer defaults in payment; fails to honour a bill of exchange; or files for bankruptcy. We shall exert our right of revocation only if and in so far as it becomes evident after the conclusion of the contract that payment resulting from this contract or from other contracts is jeopardised by the lack of Buyer's ability to pay. The Buyer shall - upon our request - immediately inform his customers of such assignment and to forward to us any information and documents necessary for collection.

5.6 The Buyer shall immediately inform us of any seizure or any other attachment of the Reserved Property by a third party. He shall bear any costs necessary to suspend such seizure or attachment or removal of the Reserved Property, if and in so far as such costs are not borne by a third party.

5.7 Should the Buyer default in payment or should he fail to honour a draft we shall be entitled to take back the Reserved Property, to enter, for this purpose, the Buyer's premises. The same shall apply should, after the conclusion of the contract, it become evident that payment resulting from this contract or from other contracts is jeopardised by the Buyer's lack of ability to pay. If we take back the Reserved Property, this shall not be regarded as withdrawal from the contract. The statutory regulations of the Insolvenzordnung (= German Insolvency Act) shall remain unaffected.

5.8 Should the total invoiced value of our collateral exceed the amount of the secured receivables including additional claims for interest, costs etc. by more than 50 %, we shall - upon the Buyer's request - release pro tanto collateral at our discretion.

## **6.0 Inspection Documents, Inspection and weight**

6.1 Any supply of Inspection Documents („Mill Test Certificates“) acc. to EN 10204 must be agreed upon in writing. We may transmit such document as a copy. In case the price for such documents has not been agreed within the contract, we will calculate it on the basis of our price list resp. the issuer's (manufacturer's) price list.

6.2 Where inspection of the goods has been agreed upon, the goods must be inspected in the mill or in our warehouse immediately after the Buyer has been informed that the goods are ready for inspection. The Buyer shall ensure that we can authorize the inspection company designated by him in his or his purchaser's name and on his account. Unless otherwise agreed, this authorization shall be regarded as granted as soon as the Buyer designates an inspection company.

6.3 The Buyer shall bear his personal inspection costs, whereas the costs of inspection will be invoiced to him in accordance with our price list resp. the manufacturer's price list.

6.4 Should, without our fault, the inspection fail or be delayed or be incomplete, we shall be entitled to ship the goods without the inspection or to store them at the Buyer's costs and risk and to invoice them to him.

6.5 The weight of the goods shall be determined on our or our suppliers' scales and shall be evidenced by the presentation of the pertinent weight ticket. Where provided by law, the weight may be determined without weighing in accordance with the applicable standards. We may calculate the weight without weighing on the basis of such standards („theoretical weight“) plus 2 ½ pct („commercial weight“).

6.6 Any indications given in the delivery notes as to the number of pieces, bundles etc. are not binding, if and in so far as the goods are invoiced by weight. Where, in accordance with trade usage, the goods are not weighed piece by piece, the total weight of the delivery shall prevail. Any difference with regard to the calculated weight of the single pieces shall be proportionally allocated to them.

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## 7.0 Warranty Provisions

7.1 Any inner and outer properties of the goods, in particular their grade, size and classification shall be determined in accordance with the agreed and, if not agreed, with the DIN and EN standards effective at the time the contract is concluded, or in absence of such standards, in accordance with trade practise and usage. Any reference made to such standards and similar rules, to inspection documents according to EN 10204 and similar certificates as well as to grade, classification, size, measure and usability of the goods shall not constitute any warranties or guarantees. The same shall apply to declarations of conformity and similar markings such as CE and GS.

7.2 The goods must be inspected and any defects must be notified in accordance with the legal provisions. The Buyer's duty to inspect the goods after their delivery shall also extend to any inspection documents according or similar to EN 10204. Any defects of the goods and documents shall be notified in writing or in text form.

7.3 If and in so far the Buyer's claim for defects is justified and has been made in time, we may, upon our choice, remedy the defect or deliver goods free of defects ("cure"). Place of performance for the cure is our seat. In the event the cure fails or we refuse it, the Buyer may exercise his statutory rights. In cases where the defect is trivial or where the goods have already been resold, processed or transformed, he may only reduce the purchase price.

7.4 If the Buyer fails to immediately give to us the opportunity to inspect the defect, especially if he fails - upon our request - to immediately make the goods or samples hereof available to us, he shall lose all of his warranty rights.

7.5 No warranty shall be given to goods sold as declassified material with regard to such defects either specified in the contract or to those normally to be expected. Goods classified as "IIa-Ware" ("secondaries") are not subject to any warranty.

7.6 We will reimburse the Buyer for his expenses in connection with the cure only in so far as such expenses are reasonable and proportionate to the purchase price of the goods, in no case more than 150 pct of the purchase price. We will bear any further expenses such as for the mantling and dismantling of the defective goods only in accordance with the rules of Section 8 of these Conditions.

7.7 Our further liability is subject to Section 8 of these Conditions. Any of the Buyer's rights of recourse according to sections 478, 479 BGB (German Civil Code) shall remain unaffected.

## 8.0 Restriction of Liability and Limitation Periods

8.1 Our liability for breach of contractual or extra-contractual obligations, in particular for non-performed or deferred deliveries, for breach of duties prior to the contract as well as for tortuous acts - including our responsibility for our managerial staff and any other person employed in performing our obligations - shall be limited to damages caused by our wrongful intent or by our gross negligence and, in cases of gross negligence, shall not exceed the foreseeable losses and damages characteristic for the type of contract in question.

8.2 The aforesaid restrictions shall not apply to such cases where we breach our fundamental contractual obligations and where such a breach will endanger the contractual purpose; it shall neither pertain to damages to life, to the body or to health caused by our fault nor to any cases where we have guaranteed certain characteristics of the goods. Nor shall such clause affect our statutory liability laid down in the Product Liability Act (Produkthaftungsgesetz) of 15/12/89. Our contractual obligations shall be considered to be fundamental if they are required to safeguard the due performance of the contract and on which Buyer typically may rely on. Any statutory rules regarding the burden of proof shall remain unaffected by the aforesaid.

8.3 Unless otherwise agreed, any contractual claims to which the Buyer is entitled in connection with the delivery of the goods shall fall under the statute of limitations within a period of one year after the goods have been delivered to the Buyer. This limitation shall not apply to such goods which, according to the normal way they are used, have been used for a building and have resulted in the defectiveness of the building. This restriction shall not apply to our liability resulting from breaches of contract caused by our wrongful intent or by our gross negligence; neither to damages to life, to the body and to health caused by our fault nor to any recourse claims under sections 478, 479 BGB.

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### 9.0 Place of Performance, Jurisdiction and Applicable Law

9.1 The place of performance for our performances shall be, if applicable, the supplying work or our warehouse. The place of jurisdiction is, at our discretion, the city of Wetzlar (Germany) or the Buyer's seat.

9.2 All legal relationships between us and the Buyer shall be governed by the laws of the Federal Republic of Germany supplementing these Conditions, especially the German BGB/HGB. The provisions of the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods of 11 April 1980 (CISG) shall not apply.

### 10.0 Applicable version

In cases of doubt, the German version of these General Conditions of Purchase shall apply.