



VERBAND DER DEUTSCHEN  
AUTOMATENINDUSTRIE E.V.

Dircksenstraße 49, 10178 Berlin  
Tel.: (030) 28 40 70, Fax: (030) 28 40 72 72  
E-Mail: vdai@vdai.de  
Internet: www.vdai.de

Mitglied im

Bundesverband der  
Deutschen Industrie e.V. 

# PRESSE-INFORMATION

## PRESS RELEASE

**International Trade Fair for Amusement and Vending Machines (IMA) 2013 cancelled.**

**Berlin, 14 June 2012. The German Industry Association for coin-operated Amusement and Vending Machines (VDAI) has cancelled the IMA 2013. This was decided at the association's general assembly. The cancellation of the industry's leading trade fair, held for the past few years in Düsseldorf, took place for economic reasons caused solely by federal state policies.**

The VDAI represents the manufacturers of amusement machines with prizes (awp's). Manufacturers, distributors and operators of awp's and with them the entire German gaming and amusement machine industry have come under increasing political pressure in recent months. The federal states' First Amended German Interstate Treaty on Gambling (1. GlüÄndStV), its implementing laws, federal gaming arcade laws and massive increases in local amusement tax has in total led to a severe suppression of the German gaming and amusement machine industry, at the same time restricting their economic prospects. Specifically, the manufacturers represented by the VDAI fear drops in production on an unprecedented scale. At the same time the German gaming and amusement machine industry fears a further fall of up to 50% of the currently around 70,000 direct and 35,000 indirect jobs.

The federal states want to reduce commercial gaming with prizes in order to secure and expand its gambling monopoly. Under the pretext of combating gambling addiction, the federal states are trying by all means to curtail commercial gaming with prizes to the point of threatening its existence.

Numerous law suits at the constitutional and administrative courts against the federal gaming arcade laws already in force in the federal states of Berlin and Bremen are pending. More lawsuits against federal state laws as well as against 1. GlüÄndStV itself are to be expected. In the view of the VDAI, these various laws contain massive legal violations at a constitutional and European level. The German gaming and amusement machine industry is therefore certain that 1. GlüÄndStV, like its preceding laws, will not be tenable. This also applies to the various implementing laws and federal gaming arcade laws.

In the view of the manufacturers represented by the VDAI, commercial prudence requires them to distance themselves from participation at a trade fair until there is political and legal clarity. Thus, there is no longer any basis for the implementation of IMA 2013. The VDAI hopes to be able to organise an IMA 2014 following legal clarifications.