



## BELGIAN SHOWMEN'S ASSOCIATION VBF-DFB

*La Défense des Forains Belges*

Professional association 7185/98

- European Showmen's Union ESU/UFE 1954
- High Council for the Self-Employed and SMEs
- UNIZO

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## PRESS RELEASE

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# Steve Severeyns elected national president of Belgian Showmen's Association VBF-DFB

At the General Assembly on 22 February 2024 of La Defense des Forains Belges, Steve Severeyns (41) was elected by the effective members as president of the professional association representing the interests of the Belgian fairground business. The DFB was founded in 1998 and is one of three showmen's associations operating nationally. Mr Walter Dotremont stepped down at the age of 74 after 12 years as chairman. The General Assembly appointed him honorary president.

Severeyns comes from a large traditional fairground family and lives in Hasselt. During the funfair season, he travels all over Belgium with his wife Debbie Dupont and daughter Jacey (14) with two major rides. During the covid crisis, he was one of the national spokesmen for the showmen where he gave his full support to his colleagues. He has been a DFB delegate since 2004, deputy secretary since 2008 and secretary general from 2020. Severeyns is also secretary general of the European Showmen's Union and chairman of sector committee 6 at the High Council for the Self-Employed and SMEs. At the DFB, Mr Alexander Dotremont, also from a historical fairground family, will succeed him as secretary.

Steve Severeyns: "I am honoured to represent the Belgian fairground business and culture on a local, national and international level. As people have already come to expect from me, I will be fully committed to this. Respectful of the historical origins, facing the future to promote innovation and sustainability of the fairground industry."

Fairground culture has been included in the Flanders Inventory for Intangible Cultural Heritage since 2014.

"I would like to thank Mr Walter Dotremont for giving a new generation of showmen the opportunity to further modernise the fairs and make them ready for the future. My team and I are already enthusiastic and inspired. I am also reaching out to our sister organisations. Good cooperation can only promote our fantastic business!", said Severeyns.

**Steve Severeyns**  
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