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Warsteiner owner will tell workers whether Paderborner brewery will be sold or shut

A withdrawal from Paderborn and Herford would cut about 30% of Haus Cramer’s capacity, underscoring pressure across Germany’s beer market

Thursday, October 29, 2026



Haus Cramer, the company behind Warsteiner, planned to tell employees on Thursday, October 29, whether it will sell the Paderborner brewery or close the site, according to a dpa-AFX report.

The report said the group was due to brief the workforce on the future of Paderborner, a brewery in Paderborn in western Germany. Before the announcement, it was not clear whether management would present a final sale, a shutdown, or another restructuring step.

The decision is significant for the company’s production network. According to the report, a withdrawal from Paderborn and Herford would cut about 30% of the group’s capacity. That would amount to a major change for Haus Cramer and would show that the review is not limited to a single local brewery.

Few details were immediately available about what form a sale might take or whether an interested buyer had been identified. The report also did not say how quickly any closure could happen or what it would mean for brewing volumes now handled at the affected sites. That leaves open key questions for workers, suppliers and distributors tied to the two locations.

Even with those details still unclear, the case points to wider pressure in Germany’s beer business. Breweries across the market have been facing weaker consumption and a need to use plants more efficiently. In that environment, companies have been pushed to reconsider older production footprints and decide whether to keep output spread across multiple sites or move more volume into fewer breweries.

A sale of Paderborner would suggest that Haus Cramer sees more value in handing the brand and site to another owner than continuing to operate it within its own network. A closure would signal a harder response, with production likely shifted or reduced to match demand. Either outcome would show how much brewers are weighing capacity against a market that no longer supports the same production structure as in earlier years.

That matters beyond Haus Cramer because the German brewing industry has been dealing with a long period of consolidation. If a group the size of Warsteiner’s owner removes itself from Paderborn and Herford, it could become another sign that production is becoming more concentrated in fewer locations. For the drinks sector, especially beer, that kind of move can reshape logistics, packaging demand, local supplier relationships and competition between regional and national brands.

Paderborner has long been part of Germany’s regional brewing landscape, and any change to its ownership or operations would carry local importance as well as industry weight. The expected employee briefing on Thursday was therefore being closely watched as a test of how one of Germany’s established brewing groups intends to respond to a tougher market.