vinetur

Radeberger and Dinkelacker will combine Stuttgart beer operations at one plant by 2028

The equal joint venture will brew and market both local brands during a phased transition, with antitrust approval still pending

Monday, November 16, 2026



Radeberger and Dinkelacker have agreed to combine their Stuttgart beer operations in a new company owned equally by both groups, with a plan to gradually shift production and ultimately concentrate it at a single plant by the end of 2028.

The restructuring, announced on November 13, is centered on Stuttgarter Brauereien GmbH & Co. KG, a joint venture that will manufacture, bottle and market the local beer brands of both partners in Stuttgart, the capital of the southwestern German state of Baden-Württemberg. Each side will hold 50% of the new company.

Under the plan, Radeberger will contribute the business of Stuttgarter Hofbräu, its local brewery in Stuttgart. Dinkelacker is participating through Dinkelacker Brauerei Beteiligung GmbH & Co. KG. The companies said production of Stuttgarter Hofbräu beers will be moved gradually as part of the reorganization.

The companies are not shutting one of the two production sites immediately. Instead, both facilities are expected to remain in operation at first, with the industrial transition unfolding over the next two years. The goal is to reduce the number of production locations from two to one by the end of 2028. That represents a 50% reduction in sites, but the companies have not disclosed production volumes, so it is not possible to determine whether brewing capacity or output will change by the same proportion.

The agreement still requires antitrust approval.

The move reflects pressure that has been building in the brewing industry from rising costs and weaker use of existing capacity. By sharing ownership and consolidating manufacturing while keeping separate local brands in the market, the companies are pursuing a regional form of consolidation rather than a full brand merger.

No financial terms were disclosed. The companies did not publish the value of the transaction, the amount of investment required for the transfer, or any expected savings from combining operations at one plant.

The employment impact remains one of the most closely watched parts of the deal. Dinkelacker, a family-owned brewing business in Stuttgart, has about 200 employees, according to the information released with the announcement. Stuttgarter Hofbräu has a little more than 100 employees. The companies said they do not plan layoffs for business reasons, though they did not provide a broader guarantee covering all possible future changes in staffing.

For Radeberger, the deal is part of a wider brewing portfolio inside one of Germany’s large family-controlled industrial groups. Radeberger Gruppe is controlled by Dr. August Oetker KG, the German family holding company whose businesses span food, beverages and other sectors. Dr. August Oetker KG reported total sales of 7.108 billion euros in 2025. In brewing, Radeberger ranked 25th in the world by beer production in

2025, with 9.95 million hectoliters, according to BarthHaas.

The companies have not said publicly which of the existing Stuttgart-area plants will become the long-term production site. They also have not detailed how brewing, bottling and logistics will be divided during the transition period, or whether specific brands will be brewed in different locations before the final consolidation is complete.

For Stuttgart, the agreement is significant because both breweries are closely tied to the local market. The city has long been home to established regional beer names, and the decision to keep the brands while combining industrial operations suggests the companies see continued value in local identity even as they try to lower costs and use equipment more efficiently.

The new structure would give both partners equal control over the operation that produces and sells their local beers. That arrangement can help spread the costs of brewing, packaging and distribution, but it can also require careful coordination on investment decisions, plant use and brand strategy. So far, the companies have described the venture mainly in operational terms and have not outlined in detail how management responsibilities will be divided inside the new entity.

Reports on November 13 by Rundschau and by dpa, published in Stuttgarter Zeitung, described the agreement as a response to lower capacity utilization and higher costs in the regional beer business. No primary public statement with fuller financial detail was immediately accessible.

The planned timetable leaves room for regulatory review and for a phased industrial shift. Until antitrust clearance is granted and the transfer work is completed, both companies are expected to continue operating in their current structure while preparing the new joint venture for the move toward a single production base by the end of 2028.