# WORKING TOGETHER





#### **PART OF THE MERKUR GROUP**

#### A Strong Partner For More Than 60 Years



MERKUR Casino UK is a subsidiary of the family run MERKUR Group who are based in Espelkamp (Germany). Over the last 60 years the group has grown to operate more than 700 venues across Europe under the MERKUR Brand. Millions of enthusiastic guests at home and abroad know our logo. The laughing MERKUR Sun is a guarantor for the best entertainment.

MERKUR Casino UK employs over 2,000 people over 3 Bingo Clubs, over 230 High Street gaming centres and 3 Family Entertainment Centres under two main brands.





## 52% of employees are female48% of employees are male



MERKUR Slots is the main UK brand. Our venues represent the very best in terms of exciting 'slot gaming' entertainment through delivering to our customers the latest in venue product and atmosphere. These venues are known for their highly trained teams and first class face to face service.



MERKUR Bingo clubs are very important to our customers in their local communities. Our teams strive to deliver not just great service but a Bingo experience which focusses on ambience, safety and fun in a modern environment. The flagship venue at Cricklewood, in North London, is the largest in Europe.

#### **MYTHBUSTERS**

#### We Are Not Betting Shops

MERKUR Casino UK is one of the UK's largest operators of High Street Adult Gaming Centres (AGCs) and High Street bingo venues. AGCs are often, unfortunately, put into the same category as betting shops. This is because there is a widespread misunderstanding of how AGCs operate and who our customers are. We want to address these misconceptions and demonstrate that a new AGC on your local high street is a good thing. Public concerns surrounding betting shops were largely due to the presence of Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs). Our venues do not offer these types of machines. Our machines offer low stakes ranging from 10p to a maximum of £2, plus a variety of bingo products are also available. These machines have been around for many, many years.



Our AGCs and High Street bingo venues are where people come to spend their spare change, have a game of bingo and enjoy their favourite pastime in convenient locations.

The market on the high street has evolved with venues now providing electronic bingo tablets.



Our machines operate at low stakes.



Our venues appeal to all ages with our membership gender database split of 63% male / 37% female.





Our teams remain with the customers on the venue floor rather than behind a counter.

We provide complimentary refreshments, teas and coffees, to customers and our AGCs do not offer or sell alcohol. Our staff will not allow anyone into the premises who appears to be intoxicated.













## **OUR OPERATION**We Are Not Noisy Neighbours

Whilst we sit within the leisure sector, noise levels are very low and limited from our venues. We currently operate 24 hours in over 150 venues.



Our machines generate low levels of noise.



We do not have tannoy systems that you find in seaside amusement centres.



We only play background music like at any other high street shop.



We are immensely proud of the fact that we have never had a licence revoked or even reviewed. Incidents are extremely rare. We simply do not generate noise and anti-social behaviour.



Customers tend to visit on their own or in couples. We rarely see large groups.



We do not offer or serve alcohol in our AGC premises. Our customer base after midnight is predominantly the local entertainment workforce and shift workers who like to relax after their busy shifts.





## RESPONSIBILITY IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR BUSINESS

#### Think 25 Messaging







#### **We Are Not A Problem**

Being a responsible operator is high priority across the MERKUR group and in the UK, MERKUR Casino is always looking at ways to adhere to the three licensing objectives as technology and customer behaviour changes.

#### GAMBLING COMMISSION

MERKUR Casino is regulated by the Gambling Commission and Licensing Authorities



We provide complimentary refreshments, teas and coffees, to customers and do not sell alcohol. Our staff will not allow anyone into the premises who appears to be intoxicated.



Our venues operate a Think 25 policy whereby any persons who look under 25 have to produce a form of photo ID.

Our venues appeal to all ages with our membership gender database split of 63% Male / 37% Female





We are subject to regular independent test purchases and are consistently above the average leisure industry pass rate.

### SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY MEASURES IN PLACE

#### **In Venue**

Operationally we have a number of measures in place to protect our customers. Throughout the business MERKUR Casino also has a number of socially responsible gambling tools, and management and training initiatives that include:



All staff complete on-boarding and sixmonthly refresher training on "The Essentials of Compliance and Social Responsibility" and "Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable People".



& Dedicated Learning & Development Team and National training

SMARThub tablet in every venue for the recording of customer interactions, self-exclusions, incidents and alerts.





Six monthly compliance audits to help identify training needs in venue.



All data is centrally reviewed and evaluated by an independent Audit/Compliance team.

Local Area Risk Assessments are updated annually to identify any changes in the local area.





Our Category B3 machines support safer gambling by having time and limit settings available to customers..

#### **Compliance**



#### **Training Centre**



#### **Online Training**





## SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY MEASURES IN PLACE

### Machine Messaging



#### Customer Interaction Training





#### **All Levels**

We provide an annual assurance statement to the Gambling Commission. This officially details the Board's commitment to the company values, purpose and culture and the accountability placed on delivery of the licensing objectives.



The statement contains information on how we operate effective governance, regulatory risk management, compliance controls, social responsibility and safer gambling initiatives.



It is also an opportunity to set out any initiatives relating to significant changes being introduced to improve control systems, risk-management, governance and safer gambling. Our recent commitments include: Socially Responsible Machine Messaging; Customer Set Your Limits; opening our Second National Training Centre; Think 25 messaging and Customer Interaction Training.

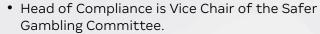


MERKUR Casino UK received the international certificate of accreditation from the Global Gambling Guidance Group (G4). Our MERKUR 360 programme showcases how we are continually improving our social responsibility commitments throughout all levels of the business. We have appointed a Safer Gambling Manager role to support safer gambling initiatives.

MERKUR Casino UK also engages with the Bingo Association, Bacta and Gambling Business Group bodies.



- Senior Manager representation from MERKUR Group.
- Member of the National Council.





 Operations Director and Head of Compliance are Directors.



 Head of Compliance is a member of the Safer Gambling Committee.

## BENEFITS TO THE HIGH STREET



### **Benefits for your High Street include:**



Over 90% of new MERKUR Slots venues occupy former vacant units.



Investment from £100,000 to £250,000 in long-standing vacant venues.



Linked trips with other shops helping to support other businesses.



Local jobs for between 6 and 12 people depending on the hours of operation.



Increased footfall to the High Street.



We provide an important natural surveillance on the high street, particularly late into the evenings.

### **COMMUNITY & CHARITY**

### **MERKUR Initiative**

Supporting Local Charities and Good Causes

Amongst other charities, some of your donations have helped:











MERKUR Casino UK has raised in excess of £1.4 million for good causes since 2005

#### Please contact us

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