

COMMERCE

## Kering hires communications executive from Chanel

May 2, 2016



*Gucci spring/summer 2016 collection*

By STAFF REPORTS

Luxury conglomerate Kering has appointed Valrie Duport as its senior vice president of communications and image.

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Ms. Duport began her career at Chanel in 1988, rising through the ranks to become the French fashion house's international director of press services and external relations, a role she has held since 2008. In her new position at Kering, Ms. Duport will be responsible for maintaining the group's image and positioning within the luxury industry.

### External communication

Ms. Duport's hire, announced May 2, is effective immediately. In this position, she will report directly to Kering chairman/CEO Francois-Henri Pinault. She will also sit on the conglomerate's executive committee.

While Ms. Duport will be responsible for overseeing and following the overall group communications strategy, from Oct. 1 she will also be tasked with helping Kering's stable of brands envision and apply their individual marketing communications strategies.

The 47-year-old started at Chanel in the press department of its fragrance and beauty division. In 1994 she moved to the press office of Chanel's watches and jewelry division, eventually heading that press team.



BOTTEGA VENETA

*Bottega Veneta spring/summer 2016 campaign*

Kering has made a number of female hires within the past year, representative of the group's dedication to female causes.

Jeweler Pomellato Group recently named its first CEO hire since the company was acquired by Kering in 2013.

Sabina Belli came to the group, which includes the Pomellato and Dodo brands, with a diverse resume of senior positions within the luxury industry, including stints in jewelry, cosmetics and wine and spirits. Current Pomellato CEO Andrea Morante worked with Ms. Belli to create a smooth transition before he left at the end of 2015 ([see story](#)).

Also, Kering strengthened its luxury division with the hire of Grita Loeb sack, formerly of Unilever.

Ms. Loeb sack joined Kering as the CEO of luxury couture and leather goods' emerging brands, effective Sept. 14. Before joining Kering, Ms. Loeb sack, a German national, worked as the international marketing director, global skin care at L'Oreal Paris and Unilever's executive vice president of global skin care ([see story](#)).

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