

**Press Release****Bossard Group****Sales third quarter of 2016****Bossard reporting continued growth**

Zug, October 11, 2016 – **The Bossard Group enjoyed significant growth in the third quarter of 2016. Sales rose year-on-year by 4.8 percent to CHF 169.7 million even though conditions remained challenging in some markets. Business in the Americas was particularly dynamic (+13.3 percent) as our cooperation with the leading US electric vehicle manufacturer continues to bear fruit. The European and Asian market regions also contributed to the positive developments we saw in the third quarter. In net terms, the Bossard Group grew sales by 3.0 percent to CHF 513.3 million in the first nine months of the 2016 fiscal year.**

The modest economic growth in Europe continues to shape the development of many industrial enterprises. At the same time, the sales in the third quarter rose by 2.3 percent to CHF 97.9 million in Europe. This uptrend is carried by major markets such as Germany, France and Denmark. In the first nine months of the 2016 fiscal year, sales in Europe climbed by 3.7 percent to CHF 305.6 million. In Switzerland, where the appreciation of the Swiss franc continues to be felt in the industrial sector, demand remained at a low level.

**Thriving America business**

Our America business is in a sharp upswing even though a major customer remains in a dry spell caused by the economic situation. Nevertheless, in the third quarter sales rose to CHF 44.4 million, a plus of 13.3 percent. This momentum can be attributed primarily to our cooperation with the leading US electric vehicle manufacturer whose production volume is growing significantly.

Sales in the first nine months rose by 3.5 percent to CHF 130.8 million. After the first six months, sales had still been below the previous year's level, especially because of a lack of demand from a major customer in the agricultural technology sector.

**Continued success in Asian markets**

The Asia business is showing dynamic growth as a result of the structural investments we made in these markets in previous years and will continue to make. Sales in the third quarter rose by 1.1 percent to CHF 27.4 million. The major drivers are the markets in India and Taiwan where Bossard recorded double-digit growth. Activities in Malaysia and Singapore also contributed to this positive business development. In China, our most important sales market in this region, we recorded slight growth in the third quarter of 2016 after sales had been below the previous year's levels in the first two quarters.

**Confident outlook for the fourth quarter**

The business development we have seen in several major markets confirm the validity of the strategic decisions we made in previous years. It is our assumption that demand will continue to be positive both in Europe and Asia in the months to come. We are particularly confident because of the dynamic demand in America where we expect above-average growth in the fourth quarter as a result of significantly higher production volume from the leading US electric vehicle manufacturer. Taking all these factors into account, we expect sales for the 2016 fiscal year to reach around CHF 675 million, up from CHF 656 million in the 2015 fiscal year.

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Net sales 3rd quarter			change in %	
in CHF million	2016	2015	in CHF	in local currency
Europe	97.9	95.7	2.3%	1.2%
America	44.4	39.2	13.3%	11.6%
Asia	27.4	27.1	1.1%	2.2%
<b>Group</b>	<b>169.7</b>	<b>162.0</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>

Net sales January - September			change in %	
in CHF million	2016	2015	in CHF	in local currency
Europe	305.6	294.7	3.7%	2.1%
America	130.8	126.4	3.5%	0.5%
Asia	76.9	77.3	-0.5%	2.0%
<b>Group</b>	<b>513.3</b>	<b>498.4</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>

**Profile:**

The Bossard Group is a leading international supplier of product solutions and services in industrial fastener and assembly technology. With its comprehensive product range of over 1,000,000 items, technical consulting (engineering) and inventory management (logistics) Bossard has established itself as an end-to-end supplier and partner in industry.

The Group's customers include local and international industrial companies who use Bossard solutions to improve their productivity. With more than 2,000 employees in over 70 locations throughout the world, the Group generated CHF 656.3 million in sales in 2015. Bossard is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.