

**Press Release****Bossard Group****Succession Arrangement with experienced Senior Manager in the Executive Committee**

Zug, June 26, 2018 – **The Board of Directors has appointed Dr. Frank Hilgers as the future manager of the business units in the northern and eastern European economic area. As of May 1, 2019, the 52-year-old will take over this area of responsibility from Dr. Daniel Bossard; in addition to his previous group-wide responsibility for the category management.**

Dr. Frank Hilgers is currently responsible for the global category management and with this for the distribution brands of high-quality fastening solutions. He has been running this growth area very successfully for 6 years, since 2015 as a member of the executive committee. On May 1, 2019, he will additionally take on the responsibility for the core markets of Germany, Scandinavia, Poland and other eastern European growth markets from Dr. Daniel Bossard, who for his part from this date takes over operative management of the Bossard Group from CEO David Dean (see press release of January 29, 2018).

In line with the long-term orientation of the Bossard Group the Board of Directors has decided early on and concluded the succession arrangements that have been made necessary by the planned retirement of longstanding CEO David Dean. The personnel decisions of the Board of Directors stand for continuity and ensure the continuation of the strategy of sustainably profitable growth of the Bossard Group with two internally proven and internationally experienced members of the executive committee.

“Dr. Frank Hilgers has an impressive track record. With his many years of industry and market experience he is the ideal person to drive growth in existing markets via innovative new technologies and services and in market niches,” according to Chairman of the Board Dr. Thomas Schmuckli.

**Brief Profile of Dr. Frank Hilgers:**

Before his appointment to Bossard’s executive committee 2015 in his current role, he had been managing the KVT-Fastening business units within the Bossard Group since 2012.

From 2009 to 2012, he was responsible for distribution, product management and fastening technology division in the business management of KVT-Koenig. From 2007 to 2009, at Continental he held responsibility for all the national organizations of the spare parts business and Key Account Management for the Commercial & Special Vehicle division. From 2004 to 2007, Dr. Frank Hilgers was crucially involved as manager of the group strategy and corporate development of Siemens VDO Automotive in the turnaround and sale of this Siemens division. As Senior Manager for Strategy from 1997 to 2004, Dr. Frank Hilgers managed international large-scale projects at Andersen Consulting (today Accenture) and was responsible for automotive suppliers and the shareholder value initiative in the German-speaking countries.

He graduated in chemistry and gained his PhD at the University of Stuttgart. He also trained at Kellogg School of Management Northwestern University as part of an Executive MBA.

Dr. Frank Hilgers was born on August 26, 1966 and is a German citizen.

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**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, combined with its proven expertise in technical consulting (engineering) and inventory management (logistics), Bossard is one of the established companies in the industry, both as an end-to-end supplier and a partner. In addition, Bossard is a pioneer in developing intelligent production facilities in line with Industry 4.0.

The Group's customers include local and international industrial companies who use Bossard solutions to improve their productivity. With 2,300 employees in 80 locations throughout the world, the Group generated CHF 786.2 million in sales in 2017. Bossard is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.