

Press Release**Bossard Group****Sales in the fourth quarter and whole of 2015****New sales record – Growth in a challenging market environment**

Zug, January 12, 2016 – **The Bossard Group took another step forward in its growth strategy in the 2015 fiscal year. Despite the renewed appreciation of the Swiss franc, net sales rose by 6.2 percent to CHF 656.3 million (+10.1 percent in local currency) – boosting revenues to their highest level ever. A significant portion of this growth came from the acquisitions that Bossard carried out in 2014 and 2015. These transactions enabled the Group to solidify its market position decisively in the US, Scandinavia, Italy and France.**

The appreciation of the Swiss franc in the 2015 fiscal year left its mark on Bossard's sales figures. Excluding the aforementioned acquisitions, Group net sales amounted to CHF 592.1 million in 2015, a decline of 4.2 percent; in local currency, there was a slight decrease of 0.7 percent.

A mixture of highs and lows in Europe

For its European business, Bossard reported sales growth of 4.6 percent in local currency. However, the appreciation of the Swiss franc at the start of the 2015 fiscal year led to a decrease in sales of 2.9 percent to CHF 383.4 million. This situation reflects the persistently difficult demand situation in some European markets, especially in Switzerland. The market position of many Swiss companies has been eroded as a result of the appreciation of the Swiss franc. This development is also reflected in our lower sales figures. However, the acquisition policy made a decisive contribution to Bossard's ability to gain market shares in European countries – as demonstrated by the growth achieved in local currency (both for the year as a whole and in the fourth quarter).

Successes in the American business

In its American business, Bossard grew in a new dimension thanks to the acquisition of Aero-Space Southwest, Inc.: With this acquisition, the Group solidified its presence in key industrial locations in California, Arizona and Mexico. This expansion is clearly shown in the sales figures for the year as a whole. Sales increased by 36.2 percent to CHF 166.2 million (+29.6 percent in local currency). Bossard's American business also grew significantly in the fourth quarter by 35.8 percent to CHF 39.8 million (+37.2 percent in local currency).

In our existing American business, we benefited from an increasingly close collaboration with the largest US manufacturer of electric vehicles, which is reflected in the significantly higher sales volumes. Our second major customer in the US – a company involved in the agricultural technology sector – continues to face weaker demand. Sales in our existing business rose by 2.2 percent to CHF 124.7 million (-2.7 percent in local currency).

Investment policy promotes further growth in Asia

Our investment policy in the past years is paying off in the Asian markets. Thanks to the establishment and expansion of distribution and competence centers in China, Thailand and South Korea, we have consolidated our market presence. Against this backdrop, sales for 2015 as a whole rose by 5.5 percent to CHF 106.7 million (+5.2 percent in local currency). Demand was even stronger in some Asian markets in the fourth quarter. As a result, sales increased by 7.7 percent to CHF 29.4 million (+11.8 percent in local currency). These figures reflect the positive development of new customer business. However, our Chinese business has been flat – a development that many other industrial companies are also experiencing at the moment.

Bossard will present the detailed year-end financial statements and 2015 annual report at its media and analyst conference on March 2, 2016 in Zurich.

Net sales 4th quarter			change in %	
in CHF million	2015	2014	in CHF	in local currency
Europe	88.7	90.5	-2.0%	4.8%
America	39.8	29.3	35.8%	37.2%
Asia	29.4	27.3	7.7%	11.8%
Group	157.9	147.1	7.3%	12.9%

Net sales January - December			change in %	
in CHF million	2015	2014	in CHF	in local currency
Europe	383.4	394.7	-2.9%	4.6%
America	166.2	122.0	36.2%	29.6%
Asia	106.7	101.1	5.5%	5.2%
Group	656.3	617.8	6.2%	10.1%

For further information please contact:

Stephan Zehnder, CFO

Phone +41 41 749 65 86

E-mail investor@bossard.com

www.bossard.com

Profile:

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

Bossard'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 earned CHF 656 million in sales in 2015. Bossard is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.