

Media release, May 8, 2019

Positive result and management change at Gruner Group

For the Gruner Group, 2018 was a year of change and realignment with a positive overall business performance

At Group level, 2018 saw marked sales growth of 8.1% (up CHF 11.3 million to CHF 149.7 million). This was accompanied by a simultaneous rise in order-related costs associated with international activities in the energy sector and miscellaneous major projects. Headcount rose by 41 to 1,038 (+4.1%) as a result of the previous year's positive business performance.

The market environment remained challenging in 2018. While the Gruner Group made positive progress overall, there were significant differences between regions and within the various divisions. The decline in margins on major infrastructure projects that has been a persistent factor for many years remains an important challenge.

New CEO at the helm

The management change that followed the departure of Flavio Casanova, Gruner's CEO for many years who drove forward the Group's long-term development, offered an opportunity to bring fresh impetus to corporate management. Olivier Aebi became the new CEO of the Gruner Group on February 1, 2019, since when he has been responsible for the Group's destiny.

Agile strategy process approved

The Board of Directors approved a new agile strategy in the fall of 2018. The agile strategy process enables Gruner to respond faster to changes in the market. A raft of strategic initiatives will equip the Group to operate successfully in a more challenging business environment and to hold its own successfully in a competitive market.

Digital transformation remains important

Digital transformation will remain an important issue for the Gruner Group. The impact of digitalization, particularly the implementation of integrated processes and new forms of communication, will result in greater efficiency, better quality and new channels for customer interaction.

Gruner Group: development of key financial figures

	2017	2018	Change as %
Consolidated sales (in CHF million, as at Dec. 31, 2018)	138.5	149.7	+8.1
Headcount (as at Dec. 31, 2018)	998	1,038	+4.1

Further information:

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Since early 2017, an entire team at Gruner ensures that we are constantly advancing our digital skills. This means our clients can rest assured that our employees always work with the latest processes and newest technologies.

The Gruner Group, headquartered in Basel, is a byword for construction services that set benchmarks in terms of quality. Founded over 150 years ago, Gruner now has more than 30 locations in Switzerland and all over the world. Expertise, knowledge and experience gained over many years of involvement in complex construction projects both in Switzerland and abroad are what sets the Gruner Group apart.

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