

## Press Release

### **A successful business year despite a challenging market environment**

Bossard looks back on an overall successful business year and this despite the extremely difficult global economic environment in the second half of 2008.

Sales in local currency fell slightly by 1.1 % compared to prior year's record sales and are in line with the forecast communicated in autumn 2008. In Swiss francs sales were down by 5.8 % to CHF 566 million (2007: CHF 601 million).

The preliminary operating profit and net income indicate that the Group will outperform prior year results as forecasted after the first eight months results. The Bossard Group will therefore conclude 2008 with excellent business results, in fact, the best in the company's history.

The final financial results and annual report for 2008 will be published in time for the financial analysts' and media conference to be held in Zurich on March 11, 2009.

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Zug, January 27, 2009

#### **Company profile:**

Bossard is a fastening technology and logistics company operating globally. Its full-service package focuses on fasteners and includes worldwide sales, technical and engineering support, and inventory management. Its customer base is made up of local and multinational industrial companies. The Group has over 1,600 employees in more than 70 locations worldwide.