

Press Release

Bossard Group

Announcement of Q1 sales 2010

Strong increase in demand in Q1 2010

After the market environment improved further in the fourth quarter of 2009 and demand was up slightly, the positive trend continued throughout the first quarter of 2010. This is reflected in above average sales growth of 24 % compared to the fourth quarter of 2009.

For the first three months of the current business year Bossard Group reported sales of CHF 118.6 million. Compared to the prior year this is an increase of 11,3 % in local currency. In Swiss francs sales were up 7,7 %.

Europe

The recovery of demand in Europe, which commenced in the second half of 2009, continued in 2010. Sales in the first quarter of 2010 reached CHF 67 million, an increase against the third and fourth quarter of 2009 by more than 22 %. Although growth rates in the various markets varied, the uptrend in demand is noticeable throughout Europe.

America

After sales stabilized at a low level in the fourth quarter of 2009, the market environment also improved in America in Q1 2010. Sales for the first three months of the current business year increased slightly and amounted to USD 31 million. Compared to the last two quarters of 2009 sales rose by an average of almost 36 %.

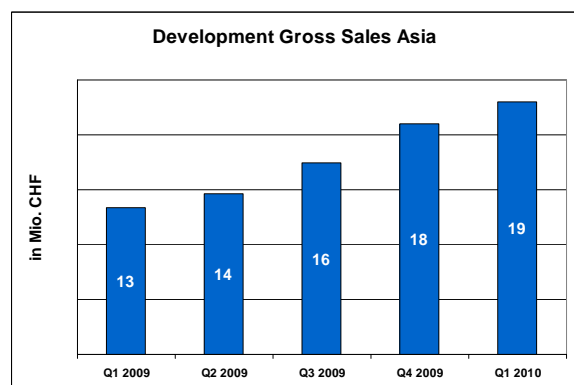
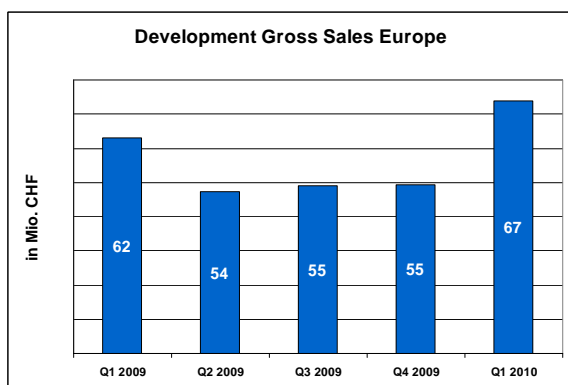
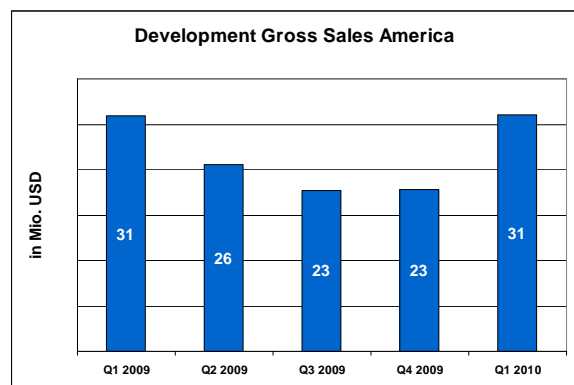
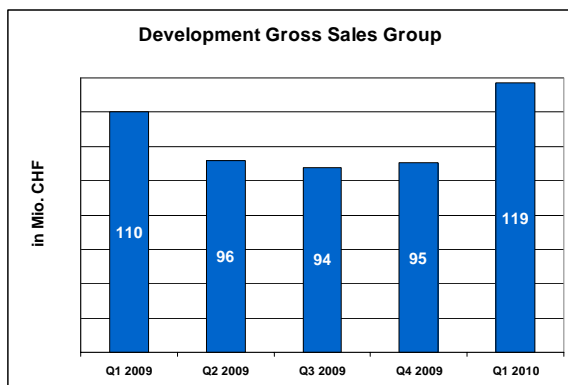
Asia

Demand in Asia improved steadily during the course of 2009. Sales in the first quarter of 2010 totaled CHF 18.8 million, a year-on-year sales increase of 44,6 %. All the countries contributed to this exceptional sales growth.

Prospects

Demand developed much more strongly than anticipated in the first three months of 2010. Should this trend continue, sales growth compared to the prior year would be in the region of 6 – 15 %. The higher demand overall is also reflected in the procurement market, where supplier prices have risen further and delivery times become longer.

Gross sales 1st quarter			change in %	
in CHF million	2010	2009	in CHF	in local currency
Europe	67.0	61.6	8,8%	9,5%
America	32.8	35.5	-7,7%	0,2%
Asia	18.8	13.0	44,6%	48,8%
Group	118.6	110.1	7,7%	11,3%



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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 1,400 employees in more than 50 locations worldwide and reports sales of 395 million Swiss francs. Bossard is listed on the Swiss Exchange.