

Press Release

Bossard Group

Sales for Q4 and for fiscal year 2010

Sales development above expectations

The market environment in Europe and America continued to develop well in the fourth quarter of 2010. Growth rates in both regions were above the average for the year so far. There was continuing strong growth in Asia although, as expected, it did not reach the extraordinarily high levels recorded the first nine months. Sales in the fourth quarter amounted to CHF 114,1 million, up on Q4 of the prior year by 25.8 percent in local currencies. Expressed in Swiss francs, sales were up 19.7 percent.

In the 2010 business year Bossard Group reached total sales of CHF 477.6 million, an increase of 25.2 percent in local currencies year on year. Thus sales for the year were higher than the anticipated total announced in the third quarter. All three sales regions reported sales growth in excess of 20 percent. Given the strong Swiss francs, growth in the reporting currency was 4.3 percentage points lower and amounted to 20.9 percent.

Europe

In the fourth quarter sales in Europe reached CHF 63.2 million, an increase of 23.2 percent in local currencies. On account of the weaker Euro, sales growth expressed in Swiss francs was 15.5 percent. Sales for 2010 totaled CHF 261.3 million; in Swiss francs 16.4 percent higher than in the prior year or, in local currencies 21.4 percent. All countries reported double digit growth rates.

America

In America, too, demand was very satisfactory in the fourth quarter and is reflected in a 32.7 percent increase compared to the prior year. For the entire year sales reached USD 123.5 million, up 21.1 percent on 2009.

Asia

Q4 sales in Asia totaled CHF 21.5 million a year-on-year increase in local currency of 24.1 percent. Compared to the prior year, sales in 2010 rose by 46.1 percent to CHF 87.5 million. In local currency the sales increase was marginally higher reaching 46.2 percent. Growth in all the relevant countries was 30 percent or more. Korea reported the highest growth rate of almost 90 percent.

The strong sales growth in 2010 also impacted on profit. As already announced, consolidated net income will be noticeably higher than the record result of CHF 32.4 million dating back to 2008.

The year-end figures, the annual report and the Group's prospects for 2011 will be presented at the meeting for financial analysts and the press conference to be held in Zurich, Switzerland, on March 9, 2011.

Gross sales 4rd quarter			Change in %	
In CHF million	2010	2009	in CHF	in local currency
Europe	63.2	54.7	15.5%	23.2%
America	29.4	23.0	27.8%	32.7%
Asia	21.5	17.6	22.2%	24.1%
Group	114.1	95.3	19.7%	25.8%

Gross sales January - December			Change in %	
In CHF million	2010	2009	in CHF	in local currency
Europe	261.3	224.5	16.4%	21.4%
America	128.8	110.7	16.4%	21.1%
Asia	87.5	59.9	46.1%	46.2%
Group	477.6	395.1	20.9%	25.2%

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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 1,500 employees in more than 50 locations worldwide and reported sales of 478 million Swiss francs in the year 2010. Bossard is listed on the Swiss Exchange.