

Press Release

Bossard Group

Announcement of sales in Q3 2011

Noticeable slowdown of the economy

Bossard Group's sales development increasingly reflects the forecasts over the past few months of a general slowdown of growth as well as declining PMIs worldwide. Whilst Europe and America continued to report positive growth rates in local currencies, sales in Asia were down 7.2 percent year on year. Declining global demand has had an impact on our export-oriented customers in this region, particularly those in the electronics sector. Group sales for the third quarter of 2011 totaled CHF 109.3 million, an increase of 3.9 percent in local currencies. However, with the strong appreciation of the Swiss franc against most other currencies, sales in the third quarter expressed in the Group's accounting currency were down 8.5 percent year on year.

In the first nine months of the current business year Bossard Group reached sales of CHF 361.7 million. Compared to the prior year this is an increase of 11 percent in local currency. Given the noticeably altered exchange-rate situation, however, sales expressed in Swiss francs were down 0.5 percent year on year.

Prospects

With the latest market developments and taking into consideration that the Swiss franc is noticeably stronger than it was in 2010, we anticipate sales for the entire year in the region of CHF 460 million and net income of some CHF 40 million.

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Gross sales 3rd quarter			Change in %	
In CHF million	2011	2010	in CHF	in local currency
Europe	63.2	64.2	-1.6%	4.9%
America	27.2	30.9	-12.0%	10.7%
Asia	18.9	24.3	-22.2%	-7.2%
Group	109.3	119.4	-8.5%	3.9%

Gross sales January - September			Change in %	
In CHF million	2011	2010	in CHF	in local currency
Europe	206.7	198.1	4.3%	10.8%
America	94.0	99.4	-5.4%	14.7%
Asia	61.0	66.0	-7.6%	6.3%
Group	361.7	363.5	-0.5%	11.0%

Profile:

Bossard is a leading supplier of intelligent solutions in the industrial fastening technology sector. Its full service package focuses on fasteners and comprises worldwide sales, technical and engineering support, and inventory management.

With its solutions Bossard helps its customers – industrial companies operating locally and internationally – to achieve higher productivity. The Group has some 1,560 employees in more than 50 locations worldwide and reported sales of CHF 478 million in 2010. Bossard is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.