

**HOCHDORF Group Press Release: Board of Directors strengthened in key areas**

## **Nominations for the HOCHDORF Group Board of Directors**

*Hochdorf, 12 March 2014* – Key replacements have been sought to cover the resignations of **Hans-Rudolf Schurter, Chairman of the HOCHDORF Group Board of Directors, and board member Rolf Schweiger.** The Board of Directors has also added an extra member, bringing the top management team to seven. **Dr. Walter Locher, Niklaus Sauter and Professor Holger Till will all be recommended as new members of the Board of Directors to the Annual General Meeting on 9 May 2014. There will also be an application to elect Josef Leu, current Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, as the new Chairman of the Board of Directors.**

Josef Leu has been a member of the HOCHDORF Group Board of Directors since 2002. He has served as Vice Chairman for nine years and is also a member of the Audit Committee. He has gained excellent knowledge of the company from the commitment he has made over the past twelve years.

### **Walter Locher, Doctor of Law**

Dr. Walter Locher was born in 1955 and is a Swiss national, resident in St. Gallen. As a lawyer he is a key replacement for Rolf Schweiger on the Board of Directors. The independent lawyer runs his own legal practice. He has represented the FDP party on the cantonal council of St. Gallen since 2003.

### **Niklaus Sauter**

Niklaus Sauter was born in 1962 and is a Swiss national, resident in Weinfelden. He led the international Belimed Group as CEO until April 2012. He currently runs Sauter Management GmbH, an independent consultancy company specialising in strategy and business development and providing support in investment projects. He has long-standing business experience in the area of operational management – both nationally and internationally.

### **Professor Holger Karl-Herbert Till**

Professor Holger Till was born in 1962 and is a German national, resident in Graz. Professor Till brings a wealth of knowledge in the area of infant formula to the Group. He currently leads the Department of Paediatric and Adolescent Surgery at the Medical University of Graz. Since October 2013 he has also been Chairman of the University Clinic for Paediatric and Adolescent Surgery at the Medical University. He previously worked as a doctor in Germany and in China (Hong Kong).

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The HOCHDORF Group, based in Hochdorf, achieved a consolidated gross sales revenue of CHF 376.1 million in 2013. It is one of the leading foodstuff companies in Switzerland, employing 362 staff as of 31.12.13 (338 full-time staff). Made from natural ingredients such as milk and wheat germ, HOCHDORF products have been contributing to our health and wellbeing since 1895 – from babies to senior citizens. Its customers include the food industry and the wholesale and retail sectors and its products are sold in around 80 countries. The shares are traded on the SIX Swiss Exchange in Zurich (ISIN CH0024666528).

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