

Media release

Flamatt, July 20, 2016

COMET Group appoints general contractor for its extension – construction to begin on schedule in July

The COMET Group has awarded HRS Real Estate Ltd the contract to build its extension in Flamatt as general contractor. Construction work starts in July 2016 and is scheduled to be completed in summer 2018. The production building will create space for the growing X-ray and ebeam business, and for more than 250 additional employees.

Preparatory works for the extension at the COMET Group's headquarters in Flamatt are on track. The completion of the preliminary work for the car park puts in place the construction conditions required for building work to start.

The COMET Group has engaged HRS Real Estate Ltd as general contractor to build the extension. The owner-managed company, with headquarters in Frauenfeld, is a leading Swiss construction service provider. It employs 280 people at 13 locations in Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein.

In undertaking this construction, the Flamatt-based technology group is extending the heavily utilized production capacity at its headquarters by 17,000 square meters to more than 37,000 square meters and creating urgently needed space for the growing X-ray and ebeam business. Moreover, it will provide space for more than 250 additional employees and thereby create the basis for further planned growth.

By making this investment of some CHF 60 million, the COMET Group is not least reaffirming its clear commitment to Switzerland and the canton of Fribourg. Based on the current status of planning, the building will be ready for use in mid-2018.

Revenue has almost quadrupled since 2002

Since moving into its headquarters in Flamatt 13 years ago, the COMET Group has grown from a Berne-based company with 230 employees into an international technology group that now has 13 sites and some 1,100 employees worldwide. In that time, its revenue has almost quadrupled from CHF 74.3 million in 2002 to CHF 282.3 million in 2015. The extension of the production site at its Flamatt headquarters will create the basis for this internationally active company to strengthen its market position even further.

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HRS Real Estate Ltd

HRS Real Estate Ltd, a subsidiary of HRS Holding Ltd, is among the primary site and real estate developers, as well as one of the leading general and full-service contractors in Switzerland. The owner-run company is based in Frauenfeld and employs around 280 people at 13 locations in Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein. Its most prestigious reference projects include the AFG Arena in St. Gallen, the Tamedia building in Zurich, the Home of FIFA and the FIFA World Football Museum in Zurich, the new Messe Basel halls, the PostFinance headquarters in Berne, the Tissot Arena in Biel/Bienne and the EPFL (Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology) Swiss Tech Convention Center in Lausanne.

COMET Group

The COMET Group is a globally leading, innovative Swiss technology company with a focus on X-ray, high-frequency and ebeam technologies. Using high-quality high-tech components and systems, we make it possible for customers from various industries to improve the quality of their products and make them both more efficient and more environmentally friendly. The innovative solutions under the COMET, YXLON and ebeam brands are used in applications such as material and safety testing, the coating and treatment of surfaces, and contact-free sterilization. Headquartered in Flamatt, Switzerland, COMET AG is now represented in all global markets. We employ around 1,100 people worldwide, including some 370 in Switzerland. In addition to production facilities in China, Germany, Denmark, Switzerland and the USA, we also maintain various subsidiaries in the USA, China, Japan and Korea. COMET's stock (COTN) is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.