
NEWS RELEASE

5 January 2000

Schaffner Holding AG 2000 Annual General Meeting

Positive outlook for Schaffner Group

The 4th Annual General Meeting of Schaffner Holding AG on 5 January 2000 in Solothurn was attended by 221 shareholders, representing 18.6% of the share capital and votes. Dr. Alex Oechslin, Chairman of the Board of Directors and CEO, expressed his great satisfaction at how the Schaffner Group had developed in the 1998/99 business year. Sales of test equipment increased by 28.1% to reach a new high, and growth in the components unit was back in positive territory again by the fourth quarter. In spite of the only slight increase in overall sales, both operating income and net profit rose substantially and reached new highs. Alex Oechslin pointed out that the good financial results could only be achieved thanks to the very quick and determined adjustment of costs and structures to the temporarily unfavourable market environment in the components area.

All proposals by the Board of Directors accepted

The Annual General Meeting accepted all the proposals of the Board of Directors with an overwhelming majority:

- The minutes of the 3rd Annual General Meeting of 12 January 1999 were approved.
 - The annual report, financial statements and consolidated financial statements for the 1998/99 business year were approved. The Report of the Auditors was acknowledged.
 - Schaffner Holding's disposable retained earnings of CHF 12.0 million will be applied to distributing a gross dividend of CHF 4 per registered share, which is one third higher than in the previous year. The remaining CHF 9.5 million will be carried forward to new account. The dividend will be paid as per 10 January 2000, less the 35% Swiss withholding tax.
 - The acts of the Board of Directors were ratified for the 1998/99 business year.
 - PricewaterhouseCoopers AG, Zurich, was appointed to serve for another year as Statutory Auditors and Group Auditors.
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Optimistic for the new business year

Speaking about the prospects for the 1999/2000 business year, Alex Oechslin declared that he was very optimistic. Sales, operating income, and net profit should all increase substantially and set a new record again. The new business year has begun well, with order bookings growing 37% in the first three months (i.e. October to December) over the previous year's first quarter.

The Schaffner Group is the world's leading provider of products and services in the area of electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), which is becoming more and more important with the ever increasing use of electronics. Schaffner offers EMC components for the protection of electronic devices and systems as well as their environment against electromagnetic interference, laboratory instruments for the simulation and measurement of electromagnetic interference, automatic test systems for electronic sub-assemblies as well as a variety of EMC services. Schaffner's products and services are used by several thousand customers in industrial electronics, telecommunications, instrumentation and controls, EDP and office automation, medical technology and numerous other industries. In the 1998/99 business year the Schaffner Group recorded sales of CHF 150.7 million and employed some 1,240 people. The shares of Schaffner Holding AG have been trading on the Swiss Exchange since June 1998.

For any questions in connection with this press release please contact: Alex Oechslin, CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors, or Daniel Hofer, CFO, phone +41 32 681 66 26.
