

St.Gallen, 20 December 2013

Media release

Helvetia increases its share in Nationale Suisse

The Helvetia Group announces that the Helvetia Beteiligungen AG has taken over a share package from the Gebäudeversicherung Bern (GVB) in the Swiss National-Versicherungs-Gesellschaft AG (Nationale Suisse) amounting to 5.27 per cent. With this, Helvetia Beteiligungen AG is now in the possession of a share of Nationale Suisse of a total of 12.70 per cent. Together with the Patria Cooperative, which holds a further 5.00 per cent, the Helvetia Group now exceeds the registration threshold of 15 per cent with its share of 17.70 per cent. Silence was agreed concerning the purchase price. With this purchase, Helvetia is reinforcing its position as a core shareholder.

This media release is also available online at www.helvetia.com/en/media.

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About Helvetia Group

In over 150 years, Helvetia Group has grown from a number of Swiss and foreign insurance companies into a successful insurance group that does business everywhere in Europe. Today, Helvetia has branch offices in Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Spain, Italy and France, and routes some of its investment and financing activities through subsidiaries and fund companies in Luxembourg and Jersey. The Group is headquartered in St. Gallen in Switzerland. Helvetia is active in the life, property and casualty and reinsurance business, and almost 5,200 employees provide services to more than 2.7 million customers. With a business volume of CHF 7.0 billion, Helvetia posted a net profit of CHF 333.1 million in the 2012 financial year. The Helvetia Holding registered share is traded on the SIX Swiss Exchange under the symbol HELN.

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The purpose of this document is to inform the shareholders of Helvetia Group and the public about the increase in the shareholding in Nationale Suisse. This document does not constitute an offer or a solicitation to exchange, buy or subscribe to securities, nor does it constitute an offering circular as defined by Art. 652a of the Swiss Code of Obligations or a listing prospectus as defined by the listing rules of the SIX Swiss Exchange. Should Helvetia Group in the future make one or more capital increases, investors should make their decision to buy or to subscribe for new shares or other securities solely based on the relevant offering circular. This document is also available in German, French and Italian. The German version is binding.