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MEDIA INFORMATION

EMS: A new repurchase of shares

The board of EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG has decided, to realize also in 1998 the distribution of the profit of approx. CHF 200 mio. by way of buy back of shares and to reduce thereafter its share capital. A corresponding offer to the shareholders will be announced on May 6, 1998 and be valid until May 11, 1998. Since 1992 until today, EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG surrendered totally CHF 1'339 mio. by means of buy back of shares, reduction of nominal value and dividends to shareholders.

The consolidated statement of the EMS group for the year 1997 has already been published on February 20, 1998. In compliance with such statement, the EMS group (its companies are united in the EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG) achieved for the year 1997 an increase in the net sales by 8.5% to CHF 1'026 mio. (945) and a rise of the net income by 31% to CHF 300 mio. (229). The earnings per share enhanced over proportionally by 44% to CHF 549.75 (381.85). The return on equity is thus 32.7% (24.1%).

The EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG, which - contrary to the consolidated statement of the EMS group - closes its business year on April 30, shows for the company fiscal year 1997/98 an expected net disposable retained earnings of CHF 214 mio.