



## **MEDIA INFORMATION**

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### **Integration of AXANTIS into the EMS Group**

As previously stated, EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG, Domat/Ems (EMS) will take over AXANTIS HOLDING AG, Riedholz (AXANTIS) now that EMS will hold 76.2 % of all AXANTIS shares following the expiry of the offer period. EMS will hence also assume management responsibility for AXANTIS. The board of directors of AXANTIS has in the meantime announced that it will hold an extraordinary general meeting on 15 March 2001 to reappoint the board of directors. The members of the AXANTIS board will tender their resignation from the board at this general meeting. EMS will propose Christoph Blocher, Peter Matter and Albert Sommerauer as new members of the AXANTIS board, all of which are current members of the EMS board of directors.

EMS is of the opinion that the reorientation policy focusing on higher-grade cellulose products pursued by AXANTIS over the past years is basically sound. EMS will continue this reorientation of AXANTIS in a swift and target-oriented process. AXANTIS will operate as a fully consolidated division within the EMS Group.

### **Future legal and capital structure of AXANTIS**

In respect of the future legal and capital structure of AXANTIS, EMS is currently examining a number of options. As it has now become clear that EMS will hold a majority interest in AXANTIS, the focus is on the legal integration of AXANTIS by EMS and on its delisting. A share repurchase is not an option for EMS in this context, and EMS has to date not taken any decision regarding a possible special dividend.