



Herrliberg, 27 April 2001

MEDIA INFORMATION

EMS Group: first quarter as anticipated

3-month report 2001 (January to March 2001)

I. Summary

To date, the EMS Group with worldwide activities in the fields of **Performance Polymers, Fine Chemicals** and **Engineering** and companies combined within EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG has always published regular 4-month reports. As of the current year, and in conformity with IAS requirements, EMS will announce the quarterly sales figures as well as, on a half-yearly and yearly basis, the consolidated sales and income results.

In the first 3 months of 2001 the EMS Group boosted consolidated **net sales revenues** in its traditional field by 3.8 % over the previous year to CHF 303 million (292 million). If the takeover of the Axantis group – effected retroactively per beginning of 2001 – is taken into account, the increase amounts to 14.9 % to CHF 335 million. Development of both sales and income thus lies within the anticipated scope.

In particular as a result of the acquisition of Axantis, EMS expects double-digit sales growth and operating income (EBIT) on the level of the previous year for 2001 as a whole.

II. Development of sales revenues for the EMS Group, January to March 2001, compared with previous year's results

Net sales revenues IAS, in CHF millions	2001 (Jan-March)	2000 (Jan-March)	% dev. prev.yr
Total EMS Group	335	292	+ 14.9%
- Performance Polymers	256	219	+ 17.2%
- Fine Chemicals	50	51	- 1.2%
- Engineering	29	22	+ 29.5%
EMS group without Axantis	303	292	+ 3.8%

In the **PERFORMANCE POLYMERS** business field, the core products Engineering Thermoplastics, Technical Fibres & Adhesives are developing well and slightly above expectations. EMS-TOGO (protection, sealing and adhesive systems for the automobile industry) is feeling the drop in vehicle output, particularly in the USA, and business is correspondingly sluggish. World market prices for cellulose have decayed further; this is having an impact on newly acquired Axantis, which is part of the Performance Polymers division. As management responsibility for this new company was only assumed on 15 March 2001, no substantial information on future reorientation measures can be given at this point in time.

In the **FINE CHEMICALS** business field, EMS-PRIMID (leading manufacturer of environment-friendly PMCs) is developing well in Europe in particular, although the targets set for business in the USA have not, as a consequence of the economic slowdown there, been fully achieved to date. The negative trend at business unit EMS-DOTTIKON has been reversed. The fact that its main volume of orders is situated in the attractive pharmaceuticals field means the probability of solid and consistent growth over the coming years is increasing.

In the **ENGINEERING** field, EMS-PATVAG (manufacturer of airbag trigger systems) is developing in a most positive manner. The focus is on expansion of production capacities, the relevant projects are proceeding as planned. Opportunities on the currently processed European market remain good, and the US market will be tackled once the capacity expansion process has been completed. INVENTA-FISCHER (specialising in polyester and polyamide plant construction) reports a consistently good order situation and excellent capacity utilisation.

III. Outlook

Two-digit sales growth will continue throughout the remaining months of the 2001 business year. As the reorientation process at Axantis has just begun, the EMS Group operating income will not reflect the growth in sales. It will however reach previous year's levels.

The scheduled investment volume of CHF 90 million for new plants and products will be applied as planned, and financed in full from cash flow.

From a current viewpoint, **finance income** should remain within the scope of the previous year.

IV. Schedule

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| - General meeting | 18 August 2001 |
| - Half-yearly results 2001 | end of August 2001 |
| - Quarterly report 2001 | end of October 2001 |
| - Annual results 2001 | March 2002 |