

Herrliberg, April 5, 2019

MEDIA INFORMATION

First-quarter report 2019 (January - March 2019)

EMS Group:

- **Positive development of business**
- **Strengthened market position in America**

Course of business January - March 2019

The EMS Group, with its companies combined in the EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG, is globally active in the business area **High Performance Polymers** and **Specialty Chemicals**. In the first three months of 2019, **net sales** rose by 1.5% compared to previous year to reach CHF 604 million (595). Net sales in local currencies rose by 2.9% compared to previous year.

Following a progressive slowing of the economy during the second half of 2018, the general confidence of consumers and companies regarding further political and economic developments was affected and the consumer mood was constrained. A significant slow-down in demand for global consumer and investment goods was particularly apparent in China and Europe. The automotive industry showed a substantial decline.

Despite this clearly unfavourable market environment, EMS was able to further increase net sales. EMS prepared particularly early and quickly for a slowing of the economy. Higher performing and innovative applications were developed and rapidly launched in the global markets. In America, sales and development were expanded significantly and market positions strengthened. Within the framework of a global efficiency programme, EMS implemented 470 efficiency measures which are now showing their full effect.

Development of net sales January - March 2019

In million CHF	2019	%-dev. prev. year	2018
High Performance Polymers			
Net sales	530	+1.8%	521
- In local currencies		+3.3%	
Specialty Chemicals			
Net sales	74	-1.1%	74
- In local currencies		+0.1%	
EMS Group			
Net sales	604	+1.5%	595
- In local currencies		+2.9%	

In the main area of **High Performance Polymers**, EMS continued to successfully achieve growth with speciality products. Innovative solutions, providing customers with higher performance at lower cost and reduced weight, led to significant new business and strengthened market positions. Business in the American market developed especially well.

The secondary area **Specialty Chemicals** developed as expected. Like the business area of High Performance Polymers, it also showed a negative currency effect compared to previous year.

Outlook

For the business year **2019**, EMS continues to expect a restrained and unsettled economy. Especially in the second quarter, unresolved political and economic relations among major powers will continue and will affect the general customer mood.

EMS however, is confident with regard to development of its own business. The successful strategy of worldwide growth with speciality products in the area of high-

performance polymers will be continued. Global markets will be continually exploited with new and innovative products and applications and market positions further strengthened. With its innovative and customer-oriented development work, EMS is well prepared to realise market opportunities quickly and flexibly.

For 2019, EMS continues to expect net sales and net operating income (EBIT) at least on the previous year's level.

Schedule

EMS reports quarterly on net sales and publishes half-year and final-year reports on net sales and income.

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| - Media conference / Half-year report 2019 | July 12, 2019 |
| - Annual General Meeting 2019 | August 10, 2019 |
| - Third-quarter report 2019 (net sales) | October 2019 |
| - Media conference / Annual Results 2019 | February 2020 |
| - First-quarter report 2020 (net sales) | April 2020 |

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