

## Media Release 7/2015

# Change in the Group Executive Committee –Strengthening of the Board of Directors

Gränichen/Switzerland, 13 August 2015 – The Board of Directors of the Zehnder Group, an international provider of solutions for a comfortable, healthy and energy-efficient indoor climate, announces the appointment of René Grieder as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Member of the Group Executive Committee with immediate effect. He succeeds Josef Brügger, who will be taking on a new area of responsibility within the Zehnder Group. The Board of Directors has also decided to strengthen the board and will submit a request to add Jörg Walther and Milva Zehnder at the General Meeting of Shareholders on 6 April 2016.

The Board of Directors has agreed to the personal request of Josef Brügger to release him on health grounds with immediate effect from his responsibilities as Chief Financial Officer. Josef Brügger has worked for the Zehnder Group since 2001 and been CFO since the beginning of 2013. He will take on a new role within the Zehnder Group at a later date.

Hans-Peter Zehnder, Chairman of the Board of Directors, commented: "The Board of Directors and I very much regret that Josef Brügger has made this decision, but fully understand his motives. I would like to thank him for his tremendous commitment and his varied and valuable contributions in the development of the Zehnder Group."

The Board of Directors is pleased that the position of CFO will be taken over by René Grieder, a very competent successor from within the Group.



René Grieder (born 1979, Swiss national) has been part of the Zehnder Group since February 2009. He initially worked in Group Reporting and Tax affairs and became Head of the Group Controlling in 2011. René Grieder graduated as a business economist from the Hochschule für Wirtschaft Luzern (Lucerne School of Business) and completed a Master's degree in Corporate Finance at the Institut für Finanzdienstleistungen Zug (Institute for Financial Services Zug). Before joining the Zehnder Group, René Grieder worked for Pilatus Aircraft and Emhart Glass in a variety of roles within Finance and Controlling.

The Board of Directors wishes René Grieder and Josef Brügger every success with the new challenges they will face.

The Zehnder Group Board of Directors has also decided to strengthen the board and will submit a request to add Jörg Walther and Milva Zehnder as additional members at the General Meeting of Shareholders on 6 April 2016.



Jörg Walther (born 1961, Swiss national) is a partner at Schärer Rechtsanwälte (Schärer Attorneys at Law) in Aarau, Switzerland. He specialises in advising and representing Swiss and international companies in all legal matters regarding: organisation, management, compliance and control; competition, cartel, corporate, commercial, business and stock exchange law.

Prior to joining Schärer Rechtsanwälte, he worked in executive positions as Global Head Legal M&A and Antitrust at Novartis; Group Vice President M&A within the strategy and business development at ABB; legal advisor for ABB Schweiz AG and for the Danzas Group. In his last role, he worked as General Counsel and member of the Group Executive Committee at Resun AG, a joint venture of leading Swiss energy producers.

Jörg Walther is a licensed lawyer in Switzerland and studied law, European financial law and business economics (MBA) at the universities of Zurich, St. Gallen and Chicago. He was a lecturer of company law at the University of Zurich and is president and member of several Boards of Directors at listed and privately-owned companies.



Milva Zehnder (born 1985, Swiss national) is an attorney at law and notary who works for Schweiger Advokatur / Notariat (Schweiger Attorneys at Law and Notaries) in Zug, Switzerland. She specialises in advising and representing clients in the fields of planning, building and real estate law. She also works as a notary in the area of family, inheritance and corporate law.

Milva Zehnder studied law at the University of Lucerne and at Fordham University, School of Law in New York City, USA. During her studies she worked as a legal associate for a large law firm in Baden, Switzerland. Following graduation, she worked as a trainee for her current employer and in 2012 was awarded a licence to practise as a lawyer and notary in the canton of Zug, Switzerland. Since 2013 Milva Zehnder has

worked as a lawyer in Switzerland and as a notary in the canton of Zug. She is Hans-Peter Zehnder's daughter.

With the election of Jörg Walther, the Board gains valuable legal expertise in international business and corporate law as well as in the area of compliance. Milva Zehnder ensures the long-term continuity of family representation within Zehnder Group's Board of Directors.

#### **Forthcoming dates**

Annual turnover announcement 201515 January 2016Annual results 2015 and Media / Analyst Conference4 March 2016Annual General Meeting6 April 2016

### Contact

Dr Hans-Peter Zehnder Chairman of the Board of Directors Zehnder Group AG, 5722 Gränichen, Switzerland Tel. +41 62 855 15 01; hans-peter.zehnder@zehndergroup.com

For this and further information about Zehnder Group, please visit www.zehndergroup.com. This media release is published in German and English. The German version is binding.

#### **Company profile**

Zehnder Group provides everything you need to create a comfortable, healthy and energyefficient indoor climate.

Zehnder Group develops, produces and markets radiators, ceiling-mounted heating & cooling systems as well as ventilation and air cleaning systems. Products and systems are sold under various popular brand names. Zehnder Group is among the market leaders in its business areas.

Its most important sales region is Europe. In addition, Zehnder Group operates in China and North America. Its products are manufactured in modern factories in Europe and abroad. Zehnder Group employs approximately 3,200 people worldwide.

The company's registered shares A (Valor 27 653 461) are listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange. The unlisted registered shares B are held by members of the Zehnder family and persons closely associated with them.