

A photograph of a light-colored wooden table with a simple, modern design, resting on a vibrant purple carpet. The table's legs are visible, and the carpet's texture is clearly shown.

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

# CONNECT.

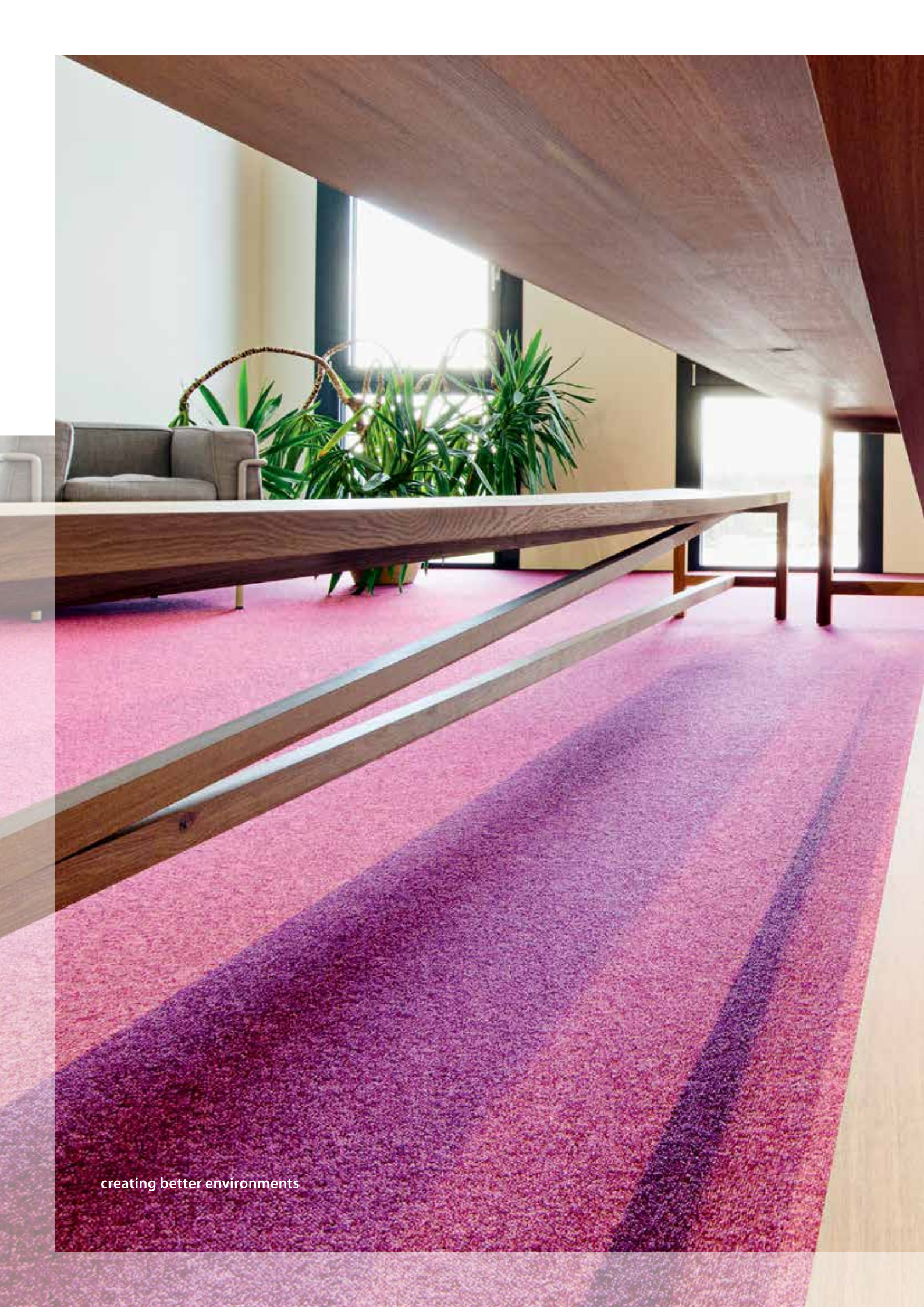
CHARACTER  
RESPONSIBILITY

FORBO – IN EVERYDAY LIFE

flooring. movement.







creating better environments





# CHARACTER.

Individual needs and requirements deserve individual flooring solutions. We create spaces that have a special and individual character with flooring that meets the toughest demands in terms of functionality, materials and finishing.



FLOORING SYSTEMS



# RESPON- SIBILITY.

The production of foodstuffs demands absolutely uncompromising standards of hygiene – at every step of the way. Our high-quality conveyor belts are fine-tuned to each manufacturer's individual requirements. They not only guarantee the highest quality and hygiene but also ensure that delicate goods are conveyed carefully.



forbo

MOVEMENT SYSTEMS





**This E. Schneider**  
Executive Chairman

**Stephan Bauer**  
CEO

‘The strong Swiss franc provided a major challenge for Forbo in the 2015 business year. We nevertheless extended our product portfolio in specific areas in both divisions and invested further in the development of high-end quality products. Sales in local currencies rose slightly as did currency-adjusted earnings, and earnings per share in Swiss francs increased once again.’

# TO OUR SHAREHOLDERS

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

In the 2015 business year Forbo had to deal with major challenges. The strong Swiss franc had a discernible impact on the company's results. The generally subdued business performance in the first half of 2015 did not change appreciably in the second half of the year. In the year under review, the two divisions reported divergent results. Movement Systems again increased sales and earnings considerably, whereas Flooring Systems could not match the previous year's results even on a currency-adjusted basis despite increased marketing activities and new offerings in the product portfolio.

In the wake of the Swiss National Bank discontinuing its euro minimum exchange rate in January 2015, both sales and earnings in the corporate currency were strongly impacted by exchange rates. The Swiss franc, which firmed significantly against most of the currencies important for our business such as the euro, the pound sterling and the Japanese yen, clearly left its mark when local currency results were translated into the corporate currency. The foreign currency translation effect shaved a good CHF 100 million off sales and about CHF 18 million off operating profit (EBIT).

Despite these challenging conditions, both divisions expanded their already attractive product portfolios by adding new innovations, and we invested further in the development of high-end products and continued to strengthen our distribution channels, especially in growth markets. Owing to the ongoing situation on the foreign exchange markets, we initiated a series of additional cost optimization measures in order to partially offset the impact of the strong Swiss franc by an even better operating performance.

## Sales in local currencies slightly higher

### **Divisions report divergent sales results**

In the year under review, Forbo reported net sales of CHF 1,139.1 million (previous year: CHF 1,226.8 million), a gain of 1.1% in local currencies. Owing to the very negative currency effects, this is equivalent to a decline of 7.1% in the corporate currency.

Net sales of Flooring Systems decreased by 1.1% in local currency terms to CHF 791.3 million (previous year: CHF 884.6 million). Translated into the corporate currency, the decline came to 10.5% owing to the negative currency effects. Challenging conditions in core markets that are crucial for our business led to a slight decline in sales, and the geographic weighting of business operations exacerbated the negative currency impact.

Movement Systems reported net sales of CHF 347.8 million (previous year: CHF 342.2 million), an encouraging increase of 6.7% in local currencies. Translated into the corporate currency, the increase fell to 1.6% owing to negative currency effects. All regions contributed to the solid growth in local currencies. The division's strong presence in growth markets was a major factor in the positive performance.

## Earnings performance spoiled by negative currency effects

### **Currency-adjusted earnings slightly higher year-on-year**

Adjusted for currency effects, earnings increased slightly.

In addition to focusing on efficiency gains and continuous optimization of processes and procedures, we initiated a number of measures designed to ensure our future growth.

In the Flooring Systems division, we expanded our broad portfolio with new designs and embossing, launched the establishment of production for a new product group – homogeneous vinyl floor coverings – and targeted distribution channels for further growth.

In the Movement Systems division, too, we again launched a number of technologically demanding developments with added value for our customers; in addition, we increased and optimized our range of services and created additional production capacity.

### **Slight increase in operating profit margins**

Owing to the strong Swiss franc, operating profit before depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) decreased by 5.6% to CHF 174.8 million (previous year: CHF 185.1 million). Group operating profit (EBIT) declined by 4.4% to CHF 142.8 million (previous year: CHF 149.4 million).

Currency-adjusted, both EBITDA and EBIT showed a slight increase compared with the previous year.

The EBITDA margin was up by 0.2 percentage points to 15.3% (previous year: 15.1%). The EBIT margin rose by 0.3 percentage points to 12.5% (previous year: 12.2%).

## Currency-adjusted Group profit slightly higher than previous year

### **Group profit dragged down by negative currency effects**

Owing to the strong Swiss franc and to financial income of CHF 1.6 million (previous year: CHF 4.9 million), which was lower than in previous years, Group profit from continuing operations declined by 6.2% to CHF 115.7 million (previous year: CHF 123.4 million). After adjustment for currency effects, however, Group profit was slightly higher than the previous year.



## Balance sheet remains in great shape

### **Liquidity at an adequate level**

In the year under review, net liquidity decreased by CHF 137.3 million to CHF 115.3 million (previous year: CHF 252.6 million). The decline was due on the one hand to the share buyback program in the reporting year and on the other hand to the consistently high level of investments designed to secure our future operational activities.

In addition, as at 31 December 2015, Forbo held 281,542 of its own shares, valued at year-end at CHF 332.8 million (previous year: CHF 259.7 million). Of this total, 190,000 shares are earmarked for the capital reduction in accordance with the decision of the 2016 Ordinary General Meeting.

The equity ratio still remains at a high 61.3% (previous year: 67.4%).

Owing to the share buybacks, earnings per share increased slightly compared to the previous year despite the decline in profit caused by currency fluctuations. Earnings per share from continuing operations (undiluted) rose by 0.4% to CHF 62.14 (previous year: CHF 61.92).

### **Solid foundation for growth opportunities**

Our strong global presence, our sound balance sheet, and the systematic implementation of our strategy are enabling us to drive expansion in growth markets and take advantage of growth opportunities outside the company. However, we will make acquisitions only if we can thereby create added value for our shareholders.

## Proposals to the Ordinary General Meeting

The Ordinance against Excessive Remuneration in Listed Public Companies (OaER) entered into force on January 1, 2014. The Ordinance allows for a transition period until the end of 2015. The Board of Directors in good time submitted a comprehensive amendment of the Articles of Association to the Ordinary General Meeting of April 25, 2014, which was passed by a large majority.

### **Elections to the Board of Directors**

As of the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting and in accordance with the OaER and the amended Articles of Association, all members of the Board of Directors are now elected in individual ballots for a term of one year.

All the current members of the Board of Directors will stand for re-election for a further one-year term of office.

### **Increase in the dividend**

In view of the solid balance sheet and slightly higher earnings per share despite the strong Swiss franc, the Board of Directors will propose to the Ordinary General Meeting that the dividend for the 2015 business year should be increased from CHF 16 to CHF 17 per share. This dividend will be paid out to shareholders as a tax-exempt distribution from capital contribution reserves.

### **Share buyback program**

The Board of Directors will propose to the Ordinary General Meeting that the company's own shares repurchased to date as part of the share buyback program be canceled.

## 2016 – another challenging year

### Cautious outlook for 2016

We expect market conditions to remain demanding and challenging in the 2016 business year. Economic and political circumstances can change quickly. However, we will persist with our strategy and will continue to expand both our global presence and our product range.

Thanks to the good strategic positioning we have achieved, and barring any change in the foreign exchange situation, we anticipate a slight increase in net sales and Group profit from continuing operations in 2016.

## Thank you

### Thanks to employees, business partners and shareholders

The past year was a challenge for all our employees. We would like to thank them for their commitment, their professionalism and their flexibility in this challenging time.

We also wish to thank our customers, business partners, and suppliers for their professionalism and the confidence they have placed in our company.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board, we thank you too, in particular, dear shareholders, for the ongoing trust and loyalty you show to Forbo.

Baar, March 2016



This E. Schneider  
Executive Chairman



Stephan Bauer  
CEO

## Financial calendar

Ordinary General Meeting	<b>April 29, 2016</b>
Publication of Half-Year Report 2016	<b>August 16, 2016</b>
Publication of Annual Report 2016	<b>March 7, 2017</b>



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# AT A GLANCE

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**2015 AT A GLANCE**



FORBO IS A LEADING  
PRODUCER OF  
FLOOR COVERINGS,  
BUILDING AND  
CONSTRUCTION  
ADHESIVES, AS WELL  
AS POWER TRANS-  
MISSION AND  
CONVEYOR BELT  
SOLUTIONS.

The company employs more than 5,200 people and has an international network of 24 production and distribution companies, 6 assembly operations and 42 pure sales organizations in a total of 35 countries. Forbo is headquartered in Baar in the canton of Zug, Switzerland.

# FORBO IN FIGURES

Forbo is a global player, and its two divisions supply a wide range of industries. The Group's global reach means that it is close to dynamic markets, making Forbo the first choice as a local partner for customers that have similar global requirements. The quality, longevity, and performance of our products and systems reflect the quality and stability of our relations with our business partners.

## Flooring Systems

15 production facilities in 6 countries and distribution companies in 24 countries. Sales offices in Europe, North, Central, and South America as well as Asia/Pacific.

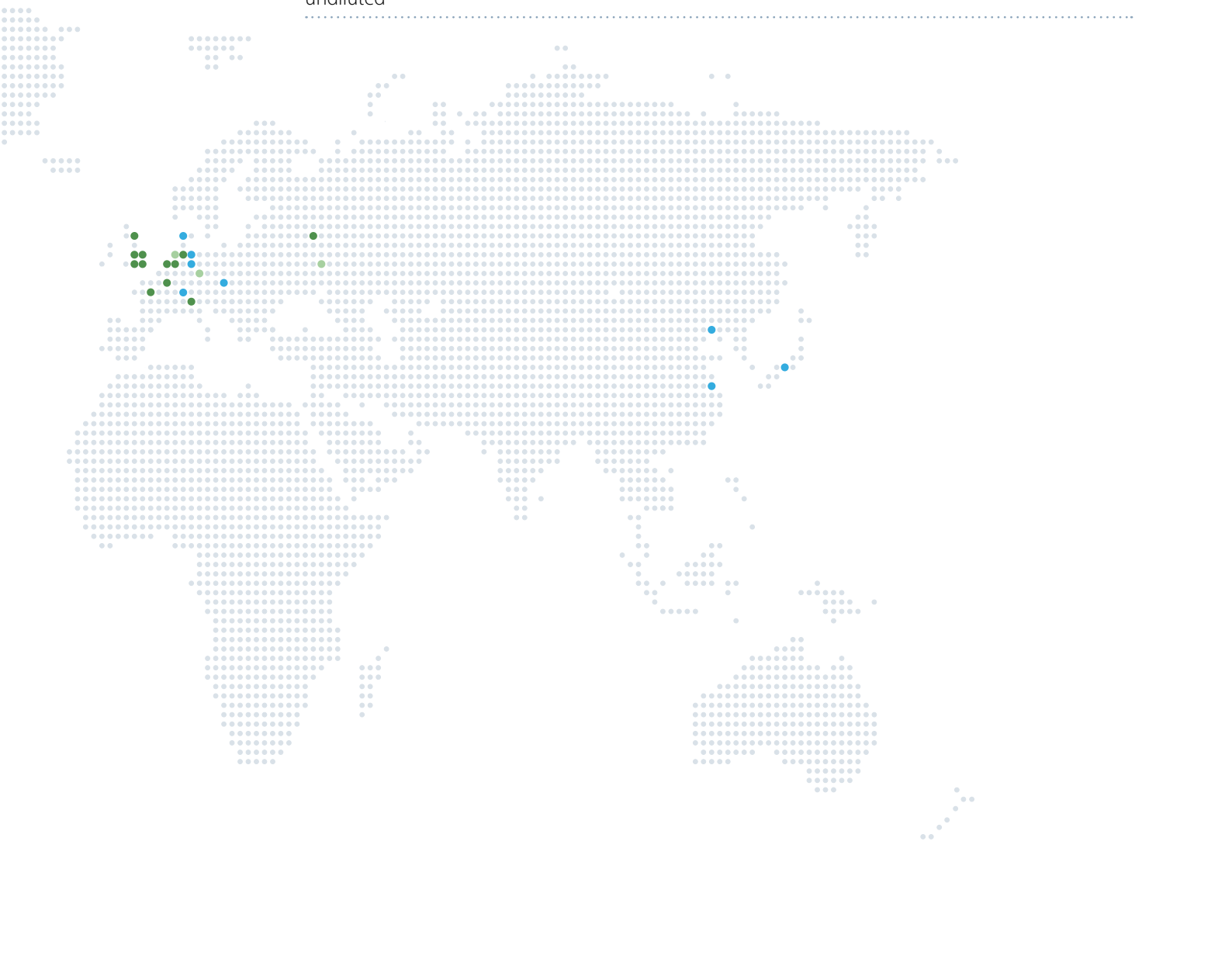
- Floor coverings
- Building and construction adhesives

## Movement Systems

9 production sites and 6 assembly operations in 9 countries and distribution companies in 29 countries. 300 sales and service offices worldwide.

- Production facilities and assembly operations



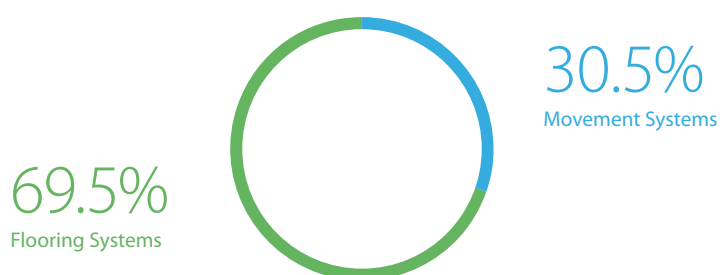


Net sales	<b>CHF 1,139.1 million</b>
EBIT	<b>CHF 142.8 million</b>
EBIT margin	<b>12.5%</b>
Group profit from continuing operations	<b>CHF 115.7 million</b>
Earnings per share undiluted	<b>CHF 62.14</b>



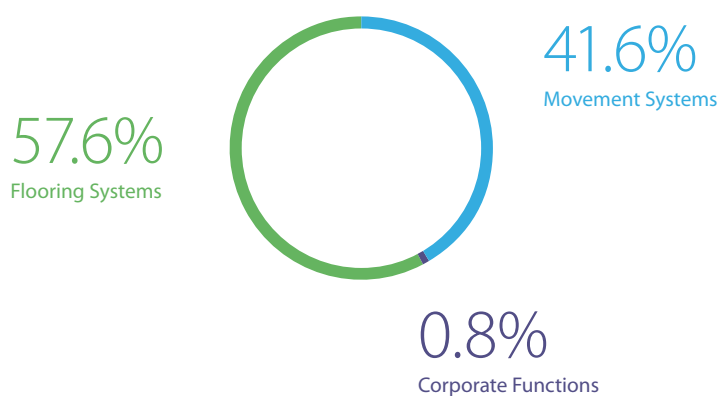
## Net sales by division

	CHF m 2015	Change on previous year		In % of total
		in %	in local currencies in %	
Flooring Systems	791.3	-10.5	-1.1	69.5
Movement Systems	347.8	1.6	6.7	30.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,139.1</b>	<b>-7.1</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>



## Employees by division

	Number 2015	Change on previous year in %		In % of total
Flooring Systems	3,006	-1.7		57.6
Movement Systems	2,174	5.5		41.6
Corporate Functions	42	0.0		0.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,222</b>	<b>1.2</b>		<b>100.0</b>



## Financial overview Forbo Group

	2015	2014	2015	2014
	CHF m	CHF m	EUR m <sup>1)</sup>	EUR m <sup>1)</sup>
<b>Income statement</b>				
Net sales	1,139.1	1,226.8	1,066.2	1,010.0
Flooring Systems	791.3	884.6	740.6	728.3
Movement Systems	347.8	342.2	325.5	281.7
EBITDA	174.8	185.1	163.6	152.4
EBIT	142.8	149.4	133.7	123.0
Group profit from continuing operations	115.7	123.4	108.3	101.6
Group profit	115.7	123.6	108.3	101.8
<b>Balance sheet</b>	CHF m	CHF m	EUR m <sup>1)</sup>	EUR m <sup>1)</sup>
Total assets	912.1	1,095.6	853.7	902.0
Operating assets	756.1	803.5	707.7	661.5
Shareholders' equity	559.2	738.8	523.4	608.3
Net cash	115.3	252.6	107.9	208.0
<b>Cash flow statement</b>	CHF m	CHF m	EUR m <sup>1)</sup>	EUR m <sup>1)</sup>
Cash flow from operating activities	140.9	147.3	131.9	121.3
Cash flow from investing activities	11.4	-13.0	10.7	-10.7
Free cash flow	152.3	134.3	142.6	110.6
<b>Key ratios</b>	%	%		
ROS (EBITDA/net sales)	15.3	15.1		
Equity ratio (shareholders' equity/total assets)	61.3	67.4		
Gearing (net debt/shareholders' equity)	-20.6	-34.2		
<b>Employees (as at December 31)</b>	Number	Number		
Total employees	5,222	5,161		
<b>Ratios per share, from continuing operations</b>	CHF	CHF	EUR <sup>1)</sup>	EUR <sup>1)</sup>
Earnings per share (undiluted) <sup>2)</sup>	62.14	61.92	58.2	51.0
Equity (undiluted)	396.9	370.7	371.5	305.2
Dividend	17.0 <sup>3)</sup>	16.0 <sup>4)</sup>	15.9	13.2
<b>Stock market capitalization (as at December 31)</b>	CHF m	CHF m	EUR m <sup>1)</sup>	EUR m <sup>1)</sup>
Stock market capitalization <sup>5)</sup>	2,352.2	2,138.2	2,201.6	1,760.4

1) Euro values translated at the average annual exchange rate of CHF 1.0684/1 EUR (2015) and CHF 1.2146/1 EUR (2014).

2) See note 13 'Earnings per share' on page 116 of the financial report.

3) The Board of Directors proposes to the Ordinary General Meeting of April 29, 2016, the distribution of a dividend in the amount of CHF 17 per registered share.

4) Approval of a dividend of CHF 16 per registered share at the Ordinary General Meeting of April 24, 2015.

5) Total number of shares multiplied by year-end share price.

# CURRENCY-ADJUSTED EARNINGS SLIGHTLY HIGHER YEAR-ON-YEAR

In the 2015 business year Forbo had to contend with major challenges owing to the strength of the Swiss franc. Both sales and earnings were hit hard by exchange rate fluctuations.

The two divisions turned in very divergent performances. Whereas Movement Systems substantially increased both sales and earnings, Flooring Systems failed to match the previous year's results even on a currency-adjusted basis despite multiple marketing activities and efficiency gains in its operations.

Independent of these challenging conditions, both divisions expanded their attractive product portfolios with new offerings, and we continued to invest in the development of high-end products and strengthen our distribution channels, especially in growth markets.

Despite ongoing expansion of our operational activities, earnings increased slightly after adjustment for currency effects, though sales in local currencies were only marginally higher.

Given our solid balance sheet, our strong global presence, and our leading market positions, we are well placed to capitalize on future growth opportunities.

## **Sales in local currencies**

### **slightly higher than previous year**

In the year under review, Forbo reported net sales of CHF 1,139.1 million (previous year: CHF 1,226.8 million), a marginal growth of 1.1% in local currencies. In the corporate currency, due to negative currency effects, sales resulted in a decrease of 7.1%. The main exchange rate factors were the weakening of the euro, the pound sterling and the Japanese yen, which together reduced sales by a good CHF 100 million.

The Flooring Systems division posted net sales of CHF 791.3 million in the 2015 business year (previous year: CHF 884.6 million). This corresponds to a sales decrease of 1.1% in local currencies; owing to the negative impact of currency fluctuations, the decline in the corporate currency came to 10.5%. Various challenging conditions in core markets that are crucial for our business led to this decline in sales, and the geographic weighting of business operations exacerbated the negative currency impact.

The Movement Systems division generated net sales of CHF 347.8 million in the year under review (previous year: CHF 342.2 million), which reflects a strong increase of 6.7% in local currency terms. In terms of the corporate currency, the increase came to 1.6% despite negative currency effects. All regions contributed to this gratifying upturn in sales. Even the more traditional, saturated markets reported market share gains.



## Net sales by geographic area

	Change on previous year			2015 CHF m										
	%	in %	in local currencies in %		25	50	75	100	125	150	175	200	225	250
North, Central, and South America	21.0	4.5	2.8	239.4										
Asia/Pacific and Africa	14.5	-0.1	6.2	164.9										
France	12.2	-14.9	-3.3	139.1										
Germany	11.8	-7.5	5.2	134.0										
Great Britain/Ireland	10.8	-10.6	-7.7	123.0										
Benelux	9.5	-13.2	-1.4	108.4										
Scandinavia	8.8	-11.2	3.4	100.4										
Eastern Europe	4.9	-2.6	10.7	55.9										
Southern Europe	4.2	-23.6	-1.4	47.9										
Switzerland	2.3	-8.8	-8.7	26.1										
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-7.1</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1,139.1</b>										

### Currency-adjusted earnings slightly higher year-on-year

Despite continuing high investments in property, plant, and equipment plus a wide range of market activities and product developments, we managed to increase earnings slightly after adjustment for currency effects. Earnings, however, were negatively impacted by the strong Swiss franc.

In the corporate currency, Group EBITDA accordingly declined by 5.6% to CHF 174.8 million (previous year: CHF 185.1 million), while EBITDA at Flooring Systems decreased by 11.0% to CHF 133.1 million (previous year: CHF 149.6 million). The EBITDA of Movement Systems rose by 11.1% to CHF 51.2 million (previous year: CHF 46.1 million) on the back of a strong operational performance and weaker currency effects.

The Group increased its EBITDA margin by 0.2 percentage points to 15.3% (previous year: 15.1%), Flooring Systems reduced its EBITDA margin by 0.1 percentage points to 16.8% (previous year: 16.9%), and Movement Systems increased it by 1.2 percentage points to 14.7% (previous year: 13.5%).

## EBITDA by division

	2015 CHF m	Change on previous year in %	-25	0	25	50	75	100	125	150
Flooring Systems	133.1	-11.0								
Movement Systems	51.2	11.1								
Corporate	-9.5	-10.4								

Group operating profit (EBIT) declined by 4.4% to CHF 142.8 million (previous year: CHF 149.4 million). The Group's EBIT margin rose by 0.3 percentage points to 12.5% (previous year: 12.2%). The strong Swiss franc shaved about CHF 18 million off EBIT in the corporate currency.

After adjustment for currency fluctuations, both operating profit before depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) and operating profit (EBIT) were slightly higher than the previous year at Group level. Operating profit margins were also slightly higher than the previous year.

Owing to the strong impact of currency fluctuations and a lower financial result compared with previous years, Group profit from continuing operations declined by 6.2% to CHF 115.7 million (previous year: CHF 123.4 million). After adjustment for currency effects, however, it was slightly higher than the previous year.

### Taxes and financial income

The tax rate in the year under review came to 19.9%, compared with 20.1% the previous year.

Financial expenses declined to CHF 0.4 million (previous year: CHF 1.0 million) owing to lower interest expenditures and a weaker effect from currency translations. In contrast, the Group reported financial income of CHF 2.0 million (previous year: CHF 5.9 million), stemming primarily from income from securities. On balance, the financial result came to CHF 1.6 million (previous year: CHF 4.9 million).

## Free cash flow

	2015 CHF m	2014 CHF m	- 40	0	40	80	120	160
Cash flow from operating activities	140.9	147.3						
Cash flow from investing activities	11.4	- 13.0						
Free cash flow	152.3	134.3						

### Higher free cash flow

In the reporting year, cash flow from operating activities was down by CHF 6.4 million to CHF 140.9 million (previous year: CHF 147.3 million), owing mainly to lower Group profit, which was reduced by currency effects. Cash flow from investing activities was a positive CHF 11.4 million in the reporting year (previous year: CHF - 13.0 million). Despite high investments in property, plant, and equipment, cash flow from investing activities was positive owing to proceeds from the sale of current financial assets. Free cash flow thus amounted to CHF 152.3 million (previous year: CHF 134.3 million).

### Balance sheet remains in great shape

Total assets as at December 31, 2015, stood at CHF 912.1 million (previous year: CHF 1,095.6 million). Net liquidity decreased by CHF 137.3 million to CHF 115.3 million (previous year: CHF 252.6 million). This decline can be explained by the share repurchases made in the reporting year. Likewise, shareholders' equity decreased to CHF 559.2 million as at end-December 2015 (previous year: CHF 738.8 million) primarily owing to the share buybacks. The equity ratio still remains at a high 61.3% (previous year: 67.4%).



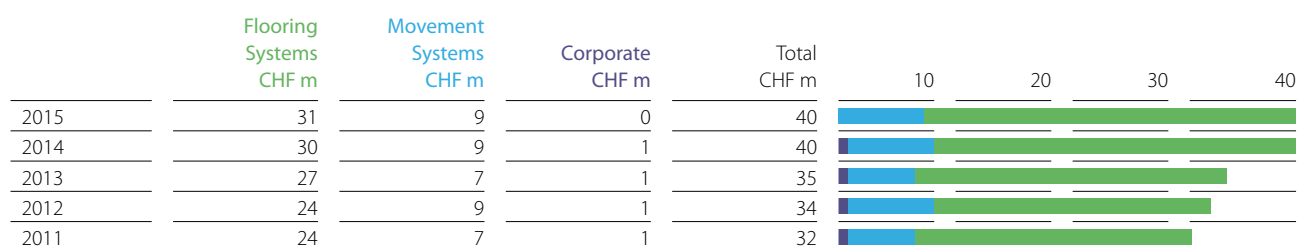
### Substantially higher investment volume in local currencies

Although the demanding conditions pose a challenge to our organization in all areas, we remain focused on the factors that will drive our future growth as well as on efficiency gains, continuous optimization of processes, and cost-saving measures. In the reporting year, we concentrated our resources on key activities and strategic projects in the areas of product portfolio, technology, production capacity, and market expansion. Total investments in fixed assets in 2015, as in the previous year, came to CHF 39.5 million; in local currency terms, however, this was well above the prior-year level.

In the reporting period, Flooring Systems invested CHF 30.5 million (previous year: CHF 29.9 million). This amount includes in particular the construction of a factory for the manufacture of homogeneous vinyl floor coverings, the building of an additional packaging line for the production of luxury vinyl tiles in the Netherlands, as well as expanded warehouse capacity in Sweden for the Scandinavian market and for modular linoleum production in Scotland.

At Movement Systems, investments in fixed assets came to CHF 8.9 million (previous year: CHF 9.4 million), which in local currencies was higher than the previous year. The funds were spent mainly on extending the product portfolio for specific applications in complex and demanding facilities, for various additional service tools, and for fabrication and production plants and expansion in growth markets.

## Investments 2011 – 2015



### Headcount adjusted on case-by-case basis

At year-end 2015, the Forbo Group employed 5,222 people. These are 61 employees more than at the end of the previous year. The individual percentage changes in staff levels by and large reflect market developments in the regions in question. The marked increase in Eastern Europe stems in particular from the expansion of Movement Systems' manufacturing center in Slovakia and expansion in growth markets. The ex-

pansion of the sales and distribution organizations in Asia/Pacific and the Americas resulted in additional hiring in these regions. In Germany, following several years of restraint as regards new hiring, headcount was increased on a case-by-case basis. In most other European countries, we have been more restrained with new hiring given the current market situation, which is characterized by rather muted demand.

## Employees by geographic area

	%	Change on previous year in %	2015	200	400	600	800	1,000	1,200
Benelux	20.7	-1.7	1,081						
Asia/Pacific and Africa	14.3	3.7	746						
North, Central, and South America	14.2	2.6	741						
Germany	12.3	1.3	640						
Great Britain/Ireland	11.7	-2.2	611						
Eastern Europe	9.8	11.5	512						
France	8.3	-0.9	434						
Switzerland	3.4	-2.9	178						
Scandinavia	3.1	-1.2	164						
Southern Europe	2.2	0.0	115						
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>5,222</b>						

# SUSTAINABLE ENGAGEMENT

A responsible attitude towards the management of resources in all dimensions is one of the fundamental values at Forbo. We are committed to protecting the environment and continuously investing in a sustainable future. As a manufacturer and employer conscious of its responsibilities, Forbo sets very high standards for health, safety, the environment, and quality.

## Social dimension

Forbo promotes a high-performance culture in order to meet the high demands of our customers and business partners as well as on the requirements we make of ourselves. This is why we promote the necessary capabilities and competences at all organizational levels, and support this internally with seminars and further training activities.

This means that the divisions provide internal training in a wide range of areas regarding products and applications, sales and marketing, finance, operations, pro-

ject management, strategy implementation, and Forbo's values. Continuous intensive training in the area of health and safety includes measures on topics of accident prevention, risk awareness, occupational health and safety, and general ongoing preventive measures.

At the Group level Forbo has established an internal management training program in collaboration with the University of St. Gallen, as well as other external partners and internal experts. This practice-oriented advanced training program for senior managers and persons in key positions consists of a first training week that includes various modules in areas ranging from management and sales to marketing and operations. A second training week expands on this and includes additional leadership modules, focusing on strategic implementation and leadership topics such as dealing with organizational and team changes as well as performance management.

## Ecological dimension

Protection of the environment and the generation of ecological added value are important factors in all of Forbo's development and investment decisions. Our customers also demand efficient and sustainable products and services. Both divisions are meeting these



demands by offering purely natural products in their product portfolio.

With linoleum, Flooring Systems offers a floor covering made of 97% renewable raw materials of which 72% are renewable within ten years. Linoleum is made from the natural raw materials linseed oil, natural resin, wood flour and limestone as well as jute and pigments. A natural product through and through, which, in view of its long service life and positive ecological balance, is regarded as the most environmentally friendly resilient floor covering available. At the end of its long service life it can be composted, as it is 100% biodegradable. In addition to this, linoleum is made from about 45% recycled material, which lowers the consumption of primary raw materials accordingly.

Vinyl floor coverings receive their elasticity, pliability and flexibility from plasticizers. Flooring Systems is the leader in the use of phthalate-free plasticizers of the latest generation. They also contain up to 45% recycled material in the substrate layer. Within the framework of our 'back to the floor' program, we collect off-cuts of our vinyl coverings as well as waste material from our own production and put these back into the production of new coverings, for example for the substrate

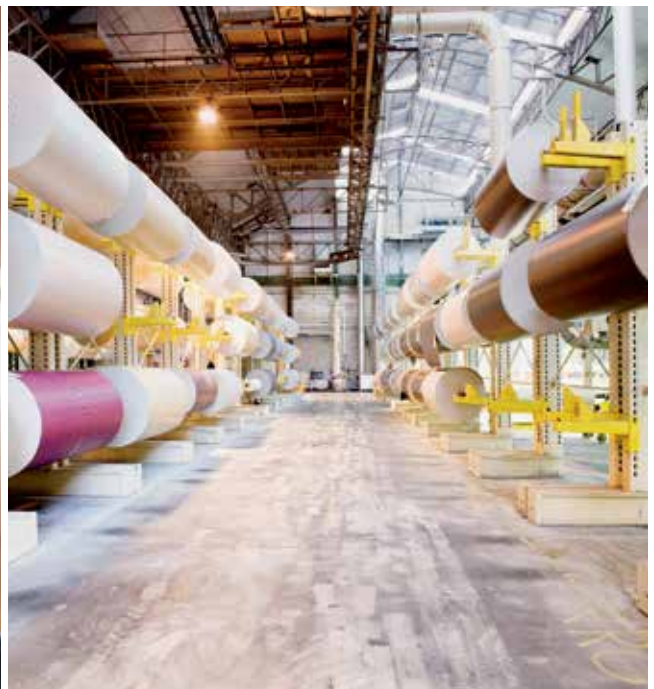
layer of carpet tiles and Flotex – the washable textile flooring.

The production of Flotex was switched over to completely phthalate-free materials in the reporting year. The proportion of recycled material used in the manufacture of linoleum and needle felt floor coverings was increased.

Flooring Systems gets 100% of the electricity used at its production locations from renewable energy sources.

With the BioBelt, Movement Systems is the first ever conveyor belt manufacturer to develop a biodegradable conveyor belt whose physical and dynamic properties are equal to standard belts. The same applies to its performance and long service life. In BioBelt products, oil-based raw materials and synthetic-technical materials have been largely substituted by materials from renewable, plant-based raw materials.

In order to maximize environmental compatibility and at the same time increase the product advantages, Movement Systems had patented a special coating (AmpMiser) that significantly reduces the friction be-





# SUSTAINABLE ENGAGEMENT

tween the underside of the belt and the slider bed compared with conventional conveyor belts. In the year under review, Movement Systems launched a new generation of these energy-saving conveyor belts that are even more efficient. Conveyor belts coated with AmpMiser display their advantages most clearly where goods are being continuously conveyed and many belts are in use, for example at airports or in logistics and distribution centers. For this type of application, energy savings of up to 50% are achieved for the overall systems.

We have also made it our aim to continually make our own activities more sustainable and efficient. We do this by using less material and energy to realize equivalent or even better solutions. Both divisions are working constantly on the optimization of production processes in terms of water and energy consumption, reduction of emissions, reuse of heat generated in the production process, and in the reduction and the efficient recycling of waste material in order to reduce the burden on the environment. A wide range of certifications confirm these efforts. At the same time, we are working on innovative ideas regarding the materials used in the production process as well as new application techniques.

## FLOORING SYSTEMS

Floor coverings are part of our everyday lives and define our living, leisure, and working space. Whether as a direct end customer, builder of a major project, architect or installer, for every stakeholder group the issue of sustainability plays an important role in the decision-making process. This is why it is important for Flooring Systems to differentiate itself from its competitors with comprehensible and convincing arguments, including in terms of sustainability.

With the new approach 'Committed to the Health of One' Flooring Systems wants, alongside a fully transparent product declaration, to highlight the sustainability features more clearly than up to now and place them in correlation to each individual. By 'health' we mean all-round physical, mental and social well-being, and by 'one' we mean persons as well as companies, the environment, organizations, customer segments, etc. In this way, the relevant product properties and explicit differentiation features are emphasized for each stakeholder group. In the reporting year, the focus was on analyzing the effects of allergens. This led to appropriate product improvements, an engagement which was recognized by the award of various certificates.



MOVEMENT SYSTEMS

Movement Systems' resource management is based on the continuous improvement of consumption efficiency by the development and the targeted implementation of measures for the optimization of electricity, gas, oil and water consumption. Alongside ongoing energy-saving measures, energy recovery is an important factor, i.e. the use of energy released in the downstream incineration plant for the purposes of heating and/or power generation. In order to reduce water consumption and avoid unnecessary waste, Movement Systems is increasingly using closed water circulation systems. Some of the waste water can be used in another production step in order to minimize water requirements. The reduction and productive reuse of waste material is increasingly the focus of Kaizen and sustainability initiatives. Cut-offs from the belts we produce in certain countries are sold to other companies to be reused in their production. The locations in North America collect sanding dust in filters which is then processed as material by external partners in their production. Some of the waste from plastic modular belts and polyurethane cut-offs is recycled back into our own production.

Economic dimension

As a listed company, Forbo also engages intensively with the economic dimension of sustainability. Compliance is enormously important for the reputation and positioning of a company. We are successful as a company when we meet the expectations of customers, when employees are enthusiastic and committed, and when we create added value in the long term for our shareholders.

In the reporting year we constantly maintained our efforts in terms of a conscious attitude to what we do by reinforcing awareness, particularly regarding the contents of the code of conduct (by means of an e-learning module), as well as competition law and anti-corruption principles, and the uncompromising implementation of the risk management process.





# ACTIVITY REPORT

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**CHARACTER.**



**RESPONSIBILITY.**



# TWO DIVISIONS WITH LEADING MARKET POSITIONS

Forbo aims to operate primarily in business areas in which it has or can achieve a leading global market position – something it has achieved for both Flooring Systems and Movement Systems.

## Flooring Systems

The Flooring Systems division offers a broad and attractive range of environmentally friendly linoleum, high-quality vinyl floors, entrance flooring systems for cleaning and drying shoes, carpet tiles, needle felt, and Flotex, the washable textile flooring. Thanks to their excellent technical properties and attractive designs, these flooring products are invariably the first choice for public buildings, department stores, hospitals, and other healthcare facilities, schools, libraries, commercial and office spaces, leisure centers, shops, hotels, restaurants, and cafeterias as well as for applications in the residential market. With a market share of over 65 percent, Forbo is the world leader in linoleum.

Flooring Systems also provides ready-made adhesives for flooring installations and ceramic tiles as well as leveling compounds for the construction industry under the trade name Eurocol.

## Movement Systems

Movement Systems is a global industry leader for sophisticated conveyor and processing belts, synthetic modular belts, top-quality power transmission belts, as well as timing and flat belts made of synthetic materials. These products are known under the brand name Siegling. They are used in a wide range of applications in industry, trade, and the service sector, including conveyor and processing belts in the food industry, treadmill belts in fitness studios, and flat belts in mail distribution centers.

## Strategic directions

To be successful in the market place as a Group with differently aligned operations, the individual divisions act independently and flexibly, but always along the strategic directions defined for the Group as a whole:

- Based on a pronounced customer focus, a high level of service, innovation, and a strong global brand, we are creating global leadership positions in clearly defined market segments.
- Due to a strong market orientation, we shape markets and drive profitable growth.
- We are developing significant positions in growth markets.
- We are acquiring companies to extend our product range, to consolidate and/or reinforce market access.
- We are developing a high-performance culture and providing the relevant skills and competences at all levels.





# FLOORING SYSTEMS



## CHARACTER

# STYLISH AMBIENCE

Carpet tiles give a room a very special character. They create a warm atmosphere and bring about an environment that is conducive to concentration by naturally reducing noise levels. Our carpet tiles not only lend every room a personal touch but also satisfy a number of other requirements: resistance to wear, antistatic properties and ease of cleaning. With our own carpet tile production, we are able to cater to customers' specific wishes, and to offer custom-made carpets. Carpet tiles are suitable for carpeting large surfaces, and their modular design and long-lasting materials make them ideal.



# FLOORING SYSTEMS: A MIXED YEAR

'In the past year we focused once again on our defined long-term goals by aligning our product portfolio even more closely to the needs and applications of customers in the private sector and by adding further attractive collections to our product range. To support these efforts, we have invested in new products as well as in measures to boost efficiency over a wide range of operational areas. Despite all these steps, we were unable to repeat the positive sales and earnings performance achieved in 2014. Public sector investments remain at a modest level and are still characterized by restraint. Our efforts to expand and energize customer segments in the private sector are having an effect. However, weaker demand in our important, high-revenue core markets has put a damper on growth. With our current product portfolio, the initiatives to boost growth, customer focus and cost consciousness, we will strengthen our market position as a leading systems supplier in the commercial segment and get back on the growth path.'

The Flooring Systems division posted net sales of CHF 791.3 million in the 2015 business year (previous year: CHF 884.6 million). This corresponds to a decrease of 1.1% in local currencies; owing to the negative impact of currency fluctuations, the decline in the corporate currency came to 10.5%. The division accounts for 69.5% of Group sales. By expanding our product portfolio for specific applications in the private sector, we posted encouraging growth figures in various customer segments, especially for shop fittings, hotels, and catering and leisure services as well as the manufacturing industry. However, flagging demand in important core markets impeded our efforts. In addition, public sector investment is still weak. Despite measures on the cost side, the strong Swiss franc combined with a slight downturn in sales impacted negatively on operating



Matthias P. Huenerwadel

Executive Vice President  
Flooring Systems

profit (EBIT), which declined by 11.0% to CHF 109.8 million (previous year: 123.4 million). The EBIT margin came to 13.9% (previous year: 14.0%), slightly below the previous year by 0.1 percentage points.

## **Sales in local currencies slightly lower than previous year**

The market we operate in has been very mixed for a number of years and, in addition, depressed by a persistently low level of demand in the public sector. These factors are increasingly affecting our high-revenue segments in the healthcare and education sectors. In the year under review, our major core markets, in particular France, Great Britain and North America, had to contend with a number of challenges. In France, demand went into decline owing to the ongoing market situation and a very competitive environment. Sales in Great Britain showed a downtrend in the reporting year following significant growth the previous year driven by large-scale projects. In North America demand was muted especially in our core segments healthcare and education. Some of our smaller markets also had to contend with adverse market conditions: Switzerland reported a negative impact on sales from the strengthening of the Swiss franc against the euro, while markets in Eastern Europe and South America, which had been growing, recorded a significant drop in demand owing to the current market environment.

The markets in southern Europe performed very well. Sweden, too, reported encouraging sales growth on the back of an overall strong market, while Germany performed well and posted growth amid tough competition. In the Netherlands, sales stabilized after falling

in recent years. China and South Korea again reported above-average sales growth owing to large-scale customer installations in various customer segments.

The building and construction adhesives activity recovered after difficult years during a cyclical downturn and reported marginal sales growth. All three core markets, Netherlands, Germany and Russia, contributed to this result. New product developments delivered additional growth stimuli.

#### **Innovative new collections**

The steady expansion of the range catering to private sector customer segments continued in the year under review with innovative new collections featuring a broad spectrum of color and design options, 3-D printing, new embossing and materials plus developments in functionalities. The luxury vinyl tiles again generated double-digit growth in a highly competitive market, gaining market share and delighting customers with state-of-the-art designs, patterns, and installation techniques for discerning tastes. Vinyl floor coverings for the commercial sector, entrance matting systems, and needle felt floor coverings also contributed to sales growth. Carpet tiles and Flotex – our washable, high-tech textile floor covering – remained more or less at the previous year's level. Demand for linoleum remained subdued because this material is widely used in the healthcare and educational sectors where investment in new builds and renovations depends closely on public spending budgets. Sales of vinyl floor coverings for the residential sector declined in the year under review in the wake of strategic portfolio adjustments.

#### **Investments to support growth**

In addition to engaging in wide-ranging product portfolio activities, we have taken targeted measures to strengthen distribution channels. In Turkey, the new sales team set up the previous year was expanded and provided with local warehouse capacity; in Indonesia, a local sales team was established; and in Poland and the Czech Republic, a local customer service was put in place. In Sweden, we opened an additional service depot in Malmö and expanded the central warehouse in Gothenburg. These measures guarantee us customer focus and make delivery of daily orders more efficient by reducing delivery times and bringing us closer to customers in order to deal with their local needs and requirements.

Given the buoyant sales of luxury vinyl tiles, we have added an additional packaging line in the Netherlands. For modular linoleum production in Scotland, we completed the expansion of the interim storage facility for large reels.

In the year under review, we built a new production plant in Coevorden, the Netherlands, which will begin manufacturing high-end homogeneous vinyl floor coverings towards the end of 2016. This will significantly increase the portfolio of resilient floor coverings for 2017, a range that is geared to new application areas in both the public and private sector.

#### **Execution and efficiency will drive a return to profitable growth**

For 2016 we anticipate market conditions similar to those in the reporting year, and this will pose a challenge for all areas of the organization. We will execute our strategy systematically, develop our attractive product portfolio with a focus on customers in all target segments, and coordinate it closely with a wide range of applications. We expect this approach to generate better-than-average sales growth in the growth markets, especially in Asia.

We will support all these investments and activities with continuous efficiency gains along the entire value chain in order to get back on the path to profitable growth.



# INNOVATIONS ADDED TO PRODUCT RANGE FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Continuously improving the sustainability and environmental friendliness of products and processes – this is the priority in all changes and new developments at Flooring Systems. Forbo floor coverings combine attractive and innovative design with long life and high product quality. Forbo has again made its mark in the reporting year with a wide range of new trends.

## **Design award for unique linoleum offer**

After the launch of the very diverse and trendy modular linoleum floor coverings for the private sector in the previous year, the collection was extended in the reporting year by a click-fit version, which can also be used in the commercial sector. This is available in square and rectangular formats, and allows easy and quick installation.

Work continued in the reporting year on further innovative and creative linoleum offers, resulting in a unique linoleum collection with a striped look whose surface has a three-dimensional embossment. The use of this embossment technique gives the surface texture a new depth, and changes the way the surface feels to the touch. With the aid of a large metal roller, a 3-D pattern is embossed into the linoleum, transforming the otherwise flat surface, giving the floor covering its own dynamics as the appearance changes depending on the incidence of light and the angle of view. This gives a warmer, cozier character to any ambience. Accordingly, this collection is more likely to be popular for installations in the private sector, for example in nursing homes or in office buildings. Alongside this aesthetic aspect, the technique also has practical advantages – it is very good at hiding scratches, dirt or uneven surfaces of the underfloor.



This collection, available in various tone on tone shades and colorful designs, was distinguished in February 2016 with the iF Design Award, which, alongside the Red Dot Award, is one of the world's most prestigious design awards.

This product offer, with a three-dimensional effect, will also be available as of spring 2016 in a modular version.

## 'NATURALNESS IN THE FOREGROUND'

### Even more sustainable entrance matting systems

Our high-performance entrance matting systems keep entrance areas clean and tidy, and reliably absorb most of the dirt and wet before it is carried into the building. This protects the neighboring floor covering from dirt and wear, which in turn effectively reduces building care and maintenance costs. The sustainable entrance matting systems owe their dirt- and water-repellent properties to highly absorbent fibers and robust bristles.

In order to make the product offer for permanently installed entrance matting systems even more sustainable, the Nuway collection has been expanded with a bamboo version, in which the aluminum rails are replaced by strips of bamboo. This version gives the ambience an even more natural, softer look. Bamboo is a regenerative material of the grass family, with all the advantages of the finest hardwoods.



# MOVEMENT SYSTEMS





## RESPONSIBILITY

# CONSCIENTIOUS HANDLING

In addition to ensuring that all hygiene requirements are met, producers of fine chocolate creations must see to it that their goods are carefully and gently transported. Our conveyor belts play a crucial role in this respect for parameters such as surface structure, release properties and innovative belt edge sealing. We not only provide added value to our customers through functional application features and the high-end materials of our products but we are also an innovation partner, helping them to find comprehensive solutions.



# MOVEMENT SYSTEMS: IMPRESSIVE PRODUCT RANGE AND SERVICE

‘We can look back on 2015 as another successful year for Movement Systems. Systematic efforts to implement the strategy in all the division’s business areas had a positive impact on all fronts. We considerably increased both sales and earnings in all regions. The growth drivers were innovative and application-specific product innovations with features that generate added value in our customers’ production or logistics processes across a broad spectrum of industries. These were backed up by growth-promoting investments, new global manufacturing processes, and other optimization measures along the entire global value chain, which have given a further major boost to our productivity and efficiency. We are on the right path to further strengthen our market position.’

The Movement Systems division generated net sales of CHF 347.8 million in the year under review (previous year: CHF 342.2 million), which reflects a substantial increase of 6.7% in local currency terms. In the corporate currency, however, adverse currency effects pared this growth back to 1.6%. The division accounts for 30.5% of Group sales. All regions contributed to this encouraging upturn in sales. Even the more traditional, saturated markets reported market share gains. This performance, coupled with consistently executed operational activities designed to improve global processes across the board, again had a very positive impact on operating profit (EBIT), which climbed to CHF 42.9 million (previous year: CHF 37.0 million). This is equivalent to a significant increase of 15.9%. The EBIT margin came to 12.3% (previous year: 10.8%), a year-on-year increase of 1.5 percentage points.

#### **All regions contributed to sales growth**

All regions and, almost without exception, all markets contributed to this strong sales growth with a variety of growth stimuli. In Europe it was particularly encouraging that the main market Germany reported an up-



Jean-Michel Wins

Executive Vice President  
Movement Systems

turn after years of subdued performance. Growth markets such as Turkey, Russia and the Czech Republic also contributed to this success with sales gains, although modest in scale. Switzerland reported a negative impact on sales from the strong Swiss franc. Growth in the Americas region was driven by long-standing, close cooperation with major accounts in North America in customer segments such as logistics and food processing on the one hand, and gratifying major orders in the food-processing industry in Mexico on the other hand. Asia/Pacific repeated its strong growth performance. One of the reasons was better-than-average sales in India, South Korea and Southeast Asia, where we have focused on expanding the local sales and assembly organizations in recent years. Important factors energizing this growth were major projects such as equipping the Incheon airport in South Korea and large-scale orders for the textile industry in India. In China, however, we are feeling the slowdown in the economy.

#### **All customer segments reported higher sales**

Following years of strategically focused development, the Prolink plastic modular belts product group again posted double-digit growth and has now established itself in the Asia/Pacific region. These belts are used mainly in the food-processing industry, logistics and industrial manufacturing, wherever conventional Transilon conveyor belts, owing to their design, are not entirely suitable for some conveying and processing tasks. Efforts to build up the business in Extremultus power transmission belts were also successful.



It is especially encouraging that we posted expansion in all customer segments. We reported double-digit growth in the logistics, food-processing, and tobacco industries on the back of reliable, customer-specific solutions that are based on innovative product range extensions with high-end quality features. Sales also showed an encouraging uptrend in the other segments – textiles, treadmills, industrial production, raw materials and paper/printing – owing to highly successful belt and application solutions.

#### **Innovation partner for our customers**

Movement Systems not only supplies a wide range of conveyor and power transmission belts but is also a reliable provider of technical know-how for total solutions and an innovation partner for original equipment manufacturers and end customers. In new product developments, small details often play a crucial role in the interaction of application features and the materials used. In the year under review, we again committed significant resources to expanding the product portfolio and to developing specific applications in complex facilities.

With the new generation of the energy-saving conveyor belt AmpMiser™ 2.0, launched in the year under review, our customers make big extra savings in energy. The belts, equipped with a patented special anti-friction layer, excel when goods have to be constantly conveyed and several belts are being used: at airports and in logistics and postal distribution centers. In this type of application, energy savings of up to 50 percent have been measured in whole conveying systems.

In the food-processing industry we have launched belt types that meet the most demanding hygiene requirements owing to their surface structure and their special belt edge sealing. The seal keeps oil, grease, moisture and bacteria from penetrating the belt. The belt's especially low-friction and easy-to-clean running side texture means that cleaning the conveyor belt is done quickly and quite easily.

The innovations in the reporting year include the new series 11 ProLink plastic modular belts. These lightweight belts have been specially designed for tight-radius conveying systems to ensure top performance and reliability. Owing to their curve radius, these belts provide a maximum of flexibility and can be configured for use in a wide range of applications. Their unique design makes it possible to install space- and

cost-saving conveying systems that are resistant to hot water and to cleaning and disinfectant agents.

We also focused efforts on expanding the product portfolio of Extremultus flat belts. The new Grip Star™ flat belt is used mainly in packaging plants for processing paper, cartons, corrugated cardboard and tissue-based products. With the new coating, products can be processed safely and efficiently, leaving no marks. Grip Star™ has all the advantages of rubber but without the latter's disadvantages such as brittleness and cross-cracking.

We have invested in various fabrication and production plants. In order to increase service capacity, we have equipped a number of support points with new and additional service tools such as heat presses.

#### **Taking small steps to top performance**

In 2016, we will continue to systematically execute the strategic initiatives in all the division's business areas by aligning our product range specifically to the needs of the customer segments and targeting expansion of our distribution and service organizations.

In addition, in the new year we will continue the initiatives already underway in order to optimize processes across the board. In the year under review, we achieved a number of improvements, including establishing global manufacturing processes and launching efficiency projects in reel production. We see further potential in the processes and methods involved in operations, production planning, supply chain management and quality, which will improve our efficiency and raise our industry standard.

# SECTOR-SPECIFIC INNOVATIONS CONVINCE

Not always visible, but present almost everywhere, Movement Systems is making sure that a wide range of production steps run smoothly and efficiently. Our solutions are distinguished by high economy, precision and reliability. Forbo has again distinguished itself in the reporting year as a competent partner in the development of sector-specific and future-oriented solutions for power transmission, conveying and producing.

## **New generation of energy-saving conveyor belts**

One of Movements Systems' key corporate objectives is to maximize environmental friendliness and to enhance product value at the same time. On this basis, we successfully conduct research and development by closely liaising with OEMs and end users. The new generation of energy-saving conveyor belts AmpMiser™ 2.0 is a further example of this. Due to a significantly reduced coefficient of friction, AmpMiser™ 2.0 belts make an impact where energy losses in a conveyor are usually the greatest: in the friction between the underside of the belt and the slider bed. By adding a patented Texglide coating to the underside fabric, a smooth layer is created that permanently acts like a dry lubricant and thus minimizes energy consumption. AmpMiser™ 2.0 conveyor belts excel in areas where items are constantly conveyed and where many belts are in use, for example at airports and in logistics or distribution centers. Total energy savings of up to 50% have been measured in these types of applications. Further advantages are the suitability for zinc slider beds and the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions due to lower energy consumption.



#### Plastic modular belts for tight curve radii

Due to their construction, conventional conveyor belts are not always suitable for certain conveyor and processing tasks. As an optimum complement to these, Movement Systems is focusing on expanding its product offer in the area of plastic modular belts. In the reporting year, special curved belts were developed which are particularly lightweight and distinguished generally by their tight radii, which allow space and cost-saving system construction. The individual modules are flexibly connected with one another and made endless by inserting hinge pins. They offer the

smallest currently available curve radius at high power transmission and are thus unique on the market – they allow a space saving of up to 33% compared with standard belts. These belts are used predominantly in bakeries where dough-based products are manufactured and further processed, such as baked goods, baguettes or pizzas.

#### All-round hygienic belt

Prosan™, a special belt for the processing of dough, offers all-round hygiene and was developed specifically for the food-processing industry. Thanks to the Frayfree belt construction, unsealed belts have almost completely fray-free edges. With the optional Smartseal belt edge sealing, this gives rise to a fully protected, durable belt body that offers maximum hygiene: oil, grease, dampness and bacteria cannot penetrate the belt. The belt also offers a new running side texture which is especially low-friction and easy to clean so that the belt can be cleaned quickly and easily.

‘COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE  
THROUGH APPLICATION  
KNOW-HOW’





# ORGANIZATION

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# EXECUTIVE BOARD



Jean-Michel Wins, Stephan Bauer, Andreas Spreiter, Matthias P. Huenerwadel

## Stephan Bauer

Chief Executive Officer

Stephan Bauer was born in 1961 and is a German citizen. He took a degree in Engineering and Management at the Munich University of Applied Sciences (FH) and began his professional career at BMW in Munich in 1987 as a project manager for the launch of new vehicle models. From 1991 to 2008 he worked for Siemens VDO Automotive AG (which became Continental Automotive in 2007) in various regional and global management positions in the field of sales and marketing and general management. In 2004 he was appointed CEO of Diesel Systems. From 2008 to 2013 Stephan Bauer was CEO and President Control Products & Systems at the Siemens Building Technologies division, where he was responsible for the entire product spectrum. He joined our company in September 2013 and took over the position of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Executive Board of the Forbo Group as of January 2014.

## Andreas Spreiter

Chief Financial Officer

Andreas Spreiter was born in 1968 and is both a Swiss and a British citizen. He studied at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich where he was awarded his engineering degree in plant production and engineering. From 1993 to 1998 he was Business Unit Controller at Landis + Gyr (Europe) AG. He then joined Siemens Metering AG, where he was Head of Finance and Controlling for two years and was then appointed to head the Electronic Meters Competence Center. From 2002 to 2012 he was Executive Vice President and Group Chief Financial Officer of Landis + Gyr AG. He is a member of the Board of Directors at Reichle & De-Massari AG. Andreas Spreiter joined the Forbo Group in January 2013 as a member of the Executive Board and Chief Financial Officer.

## Matthias P. Huenerwadel

Executive Vice President Flooring Systems

Matthias P. Huenerwadel was born in 1968 and is a Swiss citizen. He studied engineering at the Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich, specializing in manufacturing technologies and technology management. He began his professional career as assistant to the Executive Board of Franke Holding AG. In 1996, he moved to the USA, where he was responsible for logistics, information technology, and customer service with Federal Home Products, Ruston. From 1999, he held various managerial positions for Franke Food-service Systems and managed its European operations from 2002 to 2005. Matthias P. Huenerwadel joined the Forbo Group as a member of the Executive Board in October 2005 where he was appointed head of the Movement Systems division. He has been head of the Flooring Systems division since January 2013.

## Jean-Michel Wins

Executive Vice President Movement Systems

Jean-Michel Wins was born in 1967 and is a Belgian citizen. He studied business administration and languages at the IPET in Nivelles, Belgium, and began his professional career in Germany at Calberson GmbH, where he held various specialist functions. He then moved to Simut Sicherheit GmbH for two years, where he was in charge of sales and marketing. From 1992 to 1996 he was Export Manager at Brabus GmbH and from 1996 to 2002 he held various sales and managerial functions at Hirschmann Electronics. In 2002 he switched to Grammer AG, headquartered in Germany, where he held a number of international sales and senior management positions; in 2009 he was appointed Vice President responsible for the Offroad Seating Business Unit. As a member of the Executive Board, Jean-Michel Wins took over management of the Movement Systems division in January 2013.

# GROUP STRUCTURE

Forbo has performed better than average in the last ten years compared with other exchange-listed companies. With its two focused divisions, the Group is now a world leader in its markets, free of debt, and in possession of adequate resources for further strategic development. Despite the challenging market conditions in the year under review, Forbo now faces the task of maintaining its successful performance of recent years, on the one hand, and – with the means available – of reinforcing and expanding its positions in the global market through strong organic growth and acquisitions, on the other hand.

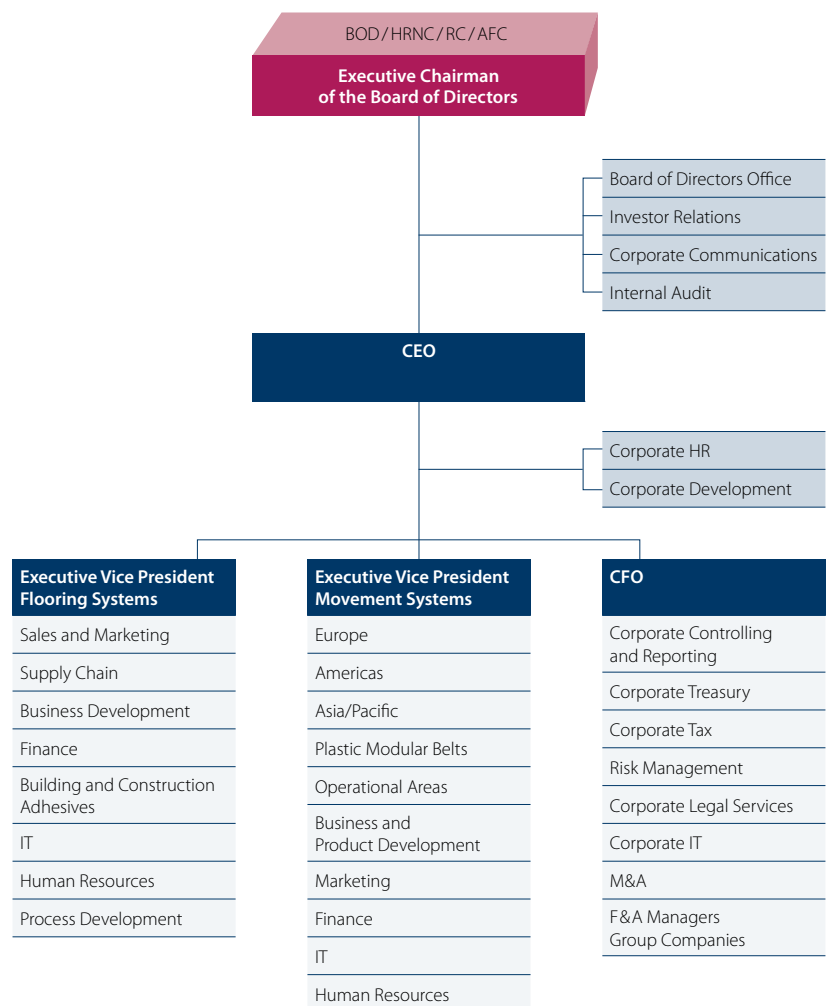
Whereas Forbo was managed until the beginning of 2014 by one person who exercised two functions – Delegate of the Board of Directors and CEO – the change at the top executive level made at the Ordinary General Meeting of April 2014 redefined the tasks and responsibilities by appointing a separate Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors and a CEO.

## Tasks of the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors

- Leading the Board of Directors
- Preparing the decisions of the Board of Directors and ensuring they are executed
- Representing and positioning the Group in the public
- Overall management of strategy development and involvement in realizing key strategic projects
- Management of relationships with key accounts and business, sector and capital market partners

## Tasks of the Chief Executive Officer

- Operational management of the Group
- Leading the Executive Board
- Development and operational implementation of the strategies
- Implementation and monitoring of multi-year planning and budgets
- Supporting the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors in preparing important projects relating to strategy, personnel, and finances for discussion and decision-taking by the Board of Directors



**BOD** Board of Directors

**HRNC** Human Resources and Nomination Committee

**RC** Remuneration Committee

**AFC** Audit and Finance Committee

■ Member of the Executive Board

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Vincent Studer, Michael Pieper, Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski, This E. Schneider, Dr. Peter Altorfer, Dr. Reto Müller



## This E. Schneider

Executive Chairman

Member of the Board of Directors of Galenica SA, Berne  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Rieter Holding AG, Winterthur  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Autoneum Holding AG, Winterthur

## Michael Pieper

Vice Chairman

Owner of the Artemis Holding AG (formerly Franke Holding AG), Hergiswil  
 Chairman of the Management Board of Artemis Management AG (formerly Franke Management AG), Aarburg  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Hero AG, Lenzburg  
 Member of the Board of Directors of advalTech Holding AG, Niederwangen near Berne  
 Member of the Board of Directors of AFG Arbonia-Forster-Holding AG, Arbon  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Berenberg Bank (Schweiz) AG, Zurich  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Rieter Holding AG, Winterthur  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Autoneum Holding AG, Winterthur  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Reppisch-Werke AG, Dietikon

## Dr. Peter Altorfer

Vice Chairman

Partner at the law firm Wenger & Vieli AG, Zurich  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Huber + Suhner AG, Herisau  
 Member of the Board of Directors of agta record ag, Fehraltorf  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Abegg Holding AG, Zurich  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Altin AG, Baar  
 Member of the Board of Trustees of Werner Abegg Fonds, Zurich  
 Member of the Board of other private and foreign banks and non-listed investment and real-estate companies in Switzerland

## Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski

Member

Member of the Board of Directors of Tamedia AG, Zurich  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Swisscontent AG, Zurich  
 Member of other Trustees and Committees

## Dr. Reto Müller

Member

Full-time Chairman of the Board of Directors of Helbling Holding AG, Zurich  
 Member of the Council of SWISSMEM, Zurich  
 Member of other Boards of Directors

## Vincent Studer

Member

Partner, member of the Board of Directors and of the management of T + R AG, Gümligen near Berne  
 Member of the Board of Directors of Bank EEK AG, Berne  
 Member of other Boards of Directors or Boards of Trustees



# THE FORBO SHARE

# THE FORBO SHARE

Following the decision of the Swiss National Bank on January 15, 2015, to discontinue its minimum exchange rate of Swiss franc 1.20 to the euro, the Swiss Performance Index (SPI) lost about 15 percent. By the end of February the SPI had already climbed back to its end-2014 level. The market continued to gain ground, reaching a high of +9.2% by early August 2015. However, before the month of August was out, the SPI had lost all its previous gains and closed the year up 2.7%.

The Forbo share performed more or less in line with the SPI until the company's annual results 2014 were announced. As of mid-March, the share gained considerable ground and by mid-April 2015 it had reached a high of CHF 1,255, which was a good 26 percent higher than the end-2014 level of CHF 994.50. By the end of August 2015, however, not only the SPI but also the Forbo share price had fallen back to the end-2014 levels. The Forbo share subsequently posted substantial gains, however, and closed the 2015 stock market year at CHF 1,182, equivalent to a gain of 18.9%. Once again, the Forbo share clearly outperformed the SPI.

## The Forbo share in comparison to the SPI





## Share capital

		2015 Number	2014 Number	2013 Number	2012 Number	2011 Number
Issued registered shares <sup>1)</sup>		1,990,000	2,150,000	2,250,000	2,500,000	2,500,000
Thereof:						
Shares outstanding		1,708,458	1,888,850	2,032,703	2,052,740	2,298,758
Share buyback programs		190,000	158,467	99,470	250,000	
Other treasury shares		70,123	81,264	96,408	175,841	179,823
Reserve shares (without dividend rights)		21,419	21,419	21,419	21,419	21,419

## Issued nominal capital

		CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Total		199,000	215,000	225,000	250,000	250,000
Thereof:						
Shares outstanding		170,846	188,885	203,270	205,274	229,876
Share buyback programs		19,000	15,847	9,947	25,000	
Other treasury shares		7,012	8,126	9,641	17,584	17,982
Reserve shares (without dividend rights)		2,142	2,142	2,142	2,142	2,142

## Data per share

		CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Group shareholders' equity per share <sup>2)</sup>		300	371	380	329	349
Group profit per share (undiluted) <sup>2) 3)</sup>		62.1	62.0	56.8	96.4	62.8
Gross dividend and cash distribution		17.0 <sup>4)</sup>	16.0	14.0	12.0	12.0
Gross dividend yield (in %)	High	1.4 <sup>5)</sup>	1.5 <sup>5)</sup>	1.8 <sup>5)</sup>	1.8 <sup>5)</sup>	1.7 <sup>5)</sup>
	Low	2.1 <sup>5)</sup>	2.2 <sup>5)</sup>	2.4 <sup>5)</sup>	2.5 <sup>5)</sup>	3.5 <sup>5)</sup>
Payout ratio <sup>6)</sup> (in %)		27	26	26	13	19

## Stock market statistics

		CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
Share price	High	1,255	1,043	769	685	713
	Low	811	719	580	484	343
	Year-end	1,182	995	762	585	493
Market capitalization (m) <sup>7)</sup>	High	2,497	2,242	1,730	1,712	1,782
	Low	1,613	1,545	1,305	1,210	857
	Year-end	2,352	2,138	1,715	1,463	1,232

- 1) Par value per share in 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011: CHF 0.10
- 2) Based on the weighted average of the number of shares as set out in note 13 'Earnings per share' on page 116 of the financial report.
- 3) See note 13 'Earnings per share' on page 116 of the financial report.
- 4) Proposal of the Board of Directors to the 2016 Ordinary General Meeting.
- 5) Calculated on the basis of a cash distribution in the form of a dividend.
- 6) Gross cash distribution as a percentage of Group profit.
- 7) Total number of shares multiplied by the corresponding share price.



# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

At Forbo, the concept of corporate governance encompasses the entire set of principles and rules on organization, conduct and transparency that are designed to protect the company's long-term interests. Forbo's aim is to strike a careful balance between management and control. The central rules are contained in the Articles of Association, the Organizational Regulations, and the regulations of the committees of the Board of Directors. The following information is set out in line with the Directive on Information relating to Corporate Governance (Directive on Corporate Governance 'DCG') and the relevant publications of SIX Swiss Exchange.

## Group structure and shareholders

### Group structure

Forbo Holding Ltd, domiciled at Lindenstrasse 8, 6340 Baar, is a limited company under Swiss law. The holding company holds all subsidiaries, directly or indirectly, that belong to the Forbo Group. The operational structure of the Group is shown in the organizational chart on page 49. The scope of consolidation of Forbo Holding Ltd does not include any listed companies. The unlisted companies within the scope of consolidation of Forbo Holding Ltd are listed under 'Group companies' starting on page 140 of the financial report. The company name and domicile, share capital and percentage of participation, along with information relating to the allocation of the Group company to the Group's businesses, can also be found in that section of this Annual Report.

### Significant shareholders

As of December 31, 2015, 1,957 shareholders were listed in the share register of Forbo Holding Ltd, or 229 (13%) more than in the previous year. As of December 31, 2015, Forbo Holding Ltd knew of the following significant shareholders with a holding of more than 3%:

	31.12.2015 as a percentage
Michael Pieper <sup>1)</sup>	27.34
Forbo Holding Ltd <sup>2)</sup>	14.15
UBS Fund Management (Switzerland) AG	3 – 5

1) Michael Pieper holds his interest directly and indirectly through Artemis Beteiligungen I AG.

2) – First trading line 4.60%, share buyback programs 9.55%.

– Forbo Holding Ltd holds its interest directly and indirectly through Forbo International SA and Forbo Finanz AG.

Disclosure of significant shareholders and significant shareholder groups and their holdings is effected in accordance with the disclosures made in the year under review pursuant to Article 20 of the Federal Act on Stock Exchanges and Securities Trading (SESTA) and the provisions of the Ordinance of the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority on Stock Exchanges and Securities Trading (SESTO-FINMA).

On March 25, 2015, This E. Schneider reported that his shareholding had fallen below 3%. On April 16, 2015, JPMorgan Chase & Co. reported that it had exceeded the 3% threshold and that it held 61,900 shares and 5,437 equity swaps indirectly, corresponding to 3.132% of the voting rights. On April 21, 2015, JPMorgan Chase & Co. reported that its shareholding had fallen below 3% and that it held 59,016 shares and 5,437 equity swaps, equivalent to 2.998% of voting rights. On July 11, 2015, BlackRock Inc. reported that it had exceeded the 3% threshold and that it held 60,853 shares and 3,808 contracts for difference (CFD), corresponding to 3.01% of the voting rights. BlackRock Inc. further reported that it also held 2,184 sales positions in connection with CFD, corresponding to 0.1% of the voting rights. Forbo Holding Ltd reported on July 16, 2015, that, as a result of the completion of the



capital reduction approved by the Ordinary General Meeting of Forbo Holding Ltd on April 24, 2015, it had fallen below the 5% threshold and that it held 93,168 of its own shares, equivalent to 4.682% of the voting rights, directly and indirectly through Forbo International SA, Baar, Switzerland, and Forbo Finanz AG, Baar, Switzerland. Forbo Holding Ltd further reported that it had granted 1,842 stock purchase rights on 1,842 registered shares of Forbo Holding Ltd, corresponding to 0.093% of the voting rights. In addition, as a result of the capital reduction, BlackRock Inc. reported on July 18, 2015, that it had exceeded the 3% threshold with registered shares alone, since it held 61,080 registered shares and 5,072 CFD, corresponding to 3.32% of the voting rights. BlackRock Inc. further reported that it held 2,235 sales positions in connection with CFD, corresponding to 0.11% of the voting rights. On September 16, 2015, Credit Suisse Funds AG reported that it had exceeded 3% and held 60,148 shares, corresponding to 3.02% of the voting rights. Forbo Holding Ltd further reported on September 16, 2015, that it had exceeded the 5% threshold and that it held 100,922 of its own shares, corresponding to 5.071% of the voting rights, directly and indirectly via Forbo International SA, Baar, Switzerland, and Forbo Finanz AG, Baar, Switzerland. In addition, Forbo Holding Ltd reported that it had granted 1,552 stock purchase rights on 1,552 registered shares of Forbo Holding Ltd, corresponding to 0.078% of the voting rights. On October 2, 2015, Credit Suisse Funds AG reported that it had fallen below the 3% threshold. Forbo Holding Ltd reported on October 22, 2015 that it had exceeded the 10% threshold and that it held 208,982 of its own shares, corresponding to 10.502% of the voting rights, directly and indirectly via Forbo International SA, Baar, Switzerland, and Forbo Finanz AG, Baar, Switzerland. Forbo Holding Ltd further reported that it had granted 1,552 stock purchase rights on 1,552 registered shares of Forbo Holding Ltd, corresponding to 0.078% of the voting rights. Norges Bank reported on December 10, 2015, that it had fallen below 3% and held 59,414 shares, corresponding to 2.99% of the voting rights. BlackRock Inc. reported on December 16, 2015, that it had fallen below 3% and held 58,939 shares, corresponding to 2.96% of the voting rights. Norges Bank reported on December 23, 2015, that it had exceeded 3% and that it held 59,774 shares, equivalent to 3.004% of voting rights and that it held 1,859 shares of this portion (or 0.09% of its holding) as security. Norges Bank reported on December 24, 2015, that it had fallen below 3% again and held 57,915 shares, corresponding to 2.91% of the voting rights.

No other disclosures were made in 2015.

For further information on significant shareholders or shareholder groups, we refer the reader to the table on page 58 and to page 155 of the financial report (duty of disclosure pursuant to Article 663c, Swiss Code of Obligations).

### **Cross-shareholdings**

Forbo Holding Ltd has not entered into any cross-shareholdings with mutual capital shareholdings or voting rights.

## **Capital structure**

### **Share capital**

As of December 31, 2015, Forbo Holding Ltd had a fully paid up share capital of CHF 199,000, which was divided into 1,990,000 listed registered shares, each with a par value of CHF 0.10. Of this amount:

- 59.95% were registered in the name of 1,927 shareholders with voting rights
- 31.14% were shares of banks or of SIX SIS AG pending registration of transfer
- 8.91% were registered in the share register without voting rights

The shares of Forbo Holding Ltd (security number 000354151/ISIN CH0003541510) are listed on SIX Swiss Exchange. No different categories of shares exist. Each share entitles the owner to one vote. Further information on Forbo shares can be found on pages 54 and 55. Further information on the rights of participation associated with shares can be found on pages 69 and 70 of this Annual Report.

The share buyback program launched by the Board of Directors on April 29, 2014, based on the authorization given by the Ordinary General Meeting of Forbo Holding Ltd of April 25, 2014, was completed on April 23, 2015. By this date, Forbo Holding Ltd had repurchased a further 1,533 shares via the second trading line in the year under review. The Ordinary General Meeting of April 24, 2015, approved the cancelation of the total of 160,000 shares acquired through the share buyback program. At the Ordinary General Meeting of Forbo Holding Ltd of April 24, 2015, the Board of Directors was again authorized to buy back own shares up to a maximum of 10% of the share capital over a period of three years either on a second trading line at the SIX Swiss Exchange or otherwise, with the purpose of extinguishing them at a later stage. The Board of Directors reserved the right to interrupt or terminate the share buyback program if this should become necessary in order to finance external growth. The Board of Directors once more opted for a two-stage procedure in which the shareholders took the basic decision at the Ordinary General Meeting of Forbo Holding Ltd on April 24, 2015, and will be asked to approve the cancelation of the repurchased shares at one of the forthcoming General Meetings. By December 31, 2015, Forbo Holding Ltd had repurchased 108,683 shares via the second trading line. In addition to the repurchase via the second trading line, an additional 81,317 shares were tendered to Forbo Holding Ltd in a fixed-price repurchase program. In total, therefore, Forbo Holding Ltd repurchased 190,000 shares, corresponding to 9.55% of the share capital.

#### **Conditional and authorized capital**

Pursuant to Clause 4 of the Articles of Association, Forbo Holding Ltd has a maximum conditional capital of CHF 16,645, corresponding to 166,450 registered shares to be paid up in full with a par value of CHF 0.10 each. The capital increase takes place in accordance with the Articles of Association through the exercise of option and convertible rights granted in connection with the bonds issued by the company or one of its subsidiaries, or through the exercise of option rights granted to shareholders. Except for shareholder options, shareholders have no right of subscription. Holders of option or convertible rights are entitled to subscribe to new share issues. The registration of new shares is subject to the general restriction set out in Clause 6 of the Articles of Association, which stipulates that shareholders are entered in the share register with voting rights only if they declare expressly that they have acquired the shares in their own name and for their own account.

There is no authorized capital.

#### **Changes in capital**

The Ordinary General Meeting of Forbo Holding Ltd on April 24, 2015, decided, based on the audit report of a licensed audit expert, to reduce the ordinary share capital of the company by CHF 16,000, from CHF 215,000 to CHF 199,000, by canceling 160,000 shares with a par value of CHF 0.10 each. The Articles of Association were amended accordingly.

The Ordinary General Meeting of Forbo Holding Ltd on April 25, 2014, decided, based on the audit report of a licensed audit expert, to reduce the ordinary share capital of the company by CHF 10,000 from CHF 225,000 to CHF 215,000 by canceling 100,000 shares with a par value of CHF 0.10 each. The Articles of Association were amended accordingly.

In 2013, except for the implementation of the decision of the Extraordinary General Meeting of November 5, 2012, at which, based on the audit report of a licensed audit expert, the ordinary share capital of the company was reduced by CHF 25,000, from CHF 250,000 to CHF 225,000, by canceling 250,000 shares with a par value of CHF 0.10 each, there was no change to the capital of Forbo Holding Ltd.

#### **Participation certificates and non-voting equity securities ('Genussscheine')**

Forbo Holding Ltd has issued neither participation certificates nor non-voting equity securities.

### **Limitations on transferability and nominee registrations**

Forbo Holding Ltd does not have any percentage limitations on voting rights. The Board of Directors may only refuse to register stock in the share register if the purchaser of the stock does not expressly declare at the company's request that he/she has acquired the shares in his/her own name and for his/her own account.

Pursuant to Clause 6 of the Articles of Association, nominees may be entered in the share register with voting rights for up to a maximum of 0.3% of the registered share capital entered in the Commercial Register. Over and above this limit, nominees are only entered provided the name, address, and shareholding of those persons are disclosed for whose account the nominee holds a total of 0.3% or more of the registered share capital entered in the Commercial Register.

No statutory privileges exist and there is no restriction on the transferability of the shares of Forbo Holding Ltd.

### **Convertible bonds and warrants/options**

Forbo Holding Ltd has no outstanding convertible bonds nor has it issued any marketable warrants/options. Details on the Management Investment Plan (MIP) for the Executive Board as amended in 2012, under which options allocated before the amendment are still outstanding, can be found on page 89, as well as on pages 123 and 124 of this Annual Report.

## **Board of Directors**

### **Members of the Board of Directors**

The cut-off date for the following information is December 31, 2015.

With the exception of This E. Schneider, Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors, none of the members of the Board of Directors listed below holds or has held any operational management positions for Forbo Holding Ltd or its Group companies. With the exception of This E. Schneider, none of the members of the Board of Directors sat on the Executive Board of Forbo Holding Ltd or the management of its Group companies in the three business years preceding the period under review. There are no essential business relationships between the members of the Board of Directors and Forbo Holding Ltd or its Group companies.

#### **This E. Schneider, Executive Chairman**

This E. Schneider, born in 1952, is a Swiss citizen. He studied economics at the University of St. Gallen (lic. oec. HSG) and at the Graduate School of Business, Stanford University, California, USA. After various management functions in Europe and the USA, he joined the Executive Board of Schmidt Agency, where he was responsible for strategic planning, operations and logistics from 1984 to 1990. From 1991 to 1993 he was Chairman and CEO of the publicly listed company SAFAA, Paris. In 1994, he became a member of the Executive Board of Valora, with responsibility for the canteen and catering division. From 1997 to 2002, he was Delegate and Vice President of the Board of Directors of Selecta Group. From March 2004 to December 2013, This E. Schneider was Delegate of the Board of Directors and CEO, and from January to April 2014 Delegate of the Board of Directors of the Forbo Group. He has been the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors since the Ordinary General Meeting of 2014. This E. Schneider is also a member of the Board of Directors of Galenica SA, Rieter Holding AG and Autoneum Holding AG.

**Michael Pieper, Vice Chairman**

Michael Pieper, born in 1946, is a Swiss citizen. He studied economics (lic. oec. HSG) at the University of St. Gallen. He has been with the Artemis Group (formerly the Franke Group) since 1988 and has been its owner and CEO since 1989. Amongst others, he is a member of the Board of Directors of Hero AG, advalTech Holding AG, AFG Arbonia-Forster-Holding AG, Berenberg Bank (Schweiz) AG, Rieter Holding AG and Autoneum Holding AG. He was first elected to the Board of Directors of Forbo Holding Ltd in 2000.

**Dr. Peter Altorfer, Vice Chairman**

Peter Altorfer, born in 1953, is a Swiss citizen. He studied law at the University of Zurich and holds a doctorate in law (Dr. iur.). He attended the PED program at the IMD, Lausanne. Until 1988, he worked at Bank Leu AG. He subsequently joined the law firm Wenger&Vieli in Zurich, where he is now a partner, specializing in bank and company law. Peter Altorfer sits on the Board of Directors of several companies, including Huber + Suhner AG in Herisau, agta record ag in Fehraltorf, Abegg Holding AG in Zurich, Altin AG in Baar, the Werner Abegg Fund in Zurich and various private and foreign banks, as well as unlisted investment and real estate companies in Switzerland. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of Forbo Holding Ltd since March 2005.

**Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski**

Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski, born in 1973, is a Swiss citizen. She took a degree in law at the University of Zurich (lic. iur.) and earned her Master of Law (LL. M.) at the London School of Economics and Political Sciences. From 2006 to 2011 she managed the business of Faerbi Immobilien AG (subsequently Rietpark Immobilien AG) in Zurich as a member of the Board of Directors. Afterwards until 2014, she implemented various projects for P. A. Media AG and Swisscontent AG in Zurich (M&A amongst others). She is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Tamedia AG and Swisscontent AG and holds directorships in other foundations and committees. She has been a member of the Board of Directors of Forbo Holding Ltd since April 2014.

**Dr. Reto Müller**

Reto Müller, born in 1951, is a Swiss citizen. He took a first degree in economics and completed his doctorate (Dr. oec. HSG) at the University of St. Gallen. He also completed the Stanford Executive Program and additional training at IMD, INSEAD and the Harvard Business School. He is a founding partner of Helbling group of companies, for which he has worked since 1984. From 2000 to 2011 he was the CEO and Chairman of the Board and in July 2011 he was appointed full-time Chairman of the Board of Helbling Holding AG. Between 2002 and 2010 Reto Müller was either a member or Chairman of the Zurich Regional Economic Advisory Board (Zurich) of the Swiss National Bank. He has been a member of the Council of SWISSMEM since 2008. He also holds other directorships. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of Forbo Holding Ltd since April 2011.

**Vincent Studer**

Vincent Studer, born in 1962, is a Swiss citizen. He completed the University of Applied Sciences, Berne, and trained as a Swiss certified public accountant. In addition, he has attended various national and international training courses. From 1991 to 2008, Vincent Studer worked at Ernst&Young AG as an external auditor and was head auditor responsible for auditing the statements of national and international companies in various industries. In 2001 he was appointed a partner in the area of Auditing. Since 2008 he has been a partner and member of the management, and since 2015 a member of the Board, of the accountancy and auditing firm T+R AG, Gümligen/Berne, where he heads the Auditing business unit. Vincent Studer is a member of the Board of Directors of Bank EEK AG in Berne. He holds further directorships in other companies and foundations. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of Forbo Holding Ltd since April 2009.

## Board of Directors of Forbo Holding Ltd as per December 31, 2015

	First elected at OGM	AFC	HRNC	RC
<b>Executive Chairman</b>				
THIS E. SCHNEIDER	2004	–	–	–
Executive Director				
<b>Vice Chairmen</b>				
MICHAEL PIEPER	2000	–	M	M
Non-executive director				
DR. PETER ALTORFER	2005	M	C	C
Non-executive director				
<b>Members</b>				
CLAUDIA CONINX-KACZYNSKI	2014	–	M	M
Non-executive director				
DR. RETO MÜLLER	2011	M	–	–
Non-executive director				
VINCENT STUDER	2009	C	–	–
Non-executive director				
<b>Secretary of the Board of Directors</b>				
NICOLE GRAF				
Non-member				

OGM: Ordinary General Meeting  
 AFC: Audit and Finance Committee  
 HRNC: Human Resources and Nomination Committee  
 RC: Remuneration Committee  
 C: Chair  
 M: Member



### **Statutory regulations governing the number of permissible activities pursuant to Article 12 Paragraph 1 Section 1 OaER**

In accordance with Clause 22 of the Articles of Association, members of the Board of Directors may hold no more than five mandates in listed companies and twenty mandates in unlisted legal entities. A mandate is defined as any activity in the senior managerial or supervisory bodies of legal entities that are entered in the Swiss Commercial Register or comparable foreign registers and do not belong to the Forbo Group. Mandates with associated companies outside the Forbo Group are deemed to be a single mandate.

### **Election and term of office**

The members of the Board of Directors will be elected in individual votes for a one-year term of office, in accordance with the Ordinance against Excessive Remuneration in Listed Public Companies (OaER). A year is defined as the period between two Ordinary General Meetings. In accordance with the Organizational Regulations of Forbo Holding Ltd, members who have reached the age of 70 resign from the Board of Directors at the Ordinary General Meeting of the following year. The Board may, however, approve exceptions. In determining the composition of the Board of Directors, importance is attached to the election of independent individuals with international experience in industrial companies as well as in the financial and consultancy sectors.

The Articles of Association of Forbo Holding Ltd do not contain any regulations that deviate from the statutory provisions for the appointment of the Chairman, the members of the Remuneration Committee and the independent proxy.

### **Internal organizational structure**

The allocation of tasks within the Board of Directors and the composition of the Board committees are shown in the table on page 63.

Decisions are as a general rule taken by the full Board of Directors. The Board constitutes three standing committees from its own ranks – the Audit and Finance Committee (AFC), the Human Resources and Nomination Committee (HRNC), and the Remuneration Committee (RC) – to deal with clearly defined subject areas of overriding importance. These three committees have mainly advisory and control functions. The members of the AFC and HRNC are elected by the Board of Directors on an annual basis and can be dismissed at any time. The members of the RC are elected annually by the Ordinary General Meeting.

As a rule, the Executive Chairman of the Board of the Directors chairs the meetings of the Board and the General Meeting. He plans and conducts the meetings of the Board and the General Meeting. The meetings of the Board and the relevant items on the agenda are prepared by the Executive Chairman. He monitors the execution of the measures adopted by the Board. He is the direct superior of the CEO, is in regular contact with him, and has an advisory and supervisory function. In addition, the Executive Chairman represents the Board and the Forbo Group vis-à-vis the public, the authorities and the shareholders. The tasks of the Executive Chairman of the Board and the demarcation of responsibilities from those of the CEO are set out in the chapter 'Areas of responsibility'.

The Vice Chairmen are tasked with deputizing for the Executive Chairman should the latter be prevented from attending for any reason. In accordance with the Organizational Regulations and actual practice, the Vice Chairmen have no further duties.

The Vice Chairmen are elected by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors meets on being convened by the Executive Chairman as often as business requires but at least four times a year. The items on the agenda must be announced at least five working days before the day of the meeting. This notification period may be shortened in urgent cases. In 2015, the Board of Directors met seven times, the meetings usually lasting a whole day.

The Executive Chairman may invite members of the Executive Board or other senior employees to attend Board meetings for individual items. Regular use is made of this option. External consultants participate in the meetings of the Board of Directors, the AFC, the RC or the HRNC only in exceptional circumstances to deal with particular items. As a rule, however, the meetings are held without external consultants.

#### **Audit and Finance Committee**

The AFC advises the Board of Directors in respect of its duties on behalf of the Group in the areas of financial reporting, the accounting standards and systems used, and decisions with significant financial implications. The AFC monitors the activities of the internal auditors and the external auditors. Moreover, it establishes the audit program of the internal auditors and proposes to the Board of Directors the choice of the external auditors for the attention of the General Meeting. The CEO and the CFO are regularly requested to attend meetings in an advisory capacity, while the internal and external auditors may attend on special invitation.

The AFC convenes as often as business requires, but at least twice a year. In the 2015 business year, three meetings were held, each lasting about half a day. The external auditors were present for some items on the agenda of the AFC's meeting on the financial statements and at the meeting to discuss the scope of the audit and the audit fee. The Ernst&Young representatives responsible for internal auditing attended two meetings held to discuss the internal audit reports.

#### **Human Resources and Nomination Committee**

We refer to the explanations in the remuneration report on page 77.

#### **Remuneration Committee**

We refer to the explanations in the remuneration report on pages 77 and 78.

#### **Areas of responsibility**

The Board of Directors bears ultimate responsibility for the management of Forbo Holding Ltd. The main duties of the Board of Directors are the following non-transferable and inalienable tasks pursuant to the Swiss Code of Obligations and the Articles of Association:

- ultimate management of the company and issuing the necessary directives
- definition of the organization
- organization of accounting, financial controlling, and financial planning
- appointment and dismissal of persons entrusted with the management of the company
- overall supervision of the persons entrusted with managing the company, particularly with respect to compliance with the law, articles of association, regulations, and directives
- preparation of the Annual Report, and of the General Meeting and implementation of its resolutions
- preparation of the remuneration report
- notification of the court in the event of over-indebtedness

The Board of Directors bears ultimate responsibility for supervising and monitoring the management of the company and is responsible for the corporate strategy. It issues guidelines for business policy and is regularly briefed on the current state of business.

Business to be dealt with by the Board of Directors is regularly submitted in advance to the AFC, HRNC and RC, ad hoc committees or individual members, depending on the subject, for review or an opinion. With the exception of its non-transferable and inalienable tasks, the Board of Directors may transfer tasks and responsibilities in full or in part to individual members of the Board or to third parties.

The Board of Directors is empowered to take decisions on all matters which are not reserved or transferred to the General Meeting or another body of Forbo by law, the Articles of Association, or regulations.

Tasks of the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors:

- leading the Board of Directors
- preparing the decisions of the Board of Directors and ensuring they are executed
- representing and positioning the Group in the public
- overall management of strategy development and involvement in realizing key strategic projects
- management of relationships with key accounts and business, sector and capital market partners

Tasks of the Chief Executive Officer:

- operational management of the Group
- leading the Executive Board
- development and operational implementation of strategies
- implementation and monitoring of multi-year planning and budgets
- support for the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors in preparing important projects relating to strategy, personnel, and finances for discussion and decision-taking by the Board of Directors

The CEO reports to the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors and as a rule participates in all Board meetings dealing with topics that are relevant for the exercise of his function. He himself though is not a member of the Board of Directors. All business management tasks that are not allocated to the Board of Directors or the Executive Chairman of the Board and that do not require the approval of the Board are delegated to the CEO and are conducted by him on his own responsibility. The CEO is responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions of the law, the Articles of Association, and regulations throughout the Forbo Group.

In carrying out his tasks, the CEO is supported by the members of the Executive Board, who report to him. The Executive Board comprises the CEO, CFO, and the Executive Vice Presidents of the two divisions; it is responsible for the long-term success and market-driven management of the Forbo Group.

The members of the Executive Board are responsible for their particular area of activity and also bear co-responsibility for safeguarding the interests of the Group and achieving the financial Group result.

### **Information and control instruments vis-à-vis the Executive Board**

At the meetings of the Board of Directors, any member may request information about any matter concerning the Forbo Group. Outside the meetings, such requests for information are to be addressed to the Executive Chairman. The CEO and the other members of the Executive Board inform the Board of Directors at each regular meeting about the current state of business, important business events, and significant deviations from the budget.

The Chairmen of the AFC, the HRNC, and the RC report at the Board of Directors meetings on the activities of their committees and express the opinions and recommendations of the AFC, HRNC or RC on the business items on which decisions are to be taken. Each member of the Board of Directors has the right to inspect the minutes of the AFC, HRNC, and RC meetings. The Executive Board reports to the AFC through the CFO in consultation with the CEO; it reports to the HRNC and RC through the CEO.

The Board is also regularly briefed outside meetings about events and challenges facing the Group and the general performance of the divisions. In addition, the Executive Chairman and the two Vice Chairmen are in regular contact when essential policy issues are involved. For important, particularly urgent events, the CEO informs the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors immediately.

The Executive Board meets as often as business requires, normally once a month. In the 2015 business year, eleven meetings were held, the meetings usually lasting half a day.

The CEO conducts the meetings of the Executive Board. For details concerning the participation of members of the Executive Board in meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees, see the sections on internal organization and on the AFC, HRNC, and RC on pages 64 and 65, as well as 77 and 78, respectively.

The Board of Directors furthermore fulfils its supervisory and monitoring obligations by means of financial reporting and its role in the planning cycle. The internal and external auditors also assist the Board in this task. Neither the external auditors nor the internal auditors, however, were invited to any meetings of the Board of Directors in 2015 as there were no special incidents or topics for discussion.

As part of financial reporting, the Board of Directors is informed as a rule once a month in writing about the company's current business performance and earnings situation by means of annotated income statements, key ratios, and deviation analyses.

The Board of Directors is, moreover, involved in the company's planning cycle. As a rule, the existing strategy is subjected to a thorough review by the Board of Directors in the first half of the year. The revised strategy is quantified in the three-year medium-term plan, which is approved at mid-year by the Board of Directors. Based on the medium-term plan, the Board of Directors sets the budget objectives for the coming business year. These budget objectives are the basis for the detailed budget, which is discussed and adopted by the Board of Directors in the fourth quarter.

The current business year is assessed in a first estimate always at the end of May and in a second estimate mid-October. On completion of the business year, the extent to which the budget has been reached is checked and deviations are analyzed. This analysis is used to derive appropriate measures, which are then implemented in the next planning cycle.

Internal auditing is effected by Ernst&Young, which has been commissioned for this purpose. Internal auditing is administratively subordinated to the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors, is functionally independent, and reports directly to the AFC.

The audits are conducted in accordance with an annual plan approved by the AFC. A distinction is made between ordinary and special engagement audits. The latter consist of limited reviews, follow-up reviews, compliance audits, and other special engagements. Where necessary, the risks and weaknesses identified in these audits are minimized or eliminated by measures adopted by management and are constantly monitored.

In 2015, a total of seven internal audits were conducted. The internal audits were restricted to individual business processes. In its review of audited Group companies, Internal Audit included any issues that had been defined in the framework of the internal control system (ICS). Internal audits also involved various compliance reviews related to these processes. Lastly, additional risks and controls in connection with the above-mentioned business processes were analyzed in the audit. At least two companies in each division were audited in the course of the internal audits.

By means of self-assessments and management controls by division management, the implementation and reliability of the controls introduced with the ICS were examined to ensure that deviations were identified and that appropriate corrective measures were implemented.

### **Risk management**

The ongoing and systematic evaluation of current and future risks invariably involves identifying and capitalizing on opportunities. Forbo regards risk management as a managerial and working tool designed, among other things, to safeguard the tangible and intangible assets of the company.

Forbo has a risk-based insurance coverage in line with industry practice and has appropriately insured in particular operational risks such as property damage, business interruption and liability. The risks specifically in the areas of property damage and business interruption are examined in the context of periodic risk engineering reports by external experts. For this purpose, production companies are visited at regular intervals, and comprehensive surveys are worked through with local management. Action plans are drawn up and implemented based on the risks identified. These risk engineering audits have been prepared since 1990.

As regards business risks, Forbo addresses strategic risks as well as market and financial risks. In the area of market risks, interest and currency risks are monitored centrally and hedged in certain cases. The liquidity and financing of subsidiaries are also monitored centrally. Please also refer to pages 135 to 139 of the financial report for more information on this subject.

With regard to the risk management process, the reader is referred to the relevant explanations on pages 135 to 139 (note 33 'Risk assessment and financial risk management') of the financial report.



## Executive Board

### **Members of the Executive Board, other activities, and vested interests**

The members of the Executive Board, their nationality, function, training and professional career, as well as other activities and vested interests, are set out on pages 47 and 48 of this Annual Report.

### **Statutory regulations governing the number of permissible activities pursuant to Article 12 Paragraph 1 Section 1 OaER**

In accordance with Clause 22 of the Articles of Association, members of the Executive Board may hold no more than two mandates in listed companies and seven mandates in unlisted legal entities. The acceptance of mandates by members of the Executive Board is subject to prior approval by the Board of Directors. A mandate is defined as any activity in the senior managerial or supervisory bodies of legal entities that are entered in the Swiss Commercial Register or comparable foreign registers and do not belong to the Forbo Group. Mandates with associated companies outside the Forbo Group are deemed to be a single mandate.

### **Management contracts**

Forbo Holding Ltd has concluded no management contracts with third parties.

## Compensation, shareholdings, and loans

For the relevant information we refer to the remuneration report from page 75.

## Shareholders' participation

### **Voting right restriction and representation**

The registration of shares with voting rights in the share register requires the consent of the Board of Directors. Such consent may be withheld if the purchaser does not expressly declare that he/she has acquired and is holding the shares in his/her own name and for his/her own account. Pursuant to the Articles of Association, nominees may be entered in the share register with voting rights for up to a maximum of 0.3% of the registered share capital entered in the Commercial Register. The restriction also applies to shares that are subscribed or acquired through exercise of a subscription, option or convertible right. Resolutions on the amendment or abrogation of the clause on the registration of registered shares require a majority of two-thirds of the votes represented at the General Meeting and the absolute majority of the par value of the shares represented.

Deviating from Article 689 Paragraph 2 Swiss Code of Obligations, shareholders who are unable to attend the General Meeting in person may not be represented by any third party of their choosing. They may only be represented by the legal representative, the independent proxy, or another shareholder who is registered in the share register.

### **Electronic participation in the General Meeting**

Clause 12 of the Articles of Association defines the rules for electronic issuing of instructions to the independent proxy; the precise modalities for this are defined by the Board of Directors. In accordance with Clause 14 of the Articles of Association, voting and elections at the General Meeting are in principle conducted electronically, unless the General Meeting decides that the ballot should be in writing or by a show of hands or the Chairman orders such a ballot procedure.

**Statutory quorums**

The Articles of Association of Forbo Holding Ltd do not provide for quorums that are larger than those stipulated by law for decisions of the General Meeting.

**Convening of the General Meeting**

The General Meeting is convened in accordance with the statutory provisions.

**Agenda**

Shareholders who represent shares with a par value of at least 1% of the share capital may request that an item be placed on the agenda. This request must be communicated to the Board of Directors in writing, indicating the proposals, at least 45 days before the date of the General Meeting.

**Entry in the share register**

In accordance with Clause 12 of the Articles of Association, the Board of Directors, in its invitation to the General Meeting, announces the cut-off date for entries in the share register authorizing shareholder participation and voting.

## Changes in control and defense measures

**Duty to make an offer**

The Articles of Association of Forbo Holding Ltd do not contain an 'opting-up' clause or an 'opting-out' clause pursuant to Article 32 and 22 SESTA.

**Clause on changes of control**

As per year-end 2015, no clauses on changes of control existed in agreements or plans involving members of the Board of Directors, the Executive Board or other members of management.

## Auditors

**Duration of the mandate and term of office of the head auditor**

KPMG has been the Forbo Group's auditors since 2015. The auditors are elected every year by the Ordinary General Meeting on a proposal by the Board of Directors. Rolf Hauenstein has been the Auditor in Charge since April 24, 2015.

**Auditing fees**

The auditing fees levied by the Group's auditors for auditing the consolidated financial statements, including the statutory audit of the individual financial statements of the holding company and the consolidated subsidiaries, amounted to CHF 0.9 million in the year under review.

**Additional fees**

The additional consultancy fees that were invoiced by the auditing company amounted to CHF 0.1 million in 2015. These fees consist in the main of general tax advice as well as general advice.

### **Information instruments of the external auditors**

The external auditors prepare as needed for the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors, the CEO and the CFO an annual management letter on their work and the results of their audit at Group level in the year under review. The key points are submitted to the Board of Directors in the form of a comprehensive report. The external auditors also prepare management letters on the subsidiaries they have audited. The AFC assesses and evaluates the proposals and statements it has received and appraises the corrective measures taken by management. At the AFC's invitation, representatives of the external auditors attend the AFC meetings in an advisory capacity. The Chairman of the AFC reports on the activities of the AFC and its assessment of the external auditors at the meetings of the Board of Directors. Any member of the Board of Directors may inspect the minutes of the AFC meetings.

At its meetings, the AFC assesses the performance and fees of the external auditors as well as their independence in both their auditing and their non-auditing capacities. This evaluation is based on the documents prepared by the external auditors and the discussions held with the external auditors in the meetings. It also draws on the evaluation of the CFO, who, if required, obtains the opinion of local management with regard to the audit work for the subsidiaries. The criteria for the evaluation of the external auditors are, in particular, their technical and operational competency, their independence and objectivity, delivery of the audit reports on time, scope and focus of the audits, and the ability to provide effective and practical recommendations. This assessment by the AFC forms the basis for the proposal made by the Board of Directors to the Ordinary General Meeting regarding the choice of the external auditors.

## **Information policy**

### **Transparency for investors**

Forbo provides objective and periodic communication with shareholders, the capital market, the media, and the public by reporting in timely fashion on business trends and activities relevant to the company. The Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors can be contacted directly for such information.

Shareholders receive summary reports on the business year as well as half-year reports. The Annual Report, like all other published documents, is available in printed form as well as on the Internet at [www.forbo.com](http://www.forbo.com). The General Meeting is an additional source of information. Periodic publication of media releases, the annual media and analysts' conference, and road shows are further information tools for the media and the capital market.

### **Ad hoc communication**

Registration for the automated dissemination of ad hoc releases in accordance with the guideline on ad hoc publicity of the SIX Swiss Exchange is available at the following addresses:

www.forbo.com → Medien → Medienmitteilung 'Subscription Service'  
www.forbo.com → Media → Media releases 'subscription service'

Notification to shareholders takes place through publication in the company's official publication provided no other form of information is stipulated. Written notification to shareholders takes place through a simple letter to the addresses listed in the share register.

A financial calendar with the key dates can be found on page 8 of this Annual Report. Further information on the Forbo share is printed on pages 54 and 55 of this Annual Report.

Publications may be ordered by e-mail, fax, or telephone:

E-mail [communications@forbo.com](mailto:communications@forbo.com)

Phone +41 58 787 25 25

Fax +41 58 787 20 25

The contact address for Investor Relations is:

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# REMUNERATION REPORT

# REMUNERATION REPORT

## Introduction

The Ordinance against Excessive Remuneration in Listed Public Companies (OaER) entered into force on January 1, 2014. The Ordinance allows a transition period until the end of 2015. The Board of Directors promptly submitted a comprehensive amendment of the Articles of Association to the Ordinary General Meeting of April 25, 2014. The present remuneration report was drawn up by the Board of Directors in compliance with the OaER and the amended Articles of Association.

As of the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting, and in accordance with the OaER and the amended Articles of Association, all members of the Board of Directors, including members of the Remuneration Committee, are now elected in individual ballots for a term of one year.

In accordance with the amendment of the Articles adopted at the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting, the below rules apply to votes on remuneration.

Once a year, the Ordinary General Meeting approves the maximum sum for the total remuneration to be paid to the Board of Directors for the business year following the Ordinary General Meeting, in a separate and binding ballot. In addition, a vote is taken on the maximum total amount of fixed remuneration to be paid to the Executive Board for the business year following the Ordinary General Meeting, and the amount of variable remuneration to be paid to the Executive Board for the business year preceding the Ordinary General Meeting.

At the 2016 Ordinary General Meeting, shareholders will vote individually on the following three remuneration payments:

- Maximum total remuneration of the Board of Directors for 2017
- Maximum fixed remuneration of the Executive Board for 2017
- Variable remuneration of the Executive Board for 2015

The total remuneration was approved by a large majority in a consultative vote on the 2014 remuneration report at the Ordinary General Meeting of April 24, 2015 (agenda item 6.1). Participants in the 2016 Ordinary General Meeting will also be invited to vote in a consultative ballot on the entire 2015 remuneration report.

## Content and methodology for determining the remuneration and shareholding program

### **The Human Resources and Nomination Committee (HRNC): task and function**

The Human Resources and Nomination Committee (HRNC) advises the Board of Directors in exercising its responsibilities for the Group in matters relating to human resources and nominations both for the Board of Directors and the most senior level of management. More specifically, the HRNC formulates personnel policy proposals for appointments to the Board of Directors and to the posts of Chairman, CEO, and other Executive Board members for submission to the Board of Directors. Furthermore, it assesses and approves the proposals of the Executive Chairman of the Board and the CEO regarding Executive Board appointments and employment contracts. It also approves the acceptance of mandates by members of the Executive Board in companies that are not part of the Forbo Group.

The Human Resources and Nomination Committee meets as often as business requires, but at least twice a year. In the 2015 business year, the HRNC held three meetings, each lasting a couple of hours.

The Human Resources and Nomination Committee consists of at least two members of the Board of Directors. The Ordinary General Meeting of April 24, 2015, elected Dr. Peter Altorfer (Chair), Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski and Michael Pieper to the HRNC for the 2015 business year.

### **The Remuneration Committee (RC): task and function**

The Remuneration Committee supports the Board of Directors in defining the principles of remuneration policy and in determining the remuneration paid to members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board within the total sum of remuneration as approved by the Ordinary General Meeting. It supports the Board of Directors in drawing up participation programs and in all other tasks related to remuneration. The Remuneration Committee formulates appropriate recommendations for submission to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may delegate further duties and powers to the Remuneration Committee. The Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors is regularly invited to its meetings in an advisory capacity, as is the CEO in certain circumstances. Agenda items and matters directly affecting the function or the person of the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors or the CEO are deliberated in their absence.

The Remuneration Committee meets as often as business requires, but at least twice a year. In the 2015 business year, the Remuneration Committee held three meetings, each lasting a couple of hours.

The Remuneration Committee consists of at least two members of the Board of Directors. The Ordinary General Meeting of April 24, 2015 elected Dr. Peter Altorfer (Chair), Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski und Michael Pieper to the Remuneration Committee for the 2015 business year. The members of the Remuneration Committee are independent (non-executive) members of the Board of Directors, i.e. they have never belonged to the management of Forbo and have no or only negligible business relations with the company, though they may be shareholders.

### Decision-making process of the Remuneration Committee

The maximum amount of the total remuneration paid to the Board of Directors and the maximum fixed remuneration paid to the Executive Board are determined by the Remuneration Committee as a rule once a year in the spring for the following business year and are submitted to the Board of Directors for acceptance at its March meeting. The amount of the target bonus for the Executive Board is determined by the Remuneration Committee once a year in November for the following year.

	Proposal	Acceptance	Approval
<b>Remuneration budget</b>			
Maximum total remuneration of the Board of Directors	RC	BoD	Ordinary General Meeting for the following business year
Maximum fixed remuneration of the Executive Board	RC	BoD	Ordinary General Meeting for the following business year
Variable remuneration of the Executive Board	RC	BoD	Ordinary General Meeting for the preceding business year
<b>Performance targets</b>			
Performance targets – Executive Board	RC	BoD	
Performance targets – CEO	RC	BoD	

## Important changes in 2015

In the 2015 business year there were no important changes in the remuneration system for the Board of Directors or the Executive Board. The contractual adjustments to the OaER were made in 2013 and in 2014.

## Principles of remuneration for the Board of Directors and the Executive Board

Forbo's remuneration strategy is geared to long-term and sustainable corporate development. The aim is to remunerate employees appropriately for their achievements, commitment, and performance and thereby gain their long-term loyalty to the company. The purpose of paying part of the remuneration in the form of shares is to link the interests of the managers to those of the shareholders.

The members of the Board of Directors receive a fixed remuneration, the amount of which is determined according to whether the member is Board Chairman, a simple Board member or also a member of one of the Board committees. The remuneration is paid out to members of the Board of Directors partly in the form of locked-up shares in Forbo Holding Ltd.

The members of the Executive Board receive a fixed and a variable remuneration. The fixed remuneration is paid mainly in cash but may also include shares of Forbo Holding Ltd. The variable remuneration consists of a performance-based remuneration (bonus), at least 50% of which must be taken in the form of locked-up shares of Forbo Holding Ltd (see the description of the Management Investment Plan (MIP) on pages 83 and 84 of this remuneration report). The bonus is tied to the achievement of individual (qualitative) targets by each Executive Board member and of financial (quantitative) targets by the company. Depending on the function and responsibilities of the Executive Board member in question, these financial targets may be tied to Group and/or divisional objectives. It may not exceed 200% of the fixed remuneration of the individual Executive Board member.

The relevant statutory provisions governing the principles of performance-based remuneration, the distribution of shares, and the additional sum for remuneration of new members of the Executive Board who are appointed after the Ordinary General Meeting are set out in Chapter IV, pages 9 and 10 of the Articles of Association of Forbo Holding Ltd. These can be found at:

[www.forbo.com](http://www.forbo.com) → Investors → Ordinary General Meeting

## Determining the remuneration of the Board of Directors

In order to determine the remuneration of the Board of Directors, the compensation paid to Board members of Forbo Holding Ltd is compared periodically with that paid to Board members of comparable industrial companies based on information that is available from publicly accessible sources, from respected market data providers, and from data published by Ethos (the Foundation for Socially Responsible Investment and Active Shareownership) or is known to Board members from their experience of office in similar companies. Industrial companies are regarded as comparable if they are similar to Forbo in terms of sector, structure, size (sales and number of employees), geographic presence, profitability, market capitalization, and complexity. As a general rule, no external consultants are co-opted for determining the remuneration.

The relevant statutory provisions governing the principles of performance-driven remuneration and the distribution of shares are set out in Chapter IV, pages 9 and 10 of the Articles of Association of Forbo Holding Ltd. These can be found at:

[www.forbo.com](http://www.forbo.com) → Investors → Ordinary General Meeting

## Elements of remuneration for the Board of Directors

### **Non-executive members of the Board of Directors**

The non-executive members of the Board of Directors receive a fixed remuneration, the amount of which is determined according to whether the member is Board Chairman, a simple Board member or also a member of the Audit and Finance Committee (AFC), the Remuneration Committee (RC) or the Human Resources and Nomination Committee (HRNC). Of the remuneration, 40% is paid to the Board of Directors in shares of Forbo Holding Ltd. These shares have a lock-up period of three years. The number of shares issued is determined by taking the average price in the ten stock market days after distribution of a dividend or repayment of par value. If no dividend is distributed or no par value repayment made, the average price during the first ten stock market days starting on June 1 of the relevant business year applies. The settlement or payment of the shares usually takes place in November.

For the purpose of reporting the remuneration, the shares issued are valued at fair value on the date of allocation. The total compensation for the non-executive members of the Board of Directors also includes a lump sum for expenses plus employer contributions to the usual social insurance benefits.

The non-executive Board members do not participate in the Management Investment Plan (MIP).

### **Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors**

The compensation for the Delegate of the Board of Directors and as of April 25, 2014 the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors is disclosed separately and included under total remuneration to the Board of Directors.



With effect from May 2013, the employment contract with the Delegate of the Board of Directors, and as of April 25, 2014, the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors, was extended to encompass the period from May 1, 2013, to December 31, 2016. The remuneration will again be paid mainly in locked-up shares which have lock-up periods of three, four, and five years respectively, and in an annual cash payment of CHF 310,000, to be used in part for taxes and for employee contributions to the pension fund and social security. The underlying share price used to calculate the number of shares is the weighted average price of the first and last five days on which Forbo Holding Ltd shares were traded on the stock market in 2012 (CHF 522.12), less the reduced value as a result of locking up the shares. The share package corresponds to annual compensation of CHF 2,200,000 (5,314 shares).

With this share package and this cash remuneration, all compensations such as bonuses, inflation, salary adjustments, options, etc. are settled. This share package may not be either pledged or assigned. The last third of the locked-up shares will be available on May 1, 2018, at the earliest. This compensation model is thus geared to long-term and sustainable corporate development and is fully consistent with the interests of the company and its shareholders.

The total remuneration of the Delegate of the Board of Directors and as of April 25, 2014, the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors for the period from May 1, 2013, to December 31, 2016, was described in detail in the 2012 Annual Report and was approved by a majority of 98% in a consultative vote at the Ordinary General Meeting of April 26, 2013.

The Ordinance against Excessive Remuneration in Listed Public Companies (OaER) entered into force on January 1, 2014. According to Article 28 of the OaER, employment contracts must be compliant with the OaER by December 31, 2015, at the latest. Consequently, all payments that had been agreed and were paid out for 2016 have to be reversed by December 31, 2015, at the latest. The value of this fixed remuneration for This E. Schneider comes to CHF 2,200,000 for 2016. In order to comply with and implement the provisions of the OaER, Forbo and This E. Schneider have agreed that he will repay Forbo in cash the amount of his fixed compensation for the period from January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016, plus interest of 0.5% from May 1, 2013, to December 31, 2013. The repayment was completed before year-end 2013 and will be paid out to him again in monthly installments in 2016 after having been approved by the 2015 Ordinary General Meeting. The compensation package and the relevant agreements were adjusted accordingly. No severance payment or compensation in the event of a takeover was agreed; the period of notice is 12 months.

The total compensation for the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors came to CHF 2,934,617 for the year under review. Contained in this amount and reported in the column 'Other payments' are employer contributions to the pension fund, other usual social insurance benefits, private use of the company car, contributions for accident and health insurance, and location expenses. The Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors is not a party to the Management Investment Plan (MIP) or the share-based compensation program of the Board of Directors.

### **Remuneration paid**

For the remuneration paid to the Board of Directors in the year under review and the details concerning valuation of the shares, the reader is referred to pages 86 until 89 of this remuneration report.

## Determining the remuneration of the Executive Board

### Basic principles

In order to determine the remuneration of the Executive Board, criteria such as function, responsibility and experience are taken into account and the remuneration paid to Forbo Executive Board members is compared with that paid to Executive Board members in comparable industrial companies. This is based on information that is available from publicly accessible sources, from respected market data providers, and from data published by Ethos (the Foundation for Socially Responsible Investment and Active Shareownership) or is known to the members of the Remuneration Committee from their experience of office in similar companies. Industrial companies are regarded as comparable if they are similar to Forbo in terms of sector, structure, size (sales and number of employees), geographic presence, profitability, market capitalization, and complexity. As a general rule, no external consultants are co-opted for determining the remuneration.

### Alignment of performance-based remuneration to the corporate strategy

The remuneration strategy of Forbo is geared to its current corporate strategy and linked to the relevant key ratios. This is reflected in the choice of performance criteria that are tied to Group and/or divisional objectives depending on the function of the individual Executive Board member; these include net sales, EBIT, net working capital and free cash flow. The criteria for determining the remuneration paid to Executive Board members are thus transparent.

The Board of Directors is closely involved in the company's planning cycle. As a rule, the current corporate strategy is subjected to an in-depth review by the Board in the first half of the year. Once it has been confirmed or revised, the strategy is quantified in the three-year medium-term plan, which is approved at mid-year by the Board of Directors. Based on the medium-term plan, the Board of Directors sets the budget objectives for the coming business year. These budget objectives are the basis for the detailed budget, which is examined and adopted by the Board of Directors in the fourth quarter.

The Board of Directors assesses the current business year by means of an initial estimate at the end of May and a second estimate in mid-October. On completion of the business year, the extent to which the budget has been reached is checked and deviations are analyzed. The actual amount of the performance-driven remuneration paid out to the Executive Board is determined on the basis of the achievement of these individual targets. The Board of Directors defines the relation between budget target achievement and payment ratio.

The performance-driven portion of the remuneration for the previous year is paid out on completion of the business year and after approval by the shareholders. Impacts/performance criteria affecting the amount of the payment are tied directly to Group profitability. The chart below provides a detailed breakdown on the timing and connection between the corporate targets and the remuneration.

## Planning cycle

	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter
<b>Ordinary General Meeting</b>				
<b>Corporate strategy</b>				
Review/amendment of strategy				
Establishing mid-term plan				
Establishing budget				
<b>Working out remuneration</b>				
Defining maximum total remuneration of Board of Directors				
Defining maximum total remuneration of Executive Board				
Ordinary General Meeting approval of total remuneration of Board of Directors and of fixed remuneration of Executive Board for following business year				
Setting targets for Executive Board				
Assessing target achievement and proposal for variable remuneration of Executive Board				
Approval of variable remuneration of Executive Board for previous business year				

■ Decision period

## Elements of remuneration of the Executive Board

Remuneration of the members of the Executive Board consists of a fixed base salary and a performance-driven bonus.

### **Fixed remuneration**

The fixed base remuneration paid to the Executive Board in the reporting year consists of the gross base salary, private company car use, and social security payments made by the company. The Remuneration Committee may also decide that part of the remuneration will be paid in the form of shares in Forbo Holding Ltd (lock-up period of five years).

### **Performance-based remuneration**

The variable (performance-based) remuneration component is tied to qualitative (individual) and quantitative (financial) targets, which are defined in accordance with the operational responsibility of the Executive Board member in question. The Board of Directors defines and weights the individual and financial targets.

The qualitative targets are geared to the company's long-term sustainable development and may account for between 10% and 20% of the total variable remuneration. The remaining portion of the variable remuneration component depends on achievement of the financial (quantitative) targets. The main targets for members of the Executive Board are: net sales of the Group and/or a division (25% to 30% of the variable remuneration), EBIT of the Group and/or a division (50% to 55% of the variable remuneration), net working capital of the Group and/or a division (5% to 10% of the variable remuneration), RONA of the Group (0 to 10% of the variable remuneration) and free cash flow of the Group (0% to 10% of the variable remuneration).

The defined objectives of the entire variable remuneration are equivalent to 100% target achievement. The maximum target achievement is 150%. If a given threshold for a particular target is not reached, no bonus for that target is paid. Depending on the function, the variable remuneration may be as much as 140% of the fixed remuneration if targets are fully met. If the targets are exceeded, the variable remuneration may be as much as 200% of the fixed remuneration.

The amount of the performance-driven bonus, which is based on achievement of the individual and Group targets, is set in March on completion of the business year and is submitted to shareholders for approval at the Ordinary General Meeting.

### **Conversion of remuneration into shares in the Management Investment Plan (MIP)**

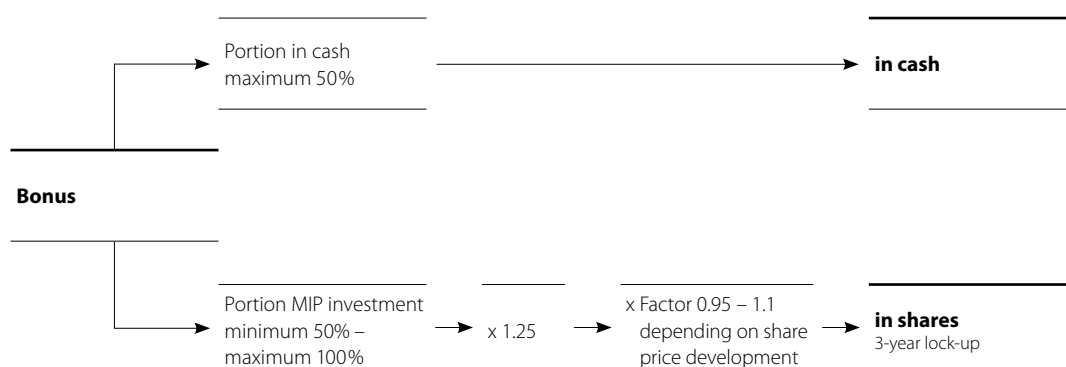
The bonus payment is linked to the Management Investment Plan (MIP), which was introduced in 2006 and amended in 2012. According to this plan, at least 50% of the annual bonus of Executive Board members must be paid into the MIP.

As for the remaining 50% of the annual bonus, the Executive Board members may either draw all or part of it in cash or pay it into the MIP. The Executive Board members may redefine the allocation of this remaining 50% every year.

Following the amendment of the MIP, all the sums paid into it will be invested solely in shares of Forbo Holding Ltd as of January 1, 2013. As a first step, the amount invested in the MIP will be increased by 25%, partly in order to take account of the three-year lock-up period. In addition, this amount will be multiplied by a factor that tracks the share price movement. This factor is calculated as follows:

$((SPA - SPP)/SPP) + 1$ , where 'SPA' stands for the share price applicable for the allocation of shares in the year of allocation and 'SPP' for the applicable share price in the previous year. The upper limit for this factor is 1.1 and the lower limit is 0.95.

The relevant share price for the allocation of shares is calculated from the unweighted average of the closing prices of the Forbo share in the first fourteen trading days in January of the allocation year. The shares are locked up for a period of three years. They cannot be sold or pledged during this time.



Foreign members of the Executive Board may acquire stock awards instead of shares. The stock in question will be transferred after three years.

#### Actual bonus payments

Readers are referred to pages 86 to 89 of this remuneration report for the amount of the actual variable remuneration paid to the Executive Board in the year under review and for the details on valuation and allocation of shares.

## Employment contracts of the Executive Board members

According to Article 28 of the OaER, employment contracts must be compliant with the OaER by December 31, 2015 at the latest.

Consequently, the employment contracts of the Executive Board members were already adjusted in 2014 in order to meet the ordinance guidelines that came into effect in 2015. The employment contracts of the Executive Board members provide for contracts of indefinite duration with a maximum period of notice of twelve months.

The Board of Directors can order that lock-up periods stipulated in the employment contracts of Executive Board members in connection with the MIP may be revoked wholly or in part upon the occurrence of defined events (e.g. change of control, termination of employment, retirement or death).

Should changes in control of the company occur, no additional remuneration or benefits will be paid out.

No severance payments have been agreed with Executive Board members.

## Remuneration elements allocated for previous years and still outstanding

Under the previous MIP, 25% of the payments was invested in options and 75% in shares of Forbo Holding Ltd. The shares and options were locked up for a period of three years, and the lifetime of the options was five years. The options issued in connection with the MIP come to maturity no later than April 21, 2017. Owing to the revision of the MIP, the sums paid into the MIP are no longer invested in options and shares as of January 1, 2013, but solely in shares of Forbo Holding Ltd. These shares are subject to a lock-up period of three years.

Of special note with regard to the options issued before the revision of the MIP is the treatment of these options in the event of termination of the employment contract, disability or retirement. If notice is given by either party terminating the employment contract during the lock-up period, the MIP participants may either sell back the options (the reselling price then corresponds to the difference between the strike price of the option and the average price of the shares during the last five trading days before the employment contract was terminated) or they may keep the options and sell or exercise them after the lock-up period during their remaining lifetime. In the event of death, disability or retirement (including early retirement), the options – regardless of whether or not they are still subject to a lock-up period – may be sold during the entire remaining period to maturity from the moment the disability or retirement begins or from the date of death.

### **Details on MIP allocation**

The shares and options issued in connection with the MIP are equity-settled. The options were issued on the basis of a valuation by an independent bank, with the valuation being based on the average market price of the shares in the first 14 trading days in January of the year the allocation was made. The last allocation of options was made in 2012. The shares that were distributed in connection with the MIP up to and including 2012 were issued at the average market price for the first 14 trading days in January of the corresponding year.



## Disclosure of remuneration for the Board of Directors and the Executive Board

### Remuneration of the Board of Directors

The total remuneration paid to the non-executive members of the Board of Directors came to CHF 813,760 in the year under review (previous year: CHF 880,480). This sum consists of the base salary in cash (60% of the remuneration), amounting to CHF 415,487 (previous year: CHF 519,099) and the base remuneration in shares (40% of the remuneration) of CHF 332,905 (previous year: CHF 264,234). This corresponds to 284 shares (previous year: 290 shares) at a market value of CHF 1,172.20 (previous year: CHF 911.15). This total remuneration includes a lump sum for expenses plus employer contributions to the usual social insurances, which are reported separately in the column 'Other remuneration'.

The remuneration paid to the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors is explained in detail on pages 79 and 80 of this remuneration report.

### Remuneration of the Executive Board

The total remuneration paid to the members of the Executive Board came to CHF 2,921,338 in the year under review (previous year: CHF 3,879,680), subject to approval of the variable portion by the 2016 Ordinary General Meeting. This sum includes a fixed base salary of CHF 1,700,352 (previous year: CHF 1,714,347) and variable remuneration of CHF 790,135 (previous year: CHF 1,664,955) plus the private use of the company car, employer contributions to the pension fund and other usual social insurances, which are reported separately in the column 'Other remuneration'.

The fixed portion of the base salary paid in shares (lock-up period of five years) came to CHF 404,619. The portion of the variable remuneration paid in shares in connection with the MIP (lock-up period of three years) came to CHF 720,127, subject to approval by the 2016 Ordinary General Meeting.

## Disclosure of remuneration of the Board of Directors and Executive Board

<b>Remuneration</b>								
For the year 2015 <sup>1)</sup>								
Name and function	Base salary			Variable remuneration <sup>2)</sup>			Other remuneration <sup>3)</sup>	Total
	Cash	Shares		Cash	Shares			
	CHF	Number	CHF	CHF	Number	CHF	CHF	CHF
This E. Schneider, Executive Chairman <sup>4)</sup>	297,983	5,314	2,200,020				436,614	2,934,617
Michael Pieper, Vice Chairman	80,869	55	64,471				12,088	157,428
Dr. Peter Altorfer, Vice Chairman	104,138	72	84,398				17,606	206,142
Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski, member	71,774	49	57,438				13,531	142,743
Dr. Reto Müller, member	71,774	49	57,438				13,531	142,743
Vincent Studer, member	86,932	59	69,160				8,612	164,704
<b>Board of Directors total<sup>5)</sup></b>	<b>713,470</b>	<b>5,598</b>	<b>2,532,925</b>				<b>501,982</b>	<b>3,748,377</b>
<b>Executive Board<sup>6)7)8)</sup> total</b>	<b>1,295,733</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>404,619</b>	<b>70,008</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>720,127</b>	<b>430,851</b>	<b>2,921,338</b>
Of whom highest paid-member of Executive Board	400,000	196	201,249	0	328	347,867	169,893	1,119,009

- 1) The remuneration of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board is reported gross before deduction of employee social insurance contributions. The amounts shown in the table are based on valuation models used and disclosed in the consolidated financial statements.
- 2) The variable remuneration of the Executive Board corresponds to the actual degree to which targets were reached in 2015 and will be submitted to the April 2016 Ordinary General Meeting for approval. The criterion for determining the number of shares issued for the variable remuneration is the unweighted average of the closing price of the Forbo shares in the first 14 trading days in January of the allocation year in connection with the MIP. The allocation takes place in late April/early May (subject to approval by the Ordinary General Meeting) for the period from January to December of the previous year: CHF 1,060.57. The shares are locked up for a period of three years.
- 3) 'Other remuneration' includes in particular employer contributions to the usual social insurances, private use of the company car and lump sum or on-site expenses.
- 4) This E. Schneider was Delegate of the Board of Directors until the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting. From this point on, he has had the function of Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors. Please refer to pages 79 and 80 of this remuneration report for details of his remuneration structure. These remarks also contain the criterion for determining the number of shares issued and their lock-up periods.
- 5) The criterion for determining the number of shares issued for the non-executive members of the Board of Directors is the average share price in the ten trading days after payment of the dividend or repayment of the par value: CHF 1,172.20. The allocation is made at the discounted tax value of CHF 984.20. The shares are locked up for a period of three years and are reported at market value in the table above.
- 6) Remuneration of the entire Executive Board including the highest paid Executive Board member.
- 7) The criterion for determining the number of shares issued for the base salary is the unweighted average of the closing price of the Forbo share in the first 14 trading days in January of the allocation year. The shares are allocated in late April/early May for the period from May of the previous year to April of the year of allocation. The shares are locked up for a period of five years. The value of the shares allocated was CHF 965.65 in 2015 and CHF 1,060.57 in 2016.
- 8) The criterion for determining the number of shares issued for the variable remuneration is the unweighted average of the closing price of the Forbo share in the first 14 trading days in January of the allocation year. The shares for the bonus for the business year 2015 will be allocated in late April/early May 2016, subject to approval by the 2016 Ordinary General Meeting. The shares are locked up for a period of three years. The value at allocation was CHF 1,060.57. Foreign members of the Executive Board may acquire stock awards instead of shares. The stock in question will be transferred after three years.

**Remuneration**For the business year 2014<sup>1)</sup>

Name and function	Base salary			Variable remuneration <sup>2)</sup>			Other remuneration <sup>3)</sup>	Total
	Cash		Shares	Cash		Shares		
	CHF	Number	CHF	CHF	Number	CHF	CHF	CHF
This E. Schneider, Executive Chairman <sup>4)</sup>	297,983	5,314	2,200,020				441,397	2,939,400
Dr. Albert Gnägi, Chairman <sup>5)</sup>	128,333	0	0				39,681	168,014
Michael Pieper, Vice Chairman	80,331	60	54,669				11,443	146,443
Dr. Peter Altorfer, Vice Chairman <sup>6)</sup>	104,841	77	70,159				16,712	191,712
Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski, member <sup>7)</sup>	47,199	36	32,801				8,572	88,572
Dr. Reto Müller, member	71,709	53	48,291				12,870	132,870
Vincent Studer, member	86,686	64	58,314				7,869	152,869
<b>Total Board of Directors<sup>8)</sup></b>	<b>817,082</b>	<b>5,604</b>	<b>2,464,254</b>				<b>538,544</b>	<b>3,819,880</b>
<b>Total Executive Board<sup>9)10)11)</sup></b>	<b>1,311,140</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>403,207</b>	<b>72,087</b>	<b>1,649</b>	<b>1,592,868</b>	<b>500,378</b>	<b>3,879,680</b>
Of whom highest-paid Executive Board member	400,000	227	201,120	0	778	751,517	206,447	1,559,084

1) The remuneration of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board is reported gross before deduction of employee social insurance contributions. The amounts shown in the table are based on valuation models used and disclosed in the consolidated financial statements.

2) The variable remuneration of the Executive Board corresponds to the actual degree to which targets were reached in 2014 and was submitted to the April 2015 Ordinary General Meeting for approval. The criterion for determining the number of shares issued for the variable remuneration is the unweighted average of the closing price of the Forbo shares in the first 14 trading days in January of the allocation year in connection with the MIP. The shares are allocated at the end of April/beginning of May (subject to approval by the Ordinary General Meeting) for the period from January to December of the previous year: CHF 965.96. The shares are locked up for a period of three years.

3) 'Other remuneration' includes in particular employer contributions to the usual social insurances, private company car use and lump sum or local expenses.

4) This E. Schneider was Delegate of the Board of Directors until the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting. From this point on, he has had the function of Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors. For details on the structure of his remuneration, please refer to pages 79 and 80 of this remuneration report. These remarks also contain the criterion for determining the number of shares issued and their lock-up periods.

5) Dr. Albert Gnägi retired from the Board of Directors at the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting on reaching the retirement age. His remuneration was paid in cash pro rata temporis.

6) Vice Chairman since the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting (previously member).

7) New member of the Board of Directors since the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting.

8) The criterion for determining the number of shares issued for the non-executive members of the Board of Directors is the average share price in the ten trading days after payment of the dividend or repayment of the par value: CHF 911.15. The shares are locked up for a period of three years.

9) Remuneration of the entire Executive Board including the highest-paid Executive Board member.

10) The criterion for determining the number of shares issued for the base salary is the unweighted average of the closing price of the Forbo share in the first 14 trading days in January of the allocation year. The shares are allocated at the end of April/beginning of May for the period from May of the previous year to April of the year of allocation. The shares are locked up for a period of five years. The corresponding value of the shares allocated was proportionate CHF 759.68 for 2014 and CHF 965.65 for 2015.

11) The criterion for determining the number of shares issued for the variable remuneration is the unweighted average of the closing price of the Forbo share in the first 14 trading days in January of the allocation year. The shares for the bonus for the business year 2014 were allocated in late April 2015, after approval by the 2015 Ordinary General Meeting. The shares are locked up for a period of three years. The value at allocation was CHF 965.65.

### Options

As of the 2013 business year, no options have been issued in connection with the MIP. However, there are still options outstanding within the Management Investment Plan (MIP), which was launched in 2006 and revised in 2012.

As at the balance sheet date December 31, 2015, the Executive Board held the following options:

Allocation	Number	Term	Locked-up until	Subscription ratio	Strike price (CHF)
2012	500	20.04.2012 – 21.04.2017	20.04.2015	1:1	616.33

### Advances and loans

As at December 31, 2015, no advances or loans to members of the Board of Directors or the Executive Board were outstanding.

The relevant statutory provisions concerning advances, loans and employee benefits for members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board are set out in Chapter IV, pages 9 and 10 of the Articles of Association of Forbo Holding Ltd can be downloaded at:

[www.forbo.com](http://www.forbo.com) → Investors → Ordinary General Meeting

## Disclosure of shareholdings pursuant to Article 663c CO

### 2015 business year

As at December 31, 2015, the individual members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board (including related parties) held the following number of shares in Forbo Holding Ltd:

Shareholdings 2015		
	Shares	Options <sup>1)</sup>
Name and function		2012 series 1:1 <sup>2)</sup>
This E. Schneider, Executive Chairman <sup>3)</sup>	46,221	
Michael Pieper, Vice Chairman	544,122	
Dr. Peter Altorfer, Vice Chairman	1,104	
Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski, member	85	
Dr. Reto Müller, member	505	
Vincent Studer, member	754	
<b>Total Board of Directors</b>	<b>592,791</b>	
Stephan Bauer, Chief Executive Officer	1,524	
Matthias P. Huenerwadel, Executive Vice President Flooring Systems	1,944	500
Andreas Spreiter, Chief Financial Officer	1,102	
Jean-Michel Wins, Executive Vice President Movement Systems	195	
<b>Total Executive Board</b>	<b>4,765</b>	<b>500</b>

1) Following the amendment of the MIP, all the sums paid into it are invested in shares of Forbo Holding Ltd starting as of January 1, 2013. As of the 2013 business year, no further options were issued in connection with the MIP. However, there are still options outstanding within the MIP, which was launched in 2006 and revised in 2012.

2) Subscription ratio.

3) The share portion for the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors includes the 19,483 shares from the employment contract for the period from May 1, 2013, to December 31, 2016. The shares are subject to lock-up periods of three, four, and five years. The last third of the shares will be available on May 1, 2018, at the earliest.

As at December 31, 2014, the individual members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board (including related parties) held the following number of shares in Forbo Holding Ltd:

<b>Shareholdings 2014</b>		
	Shares	Options <sup>1)</sup>
Name and function		2012 series 1:1 <sup>2)</sup>
This E. Schneider, Executive Chairman <sup>3)</sup>	64,981	
Michael Pieper, Vice Chairman	616,779	
Dr. Peter Altorfer, Vice Chairman <sup>4)</sup>	1,032	
Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski <sup>5)</sup> , member	36	
Dr. Reto Müller, member	456	
Vincent Studer, member	695	
<b>Total Board of Directors</b>	<b>683,979</b>	
Stephan Bauer, Chief Executive Officer	538	
Matthias P. Huenerwadel, Executive Vice President Flooring Systems	1,500	3,051
Andreas Spreiter, Chief Financial Officer	570	
Jean-Michel Wins, Executive Vice President Movement Systems	92	
<b>Total Executive Board</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>3,051</b>

1) Following the amendment of the MIP, all the sums paid into it are invested in shares of Forbo Holding Ltd starting as of January 1, 2013. As of fiscal 2013, no more options were issued under the MIP. However, there are still options outstanding within the MIP, which was launched in 2006 and amended in 2012.

2) Subscription ratio.

3) The share portion for the Executive Chairman of the Board includes the 19,483 shares from the employment contract for the period from May 1, 2013, to December 31, 2016. The shares are subject to lock-up periods of three, four, and five years. The last third of the shares will be available on May 1, 2018, at the earliest.

4) Vice Chairman since the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting (previously member).

5) New member of the Board of Directors since the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting.

# Report of the statutory auditor

## Report of the statutory auditor to the General Meeting Forbo Holding Ltd, Baar

### Report of the statutory auditor on the remuneration report

We have audited the accompanying remuneration report of Forbo Holding Ltd for the year ended December 31, 2015. The audit was limited to the information according to articles 14 – 16 of the Ordinance against Excessive Compensation in Stock Exchange Listed Companies (Ordinance) on pages 87 to 90 of the remuneration report.

### Responsibility of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation and overall fair presentation of the remuneration report in accordance with Swiss law and the Ordinance against Excessive compensation in Stock Exchange Listed Companies (Ordinance). The Board of Directors is also responsible for designing the remuneration system and defining individual remuneration packages.

### Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the accompanying remuneration report. We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the remuneration report complies with Swiss law and articles 14 – 16 of the Ordinance.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence on the disclosures made in the remuneration report with regard to compensation, loans and credits in accordance with articles 14 – 16 of the Ordinance. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatements in the remuneration report, whether due to fraud or error. This audit also includes evaluating the reasonableness of the methods applied to value components of remuneration, as well as assessing the overall presentation of the remuneration report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the remuneration report for the year ended December 31, 2015 of Forbo Holding Ltd complies with Swiss law and articles 14 – 16 of the Ordinance.

### Other matter

The remuneration report of Forbo Holding Ltd for the year ended December 31, 2014 was audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on that report on March 11, 2015.

KPMG AG



Rolf Hauenstein  
Licensed Audit Expert  
Auditor in Charge



Regula Tobler  
Licensed Audit Expert

Zurich, March 9, 2016





# FINANCIAL REPORT

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# Consolidated balance sheet

		31.12.2015	31.12.2014
<b>Assets</b>			
CHF m	Note		
<b>Non-current assets</b>		<b>402.8</b>	<b>418.5</b>
Property, plant, and equipment	14	227.3	234.9
Intangible assets and goodwill	15	135.7	146.1
Deferred tax assets	12	39.5	37.2
Other non-current financial assets		0.3	0.3
<b>Current assets</b>		<b>509.3</b>	<b>677.1</b>
Inventories	16	214.5	230.6
Trade receivables	17	147.3	150.6
Other receivables		18.8	24.0
Accrued income and deferred expenses		12.4	17.3
Other current financial assets	18	0.0	49.5
Cash and cash equivalents	19	116.3	205.1
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>912.1</b>	<b>1,095.6</b>
<b>Shareholders' equity and liabilities</b>			
CHF m	Note		
<b>Shareholders' equity</b>		<b>559.2</b>	<b>738.8</b>
Share capital	21	0.2	0.2
Treasury shares	21	-0.1	-0.1
Reserves and retained earnings		559.1	738.7
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		<b>120.7</b>	<b>112.6</b>
Non-current financial debt	23	0.9	1.4
Employee benefit obligations	24	70.1	60.5
Non-current provisions	25	25.7	24.2
Deferred tax liabilities	12	24.0	26.5
<b>Current liabilities</b>		<b>232.2</b>	<b>244.2</b>
Trade payables		77.4	86.5
Current provisions	25	18.0	17.8
Accrued expenses and deferred income	26	79.9	90.4
Current financial debt	27	0.1	0.6
Current tax liabilities		20.3	18.9
Other current liabilities		36.5	30.0
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>352.9</b>	<b>356.8</b>
<b>Total shareholders' equity and liabilities</b>		<b>912.1</b>	<b>1,095.6</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

# Consolidated income statement

			2015	2014
CHF m	Note			
Continuing operations				
<b>Net sales</b>	5		<b>1,139.1</b>	<b>1,226.8</b>
Cost of goods sold			– 698.3	– 765.8
<b>Gross profit</b>			<b>440.8</b>	<b>461.0</b>
Development costs	6		– 15.1	– 16.5
Marketing and distribution costs			– 181.1	– 196.6
Administrative costs			– 89.8	– 94.2
Other operating expenses	7		– 16.6	– 13.2
Other operating income	8		4.6	8.9
<b>Operating profit</b>			<b>142.8</b>	<b>149.4</b>
Financial income	10		2.0	5.9
Financial expenses	11		– 0.4	– 1.0
<b>Group profit before taxes</b>			<b>144.4</b>	<b>154.3</b>
Income taxes	12		– 28.7	– 30.9
<b>Group profit for the year from continuing operations</b>			<b>115.7</b>	<b>123.4</b>
<b>Group profit for the year from discontinued operations after taxes</b>	28		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>
<b>Group profit for the year</b>			<b>115.7</b>	<b>123.6</b>
Group profit attributable to shareholders of Forbo Holding Ltd.			115.7	123.6
<i>Earnings per share, total</i>				
CHF				
Basic earnings per share	13		62.14	62.04
Diluted earnings per share	13		62.13	61.95
<i>Earnings per share from continuing operations</i>				
CHF				
Basic earnings per share	13		62.14	61.92
Diluted earnings per share	13		62.13	61.83
<i>Earnings per share from discontinued operations</i>				
CHF				
Basic earnings per share	13		0.00	0.12
Diluted earnings per share	13		0.00	0.12

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

# Consolidated comprehensive income statement

		2015	2014
CHF m	Note		
<b>Group profit for the year</b>		<b>115.7</b>	<b>123.6</b>
Items that will not be reclassified to the income statement:			
Remeasurements of employee benefit obligations, net of taxes	12	– 10.0	– 6.2
Items that are or may be subsequently reclassified to the income statement:			
Translation differences		– 48.7	0.6
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax</b>		<b>– 58.7</b>	<b>– 5.6</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<b>57.0</b>	<b>118.0</b>
Total comprehensive income attributable to the shareholders of Forbo Holding Ltd.		57.0	118.0

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

# Consolidated statement of changes in equity

## 2015

CHF m	Share capital	Treasury shares	Reserves	Translation differences	Total
<b>December 31, 2014</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>982.9</b>	<b>-244.2</b>	<b>738.8</b>
Group profit for the year			115.7		115.7
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax			-10.0	-48.7	-58.7
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>			<b>105.7</b>	<b>-48.7</b>	<b>57.0</b>
Share-based payments			3.8		3.8
Treasury shares	-0.0	0.0	-210.1		-210.1
Dividend payment			-30.3		-30.3
<b>December 31, 2015</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>852.0</b>	<b>-292.9</b>	<b>559.2</b>

## 2014

CHF m	Share capital	Treasury shares	Reserves	Translation differences	Total
<b>December 31, 2013</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>1,031.5</b>	<b>-244.8</b>	<b>786.8</b>
Group profit for the year			123.6		123.6
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax			-6.2	0.6	-5.6
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>			<b>117.4</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>118.0</b>
Share-based payments			4.2		4.2
Treasury shares	-0.0	0.0	-141.6		-141.6
Dividend payment			-28.6		-28.6
<b>December 31, 2014</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>982.9</b>	<b>-244.2</b>	<b>738.8</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

# Consolidated cash flow statement

		2015	2014
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>			
CHF m	Note		
<b>Group profit for the year</b>		<b>115.7</b>	<b>123.6</b>
Profit from disposal of discontinued operations after taxes		0.0	-0.2
Tax expense	12	28.7	30.9
Financial result		-1.6	-4.9
Depreciation of property, plant, and equipment	14	29.3	32.8
Amortization of intangible assets	15	2.8	2.9
Loss/Profit (-) from the sale of non-current assets		0.1	-1.2
Share-based payments	22	3.8	4.2
Income tax paid		-28.1	-27.1
Increase/Decrease (-) in provisions and employee benefit obligations		2.0	-1.4
Increase in net operating working capital <sup>1)</sup>		-8.9	-15.7
Increase (-)/Decrease in other current assets		-2.9	3.4
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>		<b>140.9</b>	<b>147.3</b>
<b>Cash flow from investing activities</b>			
CHF m	Note		
Purchase of non-current assets		-39.5	-39.5
Proceeds from the disposal of non-current assets		0.2	2.2
Proceeds from other current financial assets	18	50.2	23.7
Interest received	10	0.5	0.6
<b>Net cash flow from investing activities</b>		<b>11.4</b>	<b>-13.0</b>
<b>Cash flow from financing activities</b>			
CHF m	Note		
Repayment of current financial debt		-0.5	-0.1
Repayment of non-current financial debt		-0.5	0.0
Interest paid	11	0.0	-0.2
Purchase of treasury shares		-205.8	-152.7
Proceeds from sale of treasury shares		5.3	9.3
Dividend payment		-30.3	-28.6
<b>Net cash flow from financing activities</b>		<b>-231.8</b>	<b>-172.3</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents</b>			
CHF m	Note		
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents		-79.5	-38.0
Translation differences on cash and cash equivalents		-9.3	2.1
Total cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	19	205.1	241.0
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents at year-end</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>116.3</b>	<b>205.1</b>

1) Net operating working capital includes the items 'Trade receivables', 'Inventories', and 'Trade payables'.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.



# Notes – accounting principles

## 1 General information

Forbo Holding Ltd ('the company') and its subsidiaries (together with the company constituting the 'Group') manufacture floorings, construction adhesives, and drive and conveyor technology. The Group has a global network of locations with production and distribution as well as pure sales companies.

The company is a public limited company under Swiss law, domiciled in Baar, Switzerland. It is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on March 9, 2016, and released for publication on March 15, 2016. This financial report is subject to approval by the Ordinary General Meeting of April 29, 2016.

## 2 Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented.

### Basis of preparation

The consolidated financial statements of Forbo Holding Ltd were prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and in compliance with Swiss law.

The consolidated financial statements are prepared in Swiss francs. The Swiss franc is both the functional currency and the reporting currency of the company. Unless otherwise noted, all sums are stated in millions of Swiss francs (CHF m) and are generally rounded to one decimal place.

The consolidation was done on the basis of the audited financial statements of the subsidiaries prepared according to uniform corporate accounting policies. The reporting date for all Group companies is December 31.

The consolidated statements were prepared in accordance with the principle of historical costs with the exception of available-for-sale financial assets and derivative financial instruments, which are measured at fair value.

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements requires management to make discretionary judgements, estimates and assumptions that can affect the application of accounting methods and reported revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, and contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results may differ from these estimates and assumptions. Estimates and the underlying assumptions are being reviewed continually. Revised versions of estimates and assumptions are recognized prospectively. Information about discretionary judgements as well as assumptions and uncertainty involved in estimates are contained in note 3.

### Scope and principles of consolidation

Subsidiaries are companies that are controlled by the Group. The Group exercises control over a company if it is exposed to variable returns from its involvement in the company or possesses rights to the returns and is able to influence these returns by means of its discretionary control over the company. The financial statements of subsidiaries are included in the consolidated financial statements from the point at which control begins.

The purchase method of accounting is used to account for business combinations. The value of the transferred consideration in a business combination and the acquired identifiable net assets are recognized at the fair value on the acquisition date. The consideration includes cash payments and the fair value of the assets transferred, liabilities incurred or acquired, and equity instruments issued by the acquirer on the transaction date. Liabilities dependent on future events which are based on agreements on contingent considerations are accounted for at their fair value in the accounting treatment of the acquisition. Acquisition costs are reported as expenditure in the income statement. Non-controlling interests are measured at the acquisition date with their proportionate share in the identifiable net assets of the acquired entity.

Goodwill is the excess of the consideration of the business combination and the amount of the non-controlling interest over the identifiable net assets assessed at fair value.

Inter-company transactions, balances, and unrealized gains or losses on transactions between Group companies are eliminated.

Associates are all entities over which the Group has significant influence but not control, generally accompanied by a shareholding of between 20% and 50% of the voting rights. Investments in associates are accounted for using the equity method of accounting and are initially recognized at cost.

The Group's share of its associates' post-acquisition profits or losses is recognized in the income statement, and its share of post-acquisition changes in reserves is recognized in reserves. The cumulative post-acquisition movements are offset against the carrying amount of the investment. When the Group's share of losses in an associate equals or exceeds its interest in the associate, the Group does not recognize further losses, unless it has incurred obligations or made payments on behalf of the associate.

The subsidiaries included in the group of consolidated companies are listed under 'Group companies' (from page 140 of this report).

## **Foreign currency translation**

### *Transactions in foreign currencies*

The individual companies prepare their financial statements in their functional currency. The functional currency is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the company operates and generally corresponds to the local currency. Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of transaction. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognized in the income statement, unless recognized in other comprehensive income as qualifying cash flow hedges and qualifying net investment hedges.

### *Foreign operations*

The annual statements of foreign Group companies stated in foreign currencies are translated into Swiss francs as follows: assets and liabilities at year-end exchange rates; the income statement and cash flow statement at average exchange rates for the year. Currency translation differences arising from the different translation of balance sheets and income statements and from equity capital transactions are recognized in other comprehensive income and taken to profit or loss for the period (reclassified) in the event the foreign Group company is disposed of.

On consolidation, exchange differences arising from the translation of net investments in independent foreign operations are recognized in other comprehensive income. The same applies to borrowings and other currency instruments designated as hedges of such investments. When a foreign operation is disposed of, these exchange differences are transferred to the income statement as part of the gain or loss on sale.

The following exchange rates against the Swiss franc have been applied for the most important currencies concerned:

			Income statement (average exchange rates for the year)		Balance sheet (year-end exchange rates)	
			2015	2014	2015	2014
<b>Exchange rates</b>						
Euro zone	EUR	1	1.0684	1.2146	1.0878	1.2030
USA	USD	1	0.9627	0.9155	1.0019	0.9943
Great Britain	GBP	1	1.4712	1.5071	1.4772	1.5486
Japan	JPY	100	0.7954	0.8653	0.8329	0.8308
China	CNY	100	15.3200	14.8600	15.4300	16.0200
Sweden	SEK	100	11.4181	13.3517	11.8561	12.7370

#### Discontinued operations

Discontinued operations are recognized separately if a component of the Group has either already been discontinued or been classified as held for sale. The prior-year figures affecting the income statement are adjusted accordingly and are also presented separately.

#### Net sales and revenue recognition

Net sales include the fair value of the consideration received or to be received for the sale of goods and services as part of ordinary business activity. Net sales are reported net of revenue reductions such as sales tax, returns, discounts, and rebates.

Revenue from the sale of goods and services is recognized in the income statement if the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer, the amount of the revenue can be reliably determined, and payment is deemed to be likely.

Appropriate provisions are made for expected warranty claims.

#### Research and development

All research costs are posted directly to the income statement in the period in which they are incurred. Development costs are capitalized only if these costs can be reliably measured, the product or process is technically feasible and commercially viable, a future economic benefit is likely, and the Group has sufficient resources and intends to complete the development and exploit or sell the asset. Other development expenses that do not meet these criteria are taken to the income statement as soon as they are incurred. Capitalized development costs are measured at the cost of acquisition or production less cumulative amortizations and impairments.

#### Share-based payments

Equity-settled share-based payments to employees are valued at the fair value of the equity instrument on the date on which the instruments are granted. The fair value determined on granting equity-settled share-based payments is recognized in the income statement over the vesting period and is included in personnel expenses.

### Earnings per share

The number of shares used for calculating earnings per share is determined on the basis of the weighted average number of the shares issued less the weighted average number of treasury shares held. To calculate diluted earnings per share, an adjusted number of shares is determined from the total number of shares used to calculate earnings per share plus the potentially dilutive effects of shares from option programs. To take account of the dilutive effect of option programs, the number of shares is determined that could have been purchased at the market price on the basis of the cumulative difference between the market price and the strike price of the outstanding options. The market price used for this purpose corresponds to the average price of the shares in the business year under review. The earnings or diluted earnings per share is the quotient obtained by dividing the distributable net profit by the relevant number of shares.

### Income taxes

Income taxes constitute the total of current and deferred income taxes.

Current income taxes are determined on the basis of taxable profits and the applicable tax laws of the individual countries. They are recognized as an expense in the accounting period in which the profits are made.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognized for temporary differences between assets and liabilities in the balance sheet, and their tax bases if they will result in taxable income in future. Deferred tax assets are reported for temporary differences that will result in deductible amounts in future periods and for tax effects from unused tax losses and tax credits, but only to the extent as it is probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available against which these differences can be offset. Deferred tax liabilities are not recognized if temporary differences arise from the initial recognition of goodwill.

Deferred tax assets and tax liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to be enacted in the period in which the asset will be realized or the liability will be settled. Current and deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when they arise from the same tax reporting group, relate to the same tax authority, the legal right to offset exists, and they are intended to be settled net or realized simultaneously.

Current and deferred income taxes are recognized as an income tax benefit or expense in the income statement, with the exception of items posted directly to equity or recognized in other comprehensive income. In this case, the corresponding tax effect is also to be recognized directly in shareholders' equity or in other comprehensive income.

### Property, plant, and equipment

Property is recognized at cost on acquisition. Land is not depreciated, but allowances are set aside for impairments that have occurred. All other fixed assets such as machines, vehicles and operational assets are reported at cost on acquisition less accrued depreciation and impairments.

Betterments that increase the useful lives of the assets, significantly improve the quality of the output or enable a substantial reduction in operating costs are capitalized and depreciated over the remaining useful lives.

Depreciation is calculated according to the straight-line method over the following estimated useful life:

Land	no depreciation
Buildings	20 to 40 years
Modifications and installations	5 to 10 years or duration of rental contract
Machines and tools	5 to 10 years
Other operational assets	3 to 10 years
Vehicles	5 years
IT	3 to 5 years
Assets under construction	no depreciation

If there are signs of an impairment, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. If the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable value, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced accordingly and the difference charged to the income statement.

Assets which are held in financial leasing arrangements are depreciated over their estimated useful life in the same way as assets belonging to the company or, if this is shorter, over the life of the underlying lease agreement. The costs of short-term leasing are charged directly to the income statement. The corresponding liabilities are disclosed in the notes (see note 30 'Leasing').

### Intangible assets and goodwill

The goodwill generated in connection with business combinations is measured at the cost of acquisition less cumulative impairment losses.

Goodwill is not amortized but tested for impairment at least at each reporting date or earlier if there are signs of a potential impairment.

The acquisition costs of trademarks, licenses, customer relationships, and technologies acquired in a business combination correspond to the fair value at the date of acquisition.

Trademarks with an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortization but are tested for impairment at least annually. Any impairment is recognized as an expense in the income statement.

Other intangible assets that are acquired by the Group and have a finite useful life are carried at acquisition or production costs less cumulative amortizations and impairments. The amortization of other intangible assets with a finite useful life uses the straight-line method; the following estimated useful lives are applied:

Customer relations	5 to 25 years
Technologies	30 years
Software	3 years

Amortization methods, useful lives, and residual values are reviewed annually at the reporting date and adjusted where necessary.

### Financial instruments

Financial instruments can be classified as follows:

#### (a) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are financial assets held for trading. A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term. Derivatives are also classified in this category unless they are designated as hedges.

The Group uses derivative financial instruments solely to manage financial risks and not for the purpose of speculation. The derivatives used are accounted for on the day the trade is conducted. Derivative financial instruments are recognized at fair value in the balance sheet under 'Other current financial assets' or in 'Current financial debt'.

To hedge its currency risks, the Group uses mainly currency spot transactions, forward currency contracts, and currency swap transactions. The fair values of various derivative instruments used for hedging purposes are disclosed in note 31 'Additional information on financial instruments'.

#### (b) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are loans and receivables granted by the Group with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets except for maturities greater than twelve months after the end of the reporting year, in which case they are classified as non-current assets.

Trade receivables are carried in the balance sheet at their nominal value less allowances for doubtful risks. Allowances for doubtful risks are established based on the maturity structure and discernible solvency risks. In addition to individual allowances for specific identifiable risks, allowances are also made on the basis of statistically determined default risks.

*(c) Financial assets available-for-sale*

Available-for-sale financial assets are non-derivative financial assets that are either designated in this category or not classified in any of the other categories.

*(d) Financial liabilities at amortized costs*

Financial liabilities are recognized at fair value less direct transaction costs the first time they are reported. Subsequent valuations are generally done at the amortized cost, applying the effective interest method.

Current and non-current financial debt comprise bank loans and finance lease obligations. It is stated at amortized costs.

Financial debt is assigned to current debt, except if the Group has to settle the obligation twelve months after the reporting date or enjoys unlimited right to postpone payment of the debt by at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Trade payables are non-interest-bearing and are disclosed at nominal value.

**RECOGNITION AND MEASUREMENT**

Purchases and sales of financial assets are basically recognized as soon as the Group becomes a contractual party. In the case of regular purchases or sales, the settlement date is relevant for the initial recognition and derecognition.

Financial assets not classified as being 'Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss' are initially recognized at fair value plus transaction costs. Financial assets which are carried at fair value through profit or loss are initially recognized at fair value, and transaction costs are expensed in the income statement. Financial assets are derecognized when the rights to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the Group has transferred substantially all risks and rewards incidental to ownership.

Available-for-sale financial assets and assets in the category 'Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss' are carried at fair value after their initial recognition. Loans and receivables are carried at amortized cost using the effective interest method.

Gains or losses arising from financial assets in the category 'Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss' are recognized in the income statement in the period in which they are incurred. Dividend income from financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss is recognized in the income statement when the Group's right to receive payments is established.

Changes in the fair value of securities classified as available-for-sale are recognized in other comprehensive income. When securities classified as available-for-sale are sold or impaired, the accumulated fair value adjustments previously recognized in other comprehensive income are reclassified to the income statement.

The Group assesses at the end of each reporting year whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired. In the case of equity investments classified as available-for-sale financial assets, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of the equity investments below their cost is also regarded as evidence that the equity investments are impaired. If any such evidence exists for available-for-sale financial assets, the cumulative loss – measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any previous impairment losses on that financial asset – is reclassified to the income statement. Impairment losses on equity instruments recognized in the income statement are not reversed through profit and loss.

**Inventories**

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost includes direct material and, if applicable, other direct costs and related production overheads to the extent that they are incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition. The net realizable value constitutes the estimated sales price less all estimated costs up to completion, as well as the costs of marketing, sales, and distribution.

Inventories are for the greater part measured at average cost. Adjustments are made for unsaleable inventories and inventories with insufficient turnover. Inter-company profits on intra-Group deliveries are eliminated in the income statement.

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents are stated at nominal value. They include cash on hand, postal and bank accounts, and fixed-term deposits with maturities of up to 3 months from the date of acquisition.

**Shareholders' equity**

Registered shares are classified as share capital at their par value. Payments by shareholders above the par value are credited to reserves.

Treasury shares are deducted at their par value from share capital. The acquisition costs in excess of par value arising on the acquisition of treasury shares are debited to reserves. On the sale of treasury shares, gains or losses compared with the par value are credited or debited to reserves.

Dividends are debited to equity in the period in which the resolution on their distribution is adopted.

**Employee pension plans**

The Group maintains various pension plans designed as defined contribution and defined benefit plans. These pension plans are established in accordance with the local conditions in each country. The plans are funded either by contributions to legally autonomous pension funds and insurance plans or by recognition of the pension plan liabilities in the financial statements of the respective companies.

For defined contribution plans, the costs incurred in the relevant period correspond to the agreed employer contributions.

For defined benefit plans, the pension costs and liabilities are assessed annually on the basis of various economic and demographic assumptions by independent actuaries according to the projected unit credit method. The liabilities correspond to the present value of the expected future cash flows. The plan assets are stated at market value and deducted from the pension liabilities. Pension costs, consisting of current service costs incurred in the relevant period and net interest expense, less employee contributions, are stated as personnel expenses in the income statement. Past service costs resulting from changes in pension plans are posted directly to the income statement. Profits or losses resulting from pension plan curtailments or settlements are immediately taken to the income statement.

Revaluation components include actuarial gains and losses due to changes in the present value of the pension obligations arising from changes in assumptions and experience adjustments plus the return on plan assets less the contributions contained in net interest expense. Revaluation components are recognized in other comprehensive income, taking deferred taxes into account, and are never subsequently reclassified to the income statement.



### Provisions

Provisions are recognized if the Group has a current legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made. The provision is the best estimate on the reporting date of the amount required to meet the current obligation, taking into account the risks and uncertainties underlying the obligation.

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## 3 Critical judgements, estimates and appraisals by management

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The application of the measurement and accounting principles requires that circumstances and estimates be assessed and assumptions be made with respect to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities. The estimates and the underlying assumptions are based on past experience and other factors regarded as relevant, including expectations of future events that appear reasonable in the given circumstances. The actual results may, of course, deviate from the estimates and assumptions of management.

The following are the main areas in which a significant risk exists in the coming business year involving a significant adjustment of the carrying value of assets and liabilities.

### Impairment tests

Along with the regular periodic review of goodwill and intangible assets with an indefinite useful life, the carrying amounts of fixed and intangible assets with a finite useful life are also always reviewed if due to changed circumstances or other triggering events these amounts can possibly no longer be realized. If such a situation occurs, the recoverable amount is determined based on expected future revenues. This corresponds to either the discounted expected cash flows or the expected net sales price.

Important assumptions in the calculations underlying these impairment tests include growth rates, margins, estimates and management's expectations of the future development of net working capital, and discount rates. The actual cash flows may deviate from the planned discounted future values. Likewise, the useful lives may be shortened or non-current assets impaired in the event of a change in the use of buildings, machinery and facilities, change or abandonment of locations, or lower-than-expected revenues over the medium term. Further information on this topic can be found in note 14 'Property, plant, and equipment' and note 15 'Intangible assets and goodwill'.

**Valuation of pension plan liabilities**

Various employee pension plans and schemes exist for employees of the Group. In the valuation of defined benefit plans, actuarial assumptions are made to estimate future developments. These include assumptions and estimates relating to the discount rate, the inflation rate as well as assumptions for future wage trends. In their actuarial calculations for determining employee benefit obligations, the actuaries also use statistical information such as mortality tables and staff turnover rates. If these parameters change owing to a change in the economic situation or market conditions, the subsequent results may deviate considerably from the actuarial reports and calculations. These deviations may have a significant medium-term effect on expenses and income from the employee pension schemes and on the comprehensive income statement. Further information on this topic can be found in note 24 'Employee benefit obligations'.

**Recognition and valuation of provisions**

In the conduct of ordinary business activities, a liability of uncertain timing and/or amount may arise. Provisions are determined using available information based on reasonably expected cash outflows. Claims against the Group may arise that may not be covered, or are covered only in part, by provisions or insurance benefits. Further information on this topic can be found in note 25 'Provisions'.

**Income taxes**

The Group is obliged to pay income taxes in various countries. Certain key assumptions are necessary in order to determine income tax in the relevant countries. There are business events which have an impact on taxation and taxable profit. Hence, the amount of the final taxation cannot be determined definitively. The measurement of current tax liabilities is subject to the interpretation of tax regulations in the relevant countries. The adequacy of this interpretation is assessed by the tax authorities in the course of the final assessment or tax audits. This may result in material changes to tax expenses. Where the definitive taxation of these business events deviates from the previous assumptions, this will have an impact on the current and deferred taxes in the period in which the taxation is definitively determined. Furthermore, determining whether tax losses carried forward can be capitalized requires a critical estimate of the probability that they can be offset against future profits. This assessment is based on planning information. Further information on this topic can be found in note 12 'Income taxes'.

## 4 Application of new or revised accounting standards

### Applied new and revised standards and interpretations

The following new or revised standards and interpretations of the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) were applied for the first time in the business year that began on January 1, 2015:

- Annual improvements to IFRS 2010 – 2012 Cycle
- Annual improvements to IFRS 2011 – 2013 Cycle

The first-time application of the before-mentioned IAS standards had no effect on the Annual Report presented here.

### Introduction of new standards in 2016 and beyond

The following new and revised standards and interpretations that were published by end-2015 but are not yet mandatory were not applied in advance in the present consolidated financial statements. Since their impact on the consolidated financial statements has not yet been systematically analyzed, the anticipated effects shown in the corresponding note to the table below represent an estimate by management.

Standards		Date effective	Planned application
<i>New standards or interpretations</i>			
IFRS 15 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers'	**	January 1, 2018	2018 business year
IFRS 9 – 'Financial instruments'	**	January 1, 2018	2018 business year
<i>Amendments and changes to standards and interpretations</i>			
Accounting for acquisitions of interests in a joint operation (amendments to IFRS 11)	*	January 1, 2016	2016 business year
Clarification of Acceptable methods of depreciation and amortization (amendments to IAS 16 and 38)	*	January 1, 2016	2016 business year
Annual improvements to IFRS 2012 – 2014 Cycle	*	January 1, 2016	2016 business year
Disclosure initiative (amendments to IAS 1)	*	January 1, 2016	2016 business year
Sales or contributions of assets between an investor and its associate/joint venture (amendments to IFRS 10 and IAS 28)	*	undefined	undefined

\* No significant impact on the consolidated financial statements is expected.

\*\* Mainly additional disclosures in the consolidated financial statements are anticipated.

# Notes

## 5 Segment reporting

The Group is a global producer of Flooring Systems and Movement Systems. The divisions correspond to the internal management structure and are run separately because the products they manufacture, distribute, and sell differ fundamentally in terms of production, distribution, and marketing.

In the Flooring Systems division, the Group develops, produces, and sells linoleum, vinyl floorings, entrance flooring systems, carpet tiles, needle felt floor coverings, Flotex, the washable textile flooring, and building and construction adhesives as well as various accessory products required for laying, processing, cleaning, and care of flooring. In the Movement Systems division, the Group develops, produces, and sells high-quality conveyor and processing belts, as well as

plastic modular belts, and drive, timing and flat belts made of synthetic materials. Corporate includes the costs of the Group headquarters and certain items of income and expenses that are not directly attributable to a specific business.

The Flooring Systems and the Movement Systems divisions are reportable segments. The identification of the reportable segments is based on internal management reporting to the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors and to the Chief Executive Officer of the Group and hence on the financial information used to review the performance of the operational units in order to reach a decision on the allocation of resources.

Segment information on the reportable segments for the reporting year:

2015				
CHF m	Flooring Systems	Movement Systems	Corporate/ Elimination	Total
Total net sales	791.8	347.9	–0.6	1,139.1
Inter-segment sales	–0.5	–0.1	0.6	0.0
Net sales to third parties	791.3	347.8		1,139.1
EBIT	109.8	42.9	–9.9	142.8
EBITDA	133.1	51.2	–9.5	174.8
Operating assets	528.6	215.2	12.3	756.1
Capital expenditure	30.5	8.9	0.1	39.5
Number of employees (December 31)	3,006	2,174	42	5,222

Segment information on the reportable segments for the prior year:

2014				
CHF m	Flooring Systems	Movement Systems	Corporate/ Elimination	Total
Total net sales	884.7	342.2	–0.1	1,226.8
Inter-segment sales	–0.1	–0.0	0.1	0.0
Net sales to third parties	884.6	342.2		1,226.8
EBIT	123.4	37.0	–11.0	149.4
EBITDA	149.6	46.1	–10.6	185.1
Operating assets	563.7	222.6	17.2	803.5
Capital expenditure	29.9	9.1	0.5	39.5
Number of employees (December 31)	3,059	2,060	42	5,161

The management reporting is based on the same accounting principles as external reporting.

The Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer assess the performance of the reportable segments based on their operating result (EBIT). The net financial result is not allocated to the segments since it is Corporate Treasury that mainly exercises central control over the financial result.

Inter-segment sales are transacted at arm's length. The segments apply the same accounting principles as the Group. Sales to third parties, as they are reported to the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer, are identical with the sales reported in the income statement.

Reconciliation of segment results to the income statement and balance sheet:

	2015	2014
CHF m		
<b>Segment result (EBIT)</b>	<b>142.8</b>	<b>149.4</b>
Financial result	1.6	4.9
<b>Group profit before taxes</b>	<b>144.4</b>	<b>154.3</b>

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
CHF m		
<b>Operating assets</b>	<b>756.1</b>	<b>803.5</b>
Non-operating assets	156.0	292.1
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>912.1</b>	<b>1,095.6</b>

Third-party sales and operating assets broken down by region in the reporting year and the prior year:

	2015 Third-party sales	2014 Third-party sales
CHF m		
Switzerland (domicile)	26.1	28.7
France	139.1	163.6
Germany	134.0	144.8
Great Britain and Ireland	123.0	137.7
Benelux	108.4	124.9
Scandinavia	100.4	113.0
Southern Europe	55.9	57.4
Eastern Europe	47.9	62.7
<b>Europe</b>	<b>734.8</b>	<b>832.8</b>
<b>North, Central, and South America</b>	<b>239.4</b>	<b>229.1</b>
<b>Asia/Pacific and Africa</b>	<b>164.9</b>	<b>164.9</b>
<b>Total net sales to third parties</b>	<b>1,139.1</b>	<b>1,226.8</b>

	31.12.2015 Operating assets	31.12.2014 Operating assets
CHF m		
Switzerland (domicile)	29.5	31.8
France	62.4	71.4
Germany	77.1	87.8
Great Britain and Ireland	155.1	167.3
Benelux	188.6	201.6
Scandinavia	25.5	25.6
Southern Europe	18.2	19.2
Eastern Europe	17.8	19.8
<b>Europe</b>	<b>574.2</b>	<b>624.5</b>
<b>North, Central, and South America</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>97.7</b>
<b>Asia/Pacific and Africa</b>	<b>81.0</b>	<b>81.3</b>
<b>Total operating assets</b>	<b>756.1</b>	<b>803.5</b>

In the reporting year, no customer accounted for sales that exceeded 10% of the Group's total sales.

## 6 Development costs

'Development costs', which mainly comprise product development, amounted to CHF 15.1 million in the reporting year (2014: CHF 16.5 million).

Costs for manufacturing trials, recipe optimization and new collections are not reported within 'Development costs'. As in the previous year, no development costs were capitalized.

## 7 Other operating expenses

'Other operating expenses' comprise expenses of different kinds in connections with structural measures, legal costs, warranties, taxes on capital, and levies based on local legislation.

## 8 Other operating income

'Other operating income' comprises a range of income, partly in connection with the sale of tangible assets, the release of provisions for legal proceedings, insurance payments, rental income, and the sale of material for recycling purposes.

## 9 Personnel expenses

	2015	2014
<b>Personnel expenses</b>		
CHF m		
Salaries and wages	267.7	287.4
Social security contributions	65.6	64.8
Employee benefit expenses for defined benefit plans	3.9	5.4
<b>Total personnel expenses</b>	<b>337.2</b>	<b>357.6</b>

As at December 31, 2015, the headcount was 5,222 (2014: 5,161). The average headcount over the year was 5,223 (2014: 5,141).

Salaries and wages include share-based payments expenses of CHF 3.8 million (2014: CHF 4.2 million). A bonus program is available for around 130 managers, which is linked to achieving financial targets set for the Group, the divisions, and individual objectives (see note 22 ('Employee participation plan')).

## 10 Financial income

	2015	2014
<b>Financial income</b>		
CHF m		
Interest income	0.5	0.6
Gains from financial instruments classified as being at fair value through profit and loss	0.8	5.3
Foreign exchange gains, net	0.7	0.0
<b>Total financial income</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>5.9</b>

## 11 Financial expenses

	2015	2014
<b>Financial expenses</b>		
CHF m		
Interest expenditure from financial liabilities valued at amortized cost	0.0	0.2
Foreign exchange losses, net	0.0	0.2
Other financial expense	0.4	0.6
<b>Total financial expenses</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.0</b>

As in the previous year, the Group did not have any interest-bearing liabilities with the exception of some financial leasing arrangements.

## 12 Income taxes

	2015	2014
<b>Income taxes</b>		
CHF m		
Current income taxes	31.5	29.6
Deferred income taxes	-2.8	1.3
<b>Total income taxes</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>30.9</b>

### Analysis of tax expense

The following reconciliation explains the difference between the expected and the effective tax expense.

	2015	2014
CHF m		
Group profit before taxes	144.4	154.3
<b>Tax expense at the expected tax rate</b>	<b>-32.5</b>	<b>-35.6</b>
Tax effects of:		
Non-tax-deductible expenses	-1.2	-2.1
Tax-exempt income	2.9	3.8
Previously unrecognized tax losses	2.4	2.8
Utilization of previously unrecognized tax losses	0.0	0.3
Previous-year and other positions	-0.3	-0.1
<b>Effective income tax expenses</b>	<b>-28.7</b>	<b>-30.9</b>

Since the Group operates in various countries with different tax laws and rates, the expected and effective tax expense depends every year on the origin of the profits or losses in each country. The expected tax expense is the sum of the expected individual tax in-

come/expense of all subsidiaries. The expected individual tax income/expense in a country is calculated by multiplying the individual profit/loss by the tax rate applicable in the country concerned. The expected tax rate in the year under review was 22.5% (2014: 23.1%).



Capitalized and non-capitalized tax loss carry-forwards, by expiry date:

<b>2015</b>			
CHF m	Not capitalized	Capitalized	Total
Expiry after:			
1 year	0.3	0.0	0.3
2 years	1.0	0.1	1.1
3 years	1.6	0.1	1.7
4 years	1.2	0.0	1.2
5 years	3.5	0.0	3.5
More than 5 years	75.7	40.3	116.0
<b>Total tax loss carry-forwards</b>	<b>83.3</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>123.8</b>

<b>2014</b>			
CHF m	Not capitalized	Capitalized	Total
Expiry after:			
1 year	0.6	0.0	0.6
2 years	0.8	0.1	0.9
3 years	1.6	0.3	1.9
4 years	1.3	0.1	1.4
5 years	1.2	0.1	1.3
More than 5 years	103.4	35.4	138.8
<b>Total tax loss carry-forwards</b>	<b>108.9</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>144.9</b>

In 2015, unused tax loss carry-forwards of CHF 0.3 million expired (2014: CHF 0.0 million).

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are offset when they relate to the same tax jurisdiction, provided

that the legal right to offset exists, and they are intended either to be settled net or to be realized simultaneously. The following amounts are shown in the balance sheet:

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
CHF m		
Deferred tax assets	39.5	37.2
Deferred tax liabilities	– 24.0	– 26.5
<b>Deferred tax assets, net</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>10.7</b>

Deferred tax assets and liabilities, tax credits, and tax charges from deferred taxes (gross):

<b>Deferred tax assets</b>							
CHF m	Inventories	Property, plant, and equipment	Provisions	Loss carry-forwards	Employee benefit obligations	Other	Total
<b>As at December 31, 2014</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>49.4</b>
Increase/decrease (–) in deferred tax assets	0.7	–0.5	–0.3	1.6	–0.4	–0.3	0.8
<b>As at December 31, 2015</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>50.2</b>
Netting							–10.7
<b>As at December 31, 2015, net</b>							<b>39.5</b>

<b>Deferred tax liabilities</b>							
CHF m	Inventories	Property, plant, and equipment	Provisions	Intangible assets	Employee benefit obligations	Other	Total
<b>As at December 31, 2014</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>38.7</b>
Decrease (–) in deferred tax liabilities	–0.2	–0.4	–0.2	–1.4	–1.0	–0.8	–4.0
<b>As at December 31, 2015</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>34.7</b>
Netting							–10.7
<b>As at December 31, 2015, net</b>							<b>24.0</b>

<b>Increase in deferred tax assets, net</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Of which recognized in other comprehensive income	2.0
Of which recognized in the income statement	2.8

As at December 31, 2015, no deferred tax liabilities on undistributed profits from consolidated companies have been recognized, since this income is deemed to have been reinvested for an indefinite period. Should there be a distribution, withholding and other taxes

might be incurred, which upon decision may be provided for accordingly.

Tax expense and income recognized directly in the other comprehensive income statement:

CHF m	2015			2014		
	Before tax	Tax income	After tax	Before tax	Tax income	After tax
Actuarial losses on employee benefit obligations	–12.0	2.0	–10.0	–8.9	2.7	–6.2
Translation differences	–48.7	0.0	–48.7	0.6	0.0	0.6
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>	<b>–60.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>–58.7</b>	<b>–8.3</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>–5.6</b>

### 13 Earnings per share

Undiluted earnings per share are calculated by dividing the net profit or loss for the year attributable to shareholders of Forbo Holding Ltd by the weighted average number of registered shares issued and outstanding in the year under review.

The figure for diluted earnings per share also takes into account the potential dilution effects if all issued and in-the-money share options were to be exercised.

The calculations are based on the following information:

	2015	2014
Group profit for the year from continuing operations in CHF million	115.7	123.4
Group profit for the year from discontinued operations after taxes in CHF million		0.2
Group profit for the year in CHF million	115.7	123.6
Weighted average number of shares	1,861,248	1,992,635
Amount of shares adjusted for stock option plans	219	2,915
Weighted average number of shares used to calculate diluted earnings per share	1,861,467	1,995,550

## 14 Property, plant, and equipment

<b>Cost on acquisition</b>					
CHF m	Land and buildings	Machinery and equipment	Other property, plant, and equipment	Assets under construction	Total property, plant, and equipment
<b>As at January 1, 2014</b>	<b>131.5</b>	<b>692.0</b>	<b>126.8</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>958.1</b>
Additions	1.1	7.3	2.2	28.7	39.3
Disposals	-5.1	-4.3	-1.8	-1.6	-12.8
Transfers	2.0	12.3	2.9	-17.2	
Translation differences	-2.1	-5.8	-1.2	-0.4	-9.5
<b>As at December 31, 2014</b>	<b>127.4</b>	<b>701.5</b>	<b>128.9</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>975.1</b>
Additions	1.1	5.3	1.2	31.4	39.0
Disposals	-2.3	-23.2	-5.3		-30.8
Transfers	1.5	15.0	1.2	-17.7	
Translation differences	-19.7	-53.2	-9.5	-1.1	-83.5
<b>As at December 31, 2015</b>	<b>108.0</b>	<b>645.4</b>	<b>116.5</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>899.8</b>

<b>Accumulated depreciation and impairments</b>					
CHF m	Land and buildings	Machinery and equipment	Other property, plant, and equipment	Assets under construction	Total property, plant, and equipment
<b>As at January 1, 2014</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>594.8</b>	<b>115.6</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>725.8</b>
Depreciation	7.3	21.0	4.5		32.8
Disposals	-4.4	-4.1	-1.7	-1.6	-11.8
Transfers	0.4	-0.4			
Translation differences	-1.0	-4.3	-1.3		-6.6
<b>As at December 31, 2014</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>607.0</b>	<b>117.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>740.2</b>
Depreciation	6.6	18.5	4.2		29.3
Disposals	-2.2	-23.1	-5.2		-30.5
Translation differences	-12.6	-45.4	-8.5		-66.5
<b>As at December 31, 2015</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>557.0</b>	<b>107.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>672.5</b>

<b>Net carrying amount</b>					
As at January 1, 2014	117.7	97.2	11.2	6.2	232.3
As at December 31, 2014	111.3	94.5	11.8	17.3	234.9
As at December 31, 2015	100.1	88.4	8.9	29.9	227.3

Property, plant, and equipment is recognized at amortized cost. As in the previous year, no impairments occurred in the year under review.

Maintenance and repair costs amounted to CHF 21.2 million (2014: CHF 22.6 million). The depreciation expense of CHF 29.3 million (2014: CHF 32.8 million) is included in the items 'Cost of goods sold', 'Development costs', 'Marketing and distribution costs', and 'Administrative costs'.

Property, plant, and equipment also includes leased assets with a net book value of CHF 1.0 million (2014:

CHF 1.4 million). The leasing liability for fixed assets carried in the balance sheet amounts to CHF 1.0 million (2014: CHF 1.5 million) and is found in note 23 'Non-current financial debt'.

As at December 31, 2015 there were no assets for which interest on borrowed capital was capitalized during the preparation phase.

As at December 31, 2015 the Group had outstanding purchase orders for capital goods amounting to CHF 1.7 million (2014: CHF 15.4 million).

## 15 Intangible assets and goodwill

<b>Cost on acquisition</b>				
CHF m	Goodwill	Trademarks	Other intangible assets	Total
<b>As at January 1, 2014</b>	<b>92.7</b>	<b>33.9</b>	<b>86.5</b>	<b>213.1</b>
Additions			0.2	0.2
Disposals			– 2.9	– 2.9
Translation differences	– 1.1	0.4	3.1	2.4
<b>As at December 31, 2014</b>	<b>91.6</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>86.9</b>	<b>212.8</b>
Additions			0.4	0.4
Disposals				0.0
Translation differences	– 5.7	– 0.3	– 3.2	– 9.2
<b>As at December 31, 2015</b>	<b>85.9</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>84.1</b>	<b>204.0</b>

<b>Accumulated amortization and impairments</b>				
CHF m	Goodwill	Trademarks	Other intangible assets	Total
<b>As at January 1, 2014</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>66.7</b>
Amortization			2.9	2.9
Disposals			– 2.9	– 2.9
Translation differences	– 0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0
<b>As at December 31, 2014</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>31.4</b>	<b>66.7</b>
Amortization			2.8	2.8
Disposals				0.0
Translation differences	– 0.7	0.0	– 0.5	– 1.2
<b>As at December 31, 2015</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>33.7</b>	<b>68.3</b>

<b>Net carrying amount</b>				
As at January 1, 2014	83.0	8.1	55.3	146.4
As at December 31, 2014	82.1	8.5	55.5	146.1
As at December 31, 2015	77.1	8.2	50.4	135.7

Goodwill is distributed among the following groups of cash-generating units:

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
Flooring Systems	73.5	78.1
Movement Systems	3.6	4.0
	<b>77.1</b>	<b>82.1</b>

The goodwill in Flooring Systems as at December 31, 2015, comprises primarily the goodwill acquired in connection with the acquisition of Bonar Floors in 2008. 'Other intangible assets' consists mainly of the customer relations and technologies as part of the acquisition of Bonar Floors, as well as acquired software.

The annual impairment test of goodwill yielded a value in use that was greater than the carrying amount.

Intangible assets with an indefinite useful life (goodwill and trademarks) are subject to an annual impairment test at cash-generating unit level. The test is carried out using a standardized method with discounted cash flow for calculating the value in use. Cash flow for the first five years is estimated on the basis of the plan approved by management (detailed planning period).

Cash flows beyond the detailed planning period are extrapolated to the terminal value by means of using sustainable earnings. During the detailed planning period, relatively constant EBITDA margins are assumed, which are around 17% (2014: 17%) for Flooring Systems and around 15% (2014: 13%) for Movement Systems. The discount rate corresponds to the total weighted cost of capital before taxes including an average risk charge estimated by management, which lies between 9.3% and 11.8% (2014: between 9.5% and 12.3%). The intangible assets with an indefinite useful life were also subject to impairment testing in the form of sensitivity analyses.

No change in the basic assumptions that can be regarded as reasonably realistic will result in the carrying amounts exceeding the recoverable amounts.

## 16 Inventories

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
<b>Inventories</b>		
CHF m		
Raw materials and supplies	39.6	44.0
Work in progress	73.4	75.0
Finished goods	129.4	139.5
Valuation allowance for inventories	- 27.9	- 27.9
<b>Total inventories</b>	<b>214.5</b>	<b>230.6</b>

Expenses for inventories recognized in the reporting year came to CHF 443.1 million (2014: CHF 496.7 million).

## 17 Trade receivables

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
<b>Trade receivables</b>		
CHF m		
Accounts receivable	137.2	139.9
Notes receivable	16.0	17.3
Allowance for doubtful trade receivables	- 5.9	- 6.6
<b>Total trade receivables</b>	<b>147.3</b>	<b>150.6</b>

As a rule, no default interest is charged for receivables past due. As at the reporting date, there was no indication that debtors would fail to meet their payment obligations in respect of trade receivables for which no allowance was made or which were past due. Valuation allowances are made in the form of specific val-

uation allowances. A specific valuation allowance is required if the debtor is unable to pay, if the debt has been past due for more than 90 days, or if the debtor has given notice of payment difficulties. Valuation allowances take due account of default risks.

Trade receivables recognized as at the balance sheet date:

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
CHF m		
<b>Total trade receivables, gross</b>	<b>153.2</b>	<b>157.2</b>
Not due	130.4	137.0
Overdue < 30 days	11.4	8.7
Overdue < 90 days	5.4	6.2
Overdue < 180 days	3.1	3.7
Overdue > 180 days	2.9	1.6
Allowance for doubtful trade receivables	-5.9	-6.6
<b>Total trade receivables</b>	<b>147.3</b>	<b>150.6</b>

Of the total of CHF 22.8 million in trade receivables past due as at December 31, 2015 (2014: CHF 20.2 million), CHF 17.8 million (2014: CHF 14.8 million) were not subjected to a valuation allowance. Overall, valuation

allowances of CHF 5.9 million (2014: CHF 6.6 million) were made for receivables with a nominal value of CHF 21.2 million (2014: CHF 24.4 million).

Gross value of trade receivables by currency:

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
CHF m		
CHF	0.7	1.9
EUR	70.1	74.8
USD	23.4	18.4
JPY	13.4	12.6
GBP	11.8	16.2
CNY	9.6	8.7
SEK	5.3	5.5
Other	18.9	19.1
<b>Total trade receivables, gross</b>	<b>153.2</b>	<b>157.2</b>

Changes in valuation allowances for doubtful trade receivables during the reporting year:

	2015	2014
CHF m		
<b>As at January 1</b>	<b>-6.6</b>	<b>-7.1</b>
Additions	-0.9	-1.3
Release	0.1	0.7
Use	1.0	1.2
Translation differences	0.5	-0.1
<b>As at December 31</b>	<b>-5.9</b>	<b>-6.6</b>



Allowances of CHF 1.9 million (2014: CHF 2.0 million) were made for trade receivables not yet due and of CHF 4.0 million (2014: CHF 4.6 million) for trade receivables past due.

The creation and release of allowances for doubtful trade receivables are included in 'Other operating expense and income' in the income statement.

## 18 Other current financial assets

In the previous year, 'Other current financial assets' contained securities (stocks and funds), which were sold in the reporting year. As explained in note 31 'Additional information on financial instruments', this position was valued on the basis of listed market prices.

## 19 Cash

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>		
CHF m		
Petty cash	0.1	0.1
Bank accounts	107.9	160.7
Short-term deposits with banks	8.3	44.3
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>116.3</b>	<b>205.1</b>

The change in cash and cash equivalents can be found in the consolidated cash flow statement.

## 20 Pledged or assigned assets

There were no significant pledged or assigned assets.

## 21 Share capital

As at December 31, 2015, the share capital of Forbo Holding Ltd stood at CHF 199,000 (2014: CHF 215,000), divided into 1,990,000 registered shares with a par value of CHF 0.10 each. Of this amount 21,419 registered shares without voting or dividend rights are at the disposal of the Board of Directors. Consequently, 1,968,581 registered shares were eligible for dividends as at December 31, 2015 (2014: 2,128,581).

Change of shares issued and outstanding:

	31.12.2015	Change	31.12.2014
	Number	Number	Number
<b>Total shares outstanding</b>	<b>1,990,000</b>	<b>- 160,000</b>	<b>2,150,000</b>
<b>Treasury shares</b>			
Shares with dividend rights:			
Treasury shares	70,123	- 11,141	81,264
Share buyback programs	190,000	31,533	158,467
Own shares with no dividend rights	21,419		21,419
<b>Total treasury shares</b>	<b>281,542</b>	<b>20,392</b>	<b>261,150</b>
<b>Total shares issued and outstanding</b>	<b>1,708,458</b>	<b>- 180,392</b>	<b>1,888,850</b>

At the Ordinary General Meeting of Forbo Holding Ltd held on April 24, 2015, the shareholders approved a capital reduction from CHF 215,000 to CHF 199,000 by cancellation of the 160,000 shares acquired in connection with the share buyback program approved at the Ordinary General Meeting on April 25, 2014, at the fixed price and via the second trading line of the SIX Swiss Exchange, and adopted the corresponding amendment to the Articles of Association.

The capital reduction was completed with the entry into the Commercial Register of the Canton of Zug on July 10, 2015 and was published in the SHAB on July 15, 2015. The exchange adjustment took place on the same day.

The Board of Directors was furthermore authorized to buy back the company's own shares, over a period of three years, for the purpose of subsequent cancellation of the share certificates, up to a maximum of 10% of the share capital. In the framework of this new share buyback program approved at the Ordinary General Meeting of Forbo Holding Ltd on April 24, 2015, 190,000 shares were repurchased until its finalization on December 23, 2015.

## 22 Employee participation plan

Variable compensation for the Executive Board is linked with the Management Investment Plan (MIP), which was introduced in 2006 and amended in 2012. The members of the Board of Directors do not participate in the MIP. According to this plan, at least 50% of the

annual variable remuneration of Executive Board members is paid into the MIP. As for the remaining 50% of the annual variable remuneration, the Executive Board members may either draw all or part of it in cash or pay it into the MIP. They may redefine the allocation of this remaining 50% every year anew.

Under the previous plan until 2012, 25% of the payments were invested in options and 75% in shares of Forbo Holding Ltd. The shares and options were subject to a three-year lock-up period and the term of the options was five years. The options issued in connection with the MIP come to maturity on April 21, 2017, at the latest. Following the amendment of the MIP, all the sums paid into it will be invested only in shares of Forbo Holding Ltd as of January 1, 2013, and no longer in options. These shares, too, are subject to a three-year lock-up period. The shares and options issued under the MIP are equity-settled. The share-based portion of the variable compensation is recognized at fair value, offset by equity instruments and recognized a corresponding increase in equity. The shares that are distributed under the MIP are issued at the unweighted average closing price of the Forbo share for the first 14 trading days in January of the year in which they are distributed. The options until 2012 were issued on the basis of a valuation by an independent bank, whereby the valuation was based on the average market price of the shares in the first 14 trading days in January of the respective year.

### Options

Change in the number of outstanding options and their weighted average strike price:

	2015		2014	
	Weighted average strike price in CHF	Number of options	Weighted average strike price in CHF	Number of options
<b>Options outstanding as at January 1</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>9,047</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>22,088</b>
Granted				
Exercised	616	-8,547	714	-13,041
Expired				
<b>Options outstanding as at December 31</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>9,047</b>

Of the 500 (2014: 9,047) options outstanding, all were exercisable as at December 31, 2015 (2014: 0). The exercise of 8,547 (2014: 13,041) options resulted in the issue of 8,547 (2014: 13,041) Forbo Holding shares at

a weighted average issue price of CHF 616 (2014: CHF 714). The weighted average share price on the exercise days was CHF 1,174 (2014: CHF 945).

Information on the outstanding options as at December 31, 2015:

Series	Strike price (CHF)	Number of outstanding options	Average remaining term (years)	Number of exercisable options
2012	616	500	1.3	500
<b>Total options outstanding</b>		<b>500</b>		

### Shares

In the year under review, 1,894 shares of Forbo Holding Ltd were issued under the MIP (2014: 1,373). A further 416 shares were allocated to Executive Board members in the reporting year as part of base remuneration (2014: 440). The share price at valuation date was CHF 966 (2014: CHF 760).

The Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors is compensated primarily with shares. The detailed information and figures for this compensation model can be found on pages 134 and 135 of this financial report and on pages 79 and 80 of the remuneration report.

The number of shares with a three-year lock-up period allocated to the non-executive members of the Board of Directors came to 284 in the reporting year (2014: 290).

In the year under review, the amount charged to the income statement in application of IFRS 2 for shares issued came to CHF 3.8 million (2014: CHF 4.2 million).

## 23 Non-current financial debt

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
CHF m		
Lease obligations	1.0	1.5
Less current portion	–0.1	–0.1
<b>Total non-current financial debt</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.4</b>

The item 'Non-current financial debt' now contains only financial leasing liabilities. The average interest rate on leasing liabilities was 3.5%.

## 24 Employee benefit obligations

The Group has established several pension plans on the basis of the specific requirements of the countries in which it operates. Both defined contribution and defined benefit plans exist in the Group that insure employees against the risks of death and invalidity and provide old-age pensions.

The liabilities and assets under the main defined benefit plans are assessed annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method.

### Pension plans in the United Kingdom

The Group has two defined benefit pension plans in the United Kingdom. The main one is the Forbo Superannuation Fund (the FSF), which accounts for about 63% of the Group's total pension liabilities. The FSF is a pension plan whose benefits are based on the final salary and which pays out a guaranteed pension for life to its members. The FSF is closed to new entrants, but benefits continue to accrue for a small number of existing members. The composition of the pension liabilities is as follows: 3% to active employees, 36% to deferred members and 61% to current beneficiaries. New employees in the United Kingdom who meet certain criteria are now offered a defined contribution plan.

The FSF operates under trust law and is managed and administered by the trustees on behalf of the members in accordance with the terms of the Trust Deed and Rules and relevant legislation. The FSF's assets are held by the trust. Responsibility for governance of the FSF – including investment decisions and contribution schedules – lies jointly with the company and the trustees. The board of the trustees must be composed of representatives of the company and plan participants in accordance with the FSF's regulations and British pension law.

The pension plan follows an investment strategy that is geared to the structure of the pension liabilities (LDI – liability-driven investment approach). The core elements of this strategy are:

- Hedging of liabilities: 60% of the assets of the fund are held in physical form in corporate bonds and a further 10% in funds geared to the pension liabilities. This approach hedges a substantial portion of interest rate and inflation risks. The target hedge ratio is 80% of the assets held by the FSF.
- Return-seeking assets: 30% of the assets of the FSF are held in the form of diversified growth investment funds.

The use of any surplus is not subject to any restriction under the FSF's articles of incorporation and may be used freely by the Group. These surpluses are therefore recognized in the balance sheet as assets in accordance with IAS 19 revised

### Switzerland

The Group pays contributions to an independent pension fund as part of the occupational pension provision (known in Switzerland as the 'second pillar'). As a minimum benefit, this independent pension fund must provide the beneficiary with an old-age pension at the time of retirement. This pension is paid out of the retirement savings capital at the start of the pension. The Group meets these liabilities through agreements with pension funds that cover the pension liabilities in full.

The pension liabilities of the Swiss Group companies account for about 19% of the Group's entire pension liabilities. 96% of the liabilities are to active members and 4% to retired beneficiaries.

The Swiss pension system includes guarantees that expose the company to the risk that it may have to provide additional financing. Such a situation may occur, for instance, if the pension fund is unable to meet its obligations or decides to end the insurance relationship. The pension fund guarantees a minimum return and is responsible for the payment of a pension for life

once the insurance benefits fall due. As a result of these guarantees, Swiss pension plans are treated as defined benefit plans under IFRS, even though they contain essential elements of defined contribution plans.

The company cannot participate in any surplus of the pension plan. According to Swiss pension law, all surpluses belong to the pension plan and hence to its members.

### Others

The Group has a number of other, smaller defined contribution and defined benefit plans in other countries, in accordance with the legal provisions for employees. The main plans exist in France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, and the USA.

The latest actuarial valuations of the present values of defined benefit liabilities and of service costs were performed as at December 31, 2015, by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. The fair value of the plan assets was determined as at December 31, 2015, based on the information available when the annual financial statements were prepared. The average duration of the pension plans until payment of benefits (plan duration) is 14.5 years for the United Kingdom, 18.9 years for Switzerland, and 15.2 years for the other countries.

The principal assumptions underlying the actuarial calculations are summarized as follows.

Actuarial assumptions	2015				2014			
	Switzerland	UK	Other	Weighted	Switzerland	UK	Other	Weighted
Discount rate (in %)	0.9	3.7	2.2	3.0	1.1	3.7	2.1	3.0
Future increases in salaries (in %)	2.0	3.8	2.4	2.5	1.7	4.0	2.7	2.4
Inflation rate (in %)	1.5	3.1	1.4	2.7	1.2	3.3	1.7	2.8
Life expectancy at age of 65 (in years)								
Year of birth 1949								
Men	22	22	20	22	22	22	19	
Women	24	24	23	24	24	24	23	
Year of birth 1964								
Men	23	23	21	23	23	23	21	
Women	25	25	25	25	25	26	24	

The amounts reported in the consolidated income statement and in equity can be summarized as follows.

Pension costs for defined benefit plans:

Pension costs	2015				2014			
	Switzerland	UK	Other	Total	Switzerland	UK	Other	Total
CHF m								
Service cost	0.0	1.3	1.9	3.2	1.3	0.6	2.1	4.0
Interest costs	0.7	8.6	1.1	10.4	1.2	9.6	1.4	12.2
Interest income on plan assets	-0.5	-9.0	-0.2	-9.7	-1.0	-9.5	-0.3	-10.8
<b>Total actuarial net periodic pension costs</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>5.4</b>

Changes in pension liabilities under the defined benefit plans:

	2015				2014			
<b>Benefit obligations</b>								
CHF m	Switzerland	UK	Other	Total	Switzerland	UK	Other	Total
<b>As at January 1</b>	<b>62.0</b>	<b>247.5</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>367.6</b>	<b>50.6</b>	<b>221.2</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>320.0</b>
Service cost	0.0	1.3	1.9	3.2	1.3	0.6	2.1	4.0
Employee contributions	1.0	0.0	0.1	1.1	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
Interest costs	0.7	8.6	1.1	10.4	1.2	9.6	1.4	12.2
Benefits paid	-1.8	-10.1	-1.7	-13.6	-3.2	-10.4	-2.1	-15.7
Actuarial losses/gains (-)	3.5	5.7	-3.0	6.2	11.1	16.8	10.1	38.0
Curtailments and settlements			-1.7	-1.7				
Translation differences		-9.0	-3.8	-12.8		9.7	-1.6	8.1
<b>As at December 31</b>	<b>65.4</b>	<b>244.0</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>360.4</b>	<b>62.0</b>	<b>247.5</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>367.6</b>

Changes in plan assets of the defined benefit plans at fair value:

	2015				2014			
<b>Plan assets</b>								
CHF m	Switzerland	UK	Other	Total	Switzerland	UK	Other	Total
<b>As at January 1</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>257.9</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>307.1</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>219.5</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>268.2</b>
Interest income on plan assets	0.5	9.0	0.2	9.7	1.0	9.5	0.3	10.8
Employer contributions	1.7	0.1	1.6	3.4	1.7	0.1	2.2	4.0
Employee contributions	1.0	0.0	0.1	1.1	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
Return on pension assets (excluding amounts in interest income)	0.3	-6.0	-0.1	-5.8	-0.1	29.3	-0.1	29.1
Benefits paid	-1.8	-10.1	-1.7	-13.6	-3.2	-10.4	-2.1	-15.7
Curtailments and settlements			-1.7	-1.7				
Translation differences		-9.4	-0.5	-9.9		9.9	-0.2	9.7
<b>As at December 31</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>241.5</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>290.3</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>257.9</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>307.1</b>

Actuarial gains and losses are recognized in the balance sheet under 'Pension liabilities' and accounted for directly in the other comprehensive income.

Most of the pension plans are financed in full or in part via outsourced funds. Pension liabilities amounting to CHF 34.8 million (2014: CHF 37.0 million) out of a total of CHF 360.4 million (2014: CHF 367.6 million) are unfunded.

Changes in the net liabilities of defined benefit plans recognized in the balance sheet:

	2015				2014			
<b>Net liabilities</b>								
CHF m	Switzerland	UK	Other	Total	Switzerland	UK	Other	Total
<b>As at January 1</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>- 10.4</b>	<b>50.2</b>	<b>60.5</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>51.8</b>
Net pension cost	0.2	0.9	2.8	3.9	1.5	0.7	3.2	5.4
Employer contributions	- 1.7	- 0.1	- 1.6	- 3.4	- 1.7	- 0.1	- 2.2	- 4.0
Actuarial losses/gains (-)	3.2	11.7	- 2.9	12.0	11.2	- 12.5	10.2	8.9
Translation differences		0.4	- 3.3	- 2.9		- 0.2	- 1.4	- 1.6
<b>Net liabilities as at December 31</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>- 10.4</b>	<b>50.2</b>	<b>60.5</b>

Gains and losses of defined benefit pension plans offset in the comprehensive income statement for all divisions:

	2015				2014			
<b>Recognized gains and losses</b>								
CHF m	Switzerland	UK	Other	Total	Switzerland	UK	Other	Total
<b>Actuarial losses (-)/gains in the current period:</b>	<b>- 3.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>- 10.5</b>	<b>- 16.8</b>	<b>- 9.7</b>	<b>- 37.0</b>
Based on adjustment of demographic assumptions	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Based on adjustment of financial assumptions	- 3.0	2.8	3.2	3.0	- 10.5	- 16.8	- 9.7	- 37.0
Experience adjustment	- 0.5	- 8.7	- 0.2	- 9.4	- 0.6	0.0	- 0.1	- 0.7
Return on pension assets (excluding amounts in interest income)	0.3	- 6.0	- 0.1	- 5.8	- 0.1	29.3	- 0.4	28.8
<b>Total losses (-)/gains recognized in the comprehensive income statement, before taxes</b>	<b>- 3.2</b>	<b>- 11.7</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>- 12.0</b>	<b>- 11.2</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>- 10.2</b>	<b>- 8.9</b>

Change in the present value of defined benefit liabilities:

			+ 0.5%			– 0.5%		
Sensitivities								
CHF m	Switzerland	UK	Other	Switzerland	UK	Other		
Discount rate	– 5.9	– 15.8	– 3.6	6.7	17.5	4.1		
Rate of salary increase	1.9	0.3	2.5	– 1.9	– 0.3	– 2.2		
Inflation rate	1.5	8.4	3.2	– 1.5	– 7.7	– 2.8		
Interest credits on retirement assets	1.5			– 1.5				

The above table describes the effect of the principal actuarial assumptions on pension liabilities. The table shows the effect of an isolated change of a single parameter, assuming that all other parameters remain unchanged. The table illustrates the overall effect for each region. However, sensitivities may differ for individual plans within the regions. Sensitivity analysis aims to visualize the uncertainty in valuating pension liabilities under market conditions at the date of valuation.

The results cannot be extrapolated owing to possible non-linear effects in the event of changes to the actuarial assumptions. Moreover, the analysis cannot say anything about the likelihood of these changes occurring, nor can it present the view of the Group regarding anticipated future changes in pension liabilities. Any measures taken by management to reduce the risks inherent in pension liabilities are also not taken into account in the analysis.

Weighted average asset allocation of the defined benefit plan assets as at December 31:

	2015	2014
%		
Shares	2.0	2.4
Bonds	59.2	60.7
Other securities	37.9	36.3
Cash and cash equivalents	0.9	0.6
<b>Total plan assets as at December 31</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Other securities amounting to 37.9% (2014: 36.3%) consisted of 23.0% listed investments (2014: 22.8%) and 14.9% unlisted investments (2014: 13.5%). The shares and bonds are all listed investments. The plan assets do not include any shares or other securities of the Forbo Group.

Future contributions to defined benefit plans in the following year are estimated on the basis of the period under review.

The expense for the contributions to defined contribution plans, which is included in personnel expenses, amounted to CHF 12.5 million in 2015 (2014: CHF 13.7 million).

#### Other non-current benefits

The Group does not finance any other non-current benefits. The plans for long-service bonuses and other benefits related to years of service are negligible or do not qualify as plans for other non-current benefits.



## 25 Provisions

Provisions						
CHF m	Warranty provisions	Environmental provisions	Provisions for legal claims	Personnel provisions	Other provisions	Total 2015
<b>As at January 1, 2015</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>42.0</b>
Additions	2.9		1.6	3.7	0.8	9.0
Used during the year	-1.4		0.0	-2.7	-0.3	-4.4
Released during the year	-0.1		-1.0	-0.8		-1.9
Translation differences	-0.2	-0.5		-0.1	-0.2	-1.0
<b>As at December 31, 2015</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>43.7</b>
Of which current provisions	2.3	0.0	1.4	11.1	3.2	18.0
Of which non-current provisions	1.8	11.5	11.1	0.3	1.0	25.7

Warranty provisions are linked to product sales and are based on past experience. The provisions for legal claims relate mainly to product liability claims in which the Group is involved in the course of its normal business. The personnel provisions include in particular the bonus programs, provisions for paid leave, and potential labor law issues.

In connection with the sale of the industrial adhesives activity, including synthetic polymers, provisions of CHF 11.0 million are kept unchanged for anticipated cash outflows in connection with risks in the areas of environmental (CHF 7.0 million), legal claims (CHF 3.0 million) and other (CHF 1.0 million).

## 26 Accrued expenses and deferred income

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
<b>Accrued expenses and deferred income</b>		
CHF m		
Accrued expenses for compensation and employee benefits	35.6	35.4
Other accrued expenses	44.3	55.0
<b>Total accrued expenses and deferred income</b>	<b>79.9</b>	<b>90.4</b>

Accrued expenses for compensation and employee benefits mainly comprise overtime accruals and commissions. Other accrued expenses include accrued vol-

ume rebates, commissions, premiums, interest and goods and services received but not yet invoiced.

## 27 Current financial debt

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
<b>Current financial debt</b>		
CHF m		
Current bank loans and overdrafts	0.0	0.5
Current portion of non-current debt	0.1	0.1
<b>Total current financial debt</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>

## 28 Discontinued operations and assets held for sale as well as liabilities directly associated with assets held for sale

As reported in note 25 'Provisions', there are still risks from existing warranty deadlines that arise from the sale of the industrial adhesives activity, including synthetic polymers, of the former Bonding Systems division. This division was sold to H.B. Fuller on March 5, 2012, for CHF 384.7 million.

In this connection, there was neither any cash flow nor any changes in provisions in the reporting year. In the previous year, the Group had received a payment of CHF 0.3 million from H.B. Fuller from a control and profit and loss transfer agreement still in effect for the short fiscal year 2012.

## 29 Contingent liabilities

As announced in a media release on July 3, 2013, the activity of Flooring Systems in France is being investigated by the French competition authorities. The investigation affects the flooring market in France and was instituted on suspicion of anti-competitive practices by leading manufacturers. As the investigation is ongoing, the Group is unable to provide any further information at present or estimate the possible repercussions.

## 30 Leasing

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014
<b>Leasing</b>		
CHF m		
Operating leasing liabilities:		
Up to 1 year	8.3	9.8
2 – 5 years	21.7	22.3
More than 5 years	6.1	6.4
<b>Total operating leasing liabilities</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>38.5</b>

Expenses for operating leasing and rentals charged to the 2015 income statement totaled CHF 18.3 million (2014: CHF 20.6 million). The Group has no individually significant operating leasing contracts.

The liabilities arising from financial leasing are contained in the item 'Non-current financial debt'.

### 31 Additional information on financial instruments

Financial instruments that are valued at fair value are classified in a three-level hierarchy as follows:

- Level 1: listed market prices in an active market for identical assets and liabilities
- Level 2: input factors other than market prices included in level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices).

- Level 3: input factors for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (non-observable inputs).

There were no financial instruments in the fair value hierarchy levels nor was there any regrouping between the levels of the fair-value hierarchy. The financial instruments held at the balance sheet date were all valued at amortized costs:

Classification of financial instruments	Carrying amount			
	Fair value through profit or loss – held for trading	Loans and receivables	Other financial liabilities	Total
CHF m				
<b>31.12.2015</b>				
Financial assets valued at fair value:				
Financial assets valued at amortized costs:				
Other non-current financial assets		0.3		0.3
Trade receivables		147.3		147.3
Other receivables		5.4		5.4
Cash and cash equivalents				116.3
Financial liabilities valued at amortized costs:				
Non-current financial debt			0.9	0.9
Trade payables			77.4	77.4
Current financial debt			0.1	0.1
Other current liabilities			8.7	8.7

A fair value hierarchy is not required, since for all financial instruments, the carrying amount is a reasonable estimate of the fair value.

Classification of financial instruments				Carrying amount
CHF m	Fair value through profit or loss – held for trading	Loans and receivables	Other financial liabilities	Total
<b>31.12.2014</b>				
Financial assets valued at fair value:				
Other current financial assets	49.5			49.5
Financial assets valued at amortized costs:				
Other non-current financial assets		0.3		0.3
Trade receivables		150.6		150.6
Other receivables		24.0		24.0
Cash and cash equivalents				205.1
Financial liabilities valued at amortized costs:				
Non-current financial debt			1.4	1.4
Trade payables			86.5	86.5
Current financial debt			0.1	0.1
Other current liabilities			10.3	10.3

The other current financial assets are all allocated to the first fair-value hierarchy level (listed shares). For the other financial instruments, the carrying amount is a reasonable estimate of the fair value.

## 32 Related party transactions

Compensation paid to members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board:

	Executive Board		Board of Directors		Total	
CHF m	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
Remuneration	1.6	1.7	1.0	1.1	2.6	2.8
Employer contributions to the pension scheme	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4
Share-based payments	1.1	1.5	2.5	2.5	3.7	4.0
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>7.2</b>

The remuneration paid to the Executive Board in the reporting year came to CHF 1.6 million (2014: CHF 1.7 million) and consists of the fixed gross base salary in cash, the variable remuneration in cash, private use of the company car, and social security payments made by the company. Employer contributions to the pension fund are reported separately. Share-based payments to the Executive Board consist of the proportion of the fixed gross base salary, which is paid in shares of Forbo Holding Ltd, and the variable remuneration within the framework of the MIP (see note 22 'Employee participation plan') for the reporting year, amounting to CHF 1.1 million (variable remuneration payable in spring 2016, subject to approval by the 2016 Ordinary General Meeting).

The remuneration of the Board of Directors amounted to CHF 1.0 million in the year under review (2014: CHF 1.1 million). This includes the gross base remuneration in cash, the employer contributions to the usual social insurances, the lump sum and on-site expenses, and private use of the company car (only for the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors). The employer contributions to the pension fund for the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors are reported separately. The share-based remuneration of the Board of Directors includes the portion of the gross base remuneration in shares. This consists on the one hand of the 40% portion of the remuneration paid in shares to non-executive Board members, amounting to CHF 0.3 million (2014: CHF 0.3 million) and, on the other, of the share package of the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors amounting to CHF 2.2 million (2014: CHF 2.2 million).

With effect from May 2013, the employment contract with the Delegate and as of April 25, 2014 the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors was extended to encompass the period from May 1, 2013 to December 31, 2016. The bulk of the compensation will again be paid in locked-up shares which have lock-up periods of three, four, and five years respectively, and in an annual cash payment of CHF 310,000 to be used in part for taxes and for employee contributions to the pension fund and social security payments. The underlying share price used to calculate the number of shares is the weighted average price of the first and last five days on which shares of Forbo Holding Ltd were traded on the stock market in 2012 (CHF 522.12), less the discount as a result of the shares being locked up. The share package corresponds to annual compensation of CHF 2,200,000 (5,314 shares). As per IFRS 2, they are recognized pro rata for each calendar year.

With this share package and the cash remuneration, all benefits such as bonuses, inflation, salary adjustments, options, etc. are settled. This share package may not be either pledged or assigned. The last third of the locked-up shares will be available on May 1, 2018, at the earliest.

The Ordinance against Excessive Remuneration in Listed Public Companies (OaER) entered into force on January 1, 2014. According to Article 28 of the OaER, employment contracts must be compliant with this Ordinance no later than December 31, 2015. Consequently, all payments that had been agreed and were paid out for 2016 have to be reversed by December 31, 2015, at the latest. The value of this fixed remuneration paid to This E. Schneider for fiscal 2016 amounts to CHF 2,200,000. In order to comply with and implement the provisions of the OaER, the Group and This E. Schneider have agreed that he will repay the Group in cash the amount of his fixed compensation for the period from January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016, plus interest of 0.5% from May 1, 2013, to December 31, 2013. The repayment was completed before year-end 2013 and will be paid out to him again in monthly instalments in 2016 after approval by the 2015 Ordinary General Meeting. The compensation package and the relevant agreements were adjusted accordingly.

Information on the remuneration of the Executive Board and Board of Directors is explained in detail on page 87 of the Remuneration Report.

As at December 31, 2015 and 2014, Forbo had no significant receivables due from or liabilities to related parties.

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### 33 Risk assessment and financial risk management

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The tasks of the Board of Directors include identifying risks, determining suitable measures, and implementing those measures or having them implemented. The Board of Directors of Forbo Holding Ltd conducted a Group-wide risk assessment in the reporting year and also determined the risks to be managed by particular management levels. The Board of Directors is closely involved in the assessment of strategic risks and, in consultation with the Executive Board, ensures that operational risks are dealt with appropriately and that they are duly reported. This approach gives the Board a complete overview of the key risks and measures. This broad overview enables the Group to set priorities and allocate the necessary resources.

#### Financial risk management

In its day-to-day operations, the Forbo Group uses derivative and non-derivative financial instruments to manage the risks and opportunities arising from fluctuations in exchange rates and interest rates. The various risks associated with existing assets and liabilities as well as planned and anticipated transactions are monitored and managed centrally – with due regard to the Group's overall risk exposure. In line with the Group's hedging policy, Corporate Treasury constantly monitors both the risk exposure and the effectiveness of the hedging instruments and issues recommendations with regard to partial or complete hedging of existing risks.

The Group's financial risk management policy does not permit the use of derivative financial instruments for speculation. In order to manage counterparty risk, derivative financial transactions are concluded only with first-class banks. The creditworthiness of these institutions is assessed on the basis of evaluations by leading rating agencies.

Derivatives include instruments used by the company to manage foreign currency and interest risks or combinations thereof.

### Foreign exchange risk management

Risks arising from short-term currency exposure created by purchases and sales of goods and services (transaction risks) are identified, and selective hedging strategies are implemented in line with an ongoing assessment of exchange rate movements. The Group uses only foreign exchange forward and option contracts with maturities of up to 15 months to hedge against transaction risk.

Furthermore, risks associated with the translation of assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies (translation risks) are managed by establishing an appropriate financing policy.

### Sensitivity analysis of existing foreign exchange positions on the balance sheet date

The following table shows the sensitivity of profit before tax to changes in the exchange rate of the US dollar, the euro, and the pound sterling against the Swiss franc. The table only displays sensitivity in relation to transaction risks from financial instruments.

Translation risks and the effects of loans that qualify as net investments are not taken into account. Except for the effect on profit, the same change in exchange rates with a sensitivity of +/- 5% has no effect on equity.

#### Transaction risks from financial instruments 2015

CHF m	Net exposure	Change in exchange rate	Impact on profit before tax
EUR/CHF	- 18.6	5%	- 0.9
		- 5%	0.9
USD/CHF	- 10.6	5%	- 0.5
		- 5%	0.5
EUR/USD	- 6.6	5%	- 0.3
		- 5%	0.3
GBP/USD	0.7	5%	0.0
		- 5%	0.0

#### Transaction risks from financial instruments 2014

CHF m	Net exposure	Change in exchange rate	Impact on profit before tax
EUR/CHF	6.4	5%	0.3
		- 5%	- 0.3
USD/CHF	13.2	5%	0.7
		- 5%	- 0.7
EUR/USD	4.6	5%	0.2
		- 5%	- 0.2
GBP/USD	- 3.3	5%	- 0.2
		- 5%	0.2

**Management of interest rate risks**

Interest rate risks arise from changes in the fair value of interest-bearing assets and liabilities caused by fluctuations in interest rates. Since these risks may have a negative effect on net financial profit and shareholders' equity, the Group uses derivatives to manage them

on a case-by-case basis. The table below shows only the sensitivity of profit before tax to the stated changes in interest rates for cash and cash equivalents, interest-bearing debt, and financial derivatives. Except for the effect on profit, the same change in interest rates of +/- 50 bp has no effect on equity.

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**Interest rate risks from cash and cash equivalents,  
interest-bearing debt and financial derivatives  
2015**

	Change in interest rate	Impact on profit before tax
CHF m		
EUR	50bp	0.2
	- 50bp	- 0.2
USD	50bp	0.1
	- 50bp	- 0.1
CHF	50bp	0.1
	- 50bp	- 0.1

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**Interest rate risks from cash and cash equivalents,  
interest-bearing debt and financial derivatives  
2014**

	Change in interest rate	Impact on profit before tax
CHF m		
EUR	50bp	0.3
	- 50bp	- 0.3
USD	50bp	0.1
	- 50bp	- 0.1
CHF	50bp	0.4
	- 50bp	- 0.4



### Management of liquidity risks

Group companies need sufficient cash in order to meet their commitments. Corporate Treasury is responsible for managing liquidity surpluses. The share of the aggregate cash and cash equivalents managed by Corporate Treasury was around 64% on December 31, 2015. At present, the Group regards a cash level of roughly CHF 45 million as sufficient to meet its payment obligations at all times.

The maturity structure of the existing financial liabilities is shown in the following table. These liabilities correspond to contractually agreed maturities and represent nominal payment outflows. Inflows and outflows of funds from derivative financial instruments are shown separately.

#### As at December 31, 2015

CHF m	Remaining term to maturity up to 1 year	Remaining term to maturity 1 – 2 years	Remaining term to maturity 2 – 5 years	Remaining term to maturity over 5 years
Interest-free liabilities	86.1			
Liabilities from finance leasing	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4
Cash outflow from financial derivatives	0.0			
Cash inflow from financial derivatives	0.0			

#### As at December 31, 2014

CHF m	Remaining term to maturity up to 1 year	Remaining term to maturity 1 – 2 years	Remaining term to maturity 2 – 5 years	Remaining term to maturity over 5 years
Interest-free liabilities	96.8			
Liabilities from finance leasing	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.9
Cash outflow from financial derivatives	0.0			
Cash inflow from financial derivatives	0.2			

### Management of credit risks

Credit risks arise from the possibility that customers may not be able to meet their agreed commitments. To manage this risk adequately, the financial creditworthiness of various customers is constantly monitored. Credit risks are diversified by the company's broad customer base in various business segments

and geographic regions. With regard to counterparty risk exposure to banks, Group-wide directives stipulate that financial investments and other financial transactions are to be made only with first-class banks. Given the credit ratings of these counterparties, the Group does not anticipate any defaults.

**Capital management**

For the Group, capital management means both optimizing the capital employed and managing consolidated shareholders' equity, which consists of paid-up share capital, treasury shares, reserves, and translation differences. As at December 31, 2015, shareholders' equity stood at CHF 559.2 million. The objectives of capital management are to ensure that the Group remains a going concern, to preserve its financial flexibility for investments, and to achieve a risk-adjusted return on equity for investors.

Changes in economic conditions may require adjustments to the Group's shareholders' equity. These adjustments can take the form of dividend distributions, capital repayments or increases, or share buybacks.

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**34 Events after the balance sheet date**


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Between the balance sheet date and the date of publication of this annual report no event occurred that could have a significant effect on the 2015 annual financial statements.

# Group companies

## (as at December 31, 2015)

Group company	Registered office		Currency	Share capital	Equity interest	Flooring Systems	Move-ment Systems	Holding/ Services
<b>Australia</b>								
Forbo Floorcoverings Pty. Ltd.	Wetherill Park, NSW		AUD	500,000	100%	S		
Forbo Siegling Pty. Ltd.	Wetherill Park, NSW		AUD	6,000,000	100%		S	
<b>Austria</b>								
Forbo Flooring Austria GmbH	Vienna		EUR	73,000	100%	S		
Forbo Siegling Austria Ges.m.b.H.	Vienna		EUR	330,000	100%		S	
<b>Belgium</b>								
Forbo Flooring N.V.	Groot-Bijgaarden		EUR	250,000	100%	S		
<b>Brazil</b>								
Forbo Pisos Ltda.	São Paulo		BRL	2,000,000	100%	S		
Forbo Siegling Brasil Ltda.	São Paulo	N	BRL	7,008,746	50%		MS	
<b>Canada</b>								
Forbo Flooring Canada Corp.	Halifax		CAD	500,200	100%	S		
Forbo Siegling Canada Corp.	Halifax		CAD	501,000	100%		S	
<b>Chile</b>								
Forbo Siegling Chile S.A.	Santiago	N	CLP	335,631,092	50%		S	
<b>Czech Republic</b>								
Forbo Siegling Ceska republika s.r.o.	Liberec		CZK	100,000	100%		S	
Forbo s.r.o.	Prague		CZK	500,000	100%	S		
<b>Denmark</b>								
Forbo Flooring A/S	Glostrup		DKK	500,000	100%	S		
Forbo Siegling Danmark A/S	Brøndby		DKK	32,300,000	100%		MS	
<b>Finland</b>								
Forbo Flooring Finland Oy	Helsinki		EUR	33,638	100%	S		
<b>France</b>								
Forbo Château-Renault S.A.S.	Château-Renault		EUR	1,000,000	100%	MS		
Forbo Participations S.A.S.	Reims	D	EUR	5,000,000	100%			H
Forbo Reims SNC	Reims		EUR	3,879,810	100%	MS		
Forbo Sarlino S.A.S.	Reims		EUR	6,400,000	100%	S		
Forbo Siegling France S.A.S.	Lomme		EUR	819,000	100%		S	

S Sales

MS Manufacturing and Sales

H Holding/Services

N Not consolidated as at December 31, 2015

D Direct participation of Forbo Holding Ltd

Group company	Registered office		Currency	Share capital	Equity interest	Flooring Systems	Move-ment Systems	Holding/Services
<b>Germany</b>								
Forbo Beteiligungen GmbH	Lörrach	D	EUR	15,400,000	100%			H
Forbo Eurocol Deutschland GmbH	Erfurt		EUR	2,050,000	100%	MS		
Forbo Flooring GmbH	Paderborn		EUR	500,000	100%	S		
Forbo Siegling GmbH	Hanover		EUR	10,230,000	100%		MS	
Realbelt GmbH	Lörrach		EUR	100,000	100%		S	
<b>Hong Kong</b>								
Forbo International Hong Kong Ltd.	Hong Kong		HKD	1	100%			H
<b>India</b>								
Forbo Flooring India Pvt. Ltd.	Delhi		INR	15,000,000	100%	S		
Forbo Siegling Movement Systems India Pvt. Ltd.	Pune		INR	26,000,000	100%		S	
<b>Indonesia</b>								
PT Forbo Siegling Indonesia	Kabupaten Bandung		IDR	2,883,900,000	100%		S	
<b>Ireland</b>								
Forbo Ireland Ltd.	Dublin		EUR	125,000	100%	S		
<b>Italy</b>								
Forbo Resilienti S.r.l.	Segrate (Milan)		EUR	60,000	100%	S		
Forbo Siegling Italia S.p.A.	Paderno Dugnano (Milan)		EUR	120,000	100%		S	
<b>Japan</b>								
Forbo Siegling Japan Ltd.	Tokyo		JPY	330,000,000	100%		MS	
<b>Malaysia</b>								
Forbo Siegling SDN. BHD.	Johor Bahru		MYR	2,500,002	100%		S	
<b>Mexico</b>								
Forbo Siegling, S.A. de C.V.	Tlalnepantla	D	MXN	24,676,404	100%		MS	
<b>Netherlands</b>								
Forbo Eurocol Nederland B.V.	Zaanstad		EUR	454,000	100%	MS		
Forbo Flooring B.V.	Krommenie		EUR	11,350,000	100%	MS		
Forbo Flooring Coral N.V.	Krommenie		EUR	1,944,500	100%	MS		
Forbo NL Holding B.V.	Krommenie		EUR	13,500,000	100%			H
Forbo-Novilon B.V.	Coevorden		EUR	3,624,000	100%	MS		
Forbo Siegling Nederland B.V.	Spankeren		EUR	113,445	100%		S	

S – Sales

MS – Manufacturing and Sales

H – Holding/Services

N – Not consolidated as at December 31, 2015

D – Direct participation of Forbo Holding Ltd

Group company	Registered office		Currency	Share capital	Equity interest	Flooring Systems	Move-ment Systems	Holding/ Services
<b>New Zealand</b>								
Forbo Siegling Ltd.	Auckland		NZD	650,000	100%		S	
<b>Norway</b>								
Forbo Flooring AS	Asker		NOK	1,000,000	100%	S		
<b>People's Republic of China</b>								
Forbo Shanghai Co., Ltd.	Shanghai		CHF	4,000,000	100%	S	MS	
Forbo Siegling (China) Co., Ltd.	Shenyang		USD	16,221,000	100%		MS	
<b>Portugal</b>								
Forbo-Revestimentos, S.A.	Maia (Porto)		EUR	74,850	100%	S		
<b>Romania</b>								
Forbo Siegling Romania S.R.L.	Bucharest		RON	38,000	100%		S	
<b>Russia</b>								
OOO 'Forbo Flooring'	Moscow		RUB	500,000	100%	S		
OOO 'Forbo Kaluga'	Moscow		RUB	158,313,780	100%	MS		
OOO 'Forbo Siegling CIS'	Saint Petersburg		RUB	400,000	100%		S	
OOO 'Forbo Stroitech'	Stary Oskol		RUB	187,181,000	100%	MS		
<b>Slovakia</b>								
Forbo Siegling s.r.o.	Malacky		EUR	15,281,639	100%		MS	
<b>South Korea</b>								
Forbo Korea Ltd.	Seoul		KRW	900,000,000	100%	S	S	
<b>Spain</b>								
Forbo Pavimentos, S.A.	Barcelona		EUR	60,101	100%	S		
Forbo Siegling Iberica, S.A.U.	Montcada i Reixac (Barcelona)		EUR	1,532,550	100%		S	
<b>Sweden</b>								
Forbo Flooring AB	Gothenburg	D	SEK	8,000,000	100%	S		
Forbo Project Vinyl AB	Gothenburg	D	SEK	50,000,000	100%			H
Forbo Siegling Svenska AB	Källered (Gothenburg)		SEK	1,000,000	100%		S	

S Sales

MS Manufacturing and Sales

H Holding/Services

N Not consolidated as at December 31, 2015

D Direct participation of Forbo Holding Ltd

Group company	Registered office		Currency	Share capital	Equity interest	Flooring Systems	Move-ment Systems	Holding/ Services
<b>Switzerland</b>								
Forbo Financial Services AG	Baar	D	CHF	100,000	100%			H
Forbo Finanz AG	Baar	D	CHF	10,000,000	100%			H
Forbo Finanz II AG	Baar		CHF	250,000	100%			H
Forbo-Giubiasco SA	Giubiasco	D	CHF	100,000	100%	MS		
Forbo International SA	Baar	D	CHF	100,000	100%		MS	H
<b>Thailand</b>								
Forbo Siegling (Thailand) Co. Ltd.	Bangkok	D	THB	9,000,000	100%		S	
<b>Turkey</b>								
Forbo Hareket ve Zemin Sistemleri Ticaret Limited Şirketi	Istanbul		TRY	2,000,000	100%		S	
<b>United Kingdom</b>								
Forbo Flooring UK Ltd.	Derbyshire	D	GBP	22,262,001	100%	MS		
Forbo Floors UK Ltd.	Kirkaldy		GBP	3,609,990	100%			H
Forbo-Nairn Ltd.	Derbyshire		GBP	8,000,000	100%			H
Forbo Siegling (UK) Ltd.	Dukinfield		GBP	50,774	100%		S	
Forbo UK Ltd.	Derbyshire		GBP	49,500,000	100%			H
Westbond Ltd.	Derbyshire		GBP	400,000	100%			H
<b>USA</b>								
Forbo America Inc.	Wilmington, DE	D	USD	19,957,259	100%			H
Forbo America Services Inc.	Wilmington, DE		USD	50,000	100%			H
Forbo Flooring, Inc.	Wilmington, DE		USD	3,517,000	100%	S		
Forbo Siegling, LLC	Wilmington, DE		USD	15,455,000	100%		MS	

S Sales  
 MS Manufacturing and Sales  
 H Holding/Services  
 N Not consolidated as at December 31, 2015  
 D Direct participation of Forbo Holding Ltd

# Report of the statutory auditor

## Report of the statutory auditor to the General Meeting of Forbo Holding Ltd, Baar

### Report of the statutory auditor on the consolidated financial statements

As statutory auditor, we have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements on pages 94 to 143 of Forbo Holding Ltd, which comprise the consolidated balance sheet, consolidated income statement, comprehensive income statement, consolidated statement of changes in equity, consolidated cash flow statement and notes for the year ended December 31, 2015.

### Board of Directors' responsibility

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and the requirements of Swiss law. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining an internal control system relevant to the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Board of Directors is further responsible for selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss law and Swiss Auditing Standards as well as International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control system. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015, give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and comply with Swiss law.

### Other matter

The consolidated financial statements of Forbo Holding Ltd for the year ended December 31, 2014 were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements on March 11, 2015.

**Report on other legal requirements**

We confirm that we meet the legal requirements on licensing according to the Auditor Oversight Act (AOA) and independence (article 728 CO and article 11 AOA) and that there are no circumstances incompatible with our independence.

In accordance with article 728a paragraph 1 item 3 CO and Swiss Auditing Standard 890, we confirm that an internal control system exists, which has been designed for the preparation of consolidated financial statements according to the instructions of the board of directors.

We recommend that the consolidated financial statements submitted to you be approved.

KPMG AG



Rolf Hauenstein  
Licensed Audit Expert  
Auditor in Charge



Regula Tobler  
Licensed Audit Expert

Zurich, March 9, 2016



# Consolidated income statements

## 2011 – 2015

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
CHF m					
<b>Net sales</b>	<b>1,139.1</b>	<b>1,226.8</b>	<b>1,199.7</b>	<b>1,201.1</b>	<b>1,203.8</b>
Cost of goods sold	-698.3	-765.8	-747.3	-761.2	-745.1
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>440.8</b>	<b>461.0</b>	<b>452.4</b>	<b>439.9</b>	<b>458.7</b>
Development costs	-15.1	-16.5	-16.4	-16.3	-16.0
Marketing and distribution costs	-181.1	-196.6	-197.1	-194.0	-192.5
Administrative costs	-89.8	-94.2	-90.7	-96.6	-96.6
Other operating expenses	-16.6	-13.2	-19.3	-25.3	-17.8
Other operating income	4.6	8.9	6.8	63.8	13.1
<b>Operating profit</b>	<b>142.8</b>	<b>149.4</b>	<b>135.7</b>	<b>171.5</b>	<b>148.9</b>
Financial income	2.0	5.9	10.9	5.7	30.1
Financial expenses	-0.4	-1.0	-5.7	-11.2	-11.7
<b>Group profit before taxes</b>	<b>144.4</b>	<b>154.3</b>	<b>140.9</b>	<b>166.0</b>	<b>167.3</b>
Income taxes	-28.7	-30.9	-30.7	-35.9	-29.9
<b>Group profit for the year from continuing operations</b>	<b>115.7</b>	<b>123.4</b>	<b>110.2</b>	<b>130.1</b>	<b>137.4</b>
<b>Group profit for the year from discontinued operations after taxes</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>83.2</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>Group profit for the year</b>	<b>115.7</b>	<b>123.6</b>	<b>117.6</b>	<b>213.3</b>	<b>146.5</b>

# Consolidated balance sheets

## 2011 – 2015

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	31.12.2013	31.12.2012	31.12.2011
<b>Assets</b>					
CHF m					
<b>Non-current assets</b>	<b>402.8</b>	<b>418.5</b>	<b>408.2</b>	<b>410.4</b>	<b>536.4</b>
Property, plant, and equipment	227.3	234.9	232.3	233.8	359.8
Intangible assets	135.7	146.1	146.4	149.2	153.5
Deferred tax assets	39.5	37.2	29.3	27.2	21.9
Other non-current financial assets	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	1.2
<b>Current assets</b>	<b>509.3</b>	<b>677.1</b>	<b>718.8</b>	<b>802.9</b>	<b>965.5</b>
Assets held for sale					361.4
Inventories	214.5	230.6	213.4	218.6	219.6
Trade receivables	147.3	150.6	148.8	150.2	159.2
Other receivables	18.8	24.0	29.2	28.9	24.8
Deferred income and prepaid charges	12.4	17.3	18.3	11.8	8.0
Other current financial assets	0.0	49.5	68.1	142.1	0.1
Cash and cash equivalents	116.3	205.1	241.0	251.3	192.4
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>912.1</b>	<b>1,095.6</b>	<b>1,127.0</b>	<b>1,213.3</b>	<b>1,501.9</b>

	31.12.2015	31.12.2014	31.12.2013	31.12.2012	31.12.2011
<b>Shareholders' equity and liabilities</b>					
CHF m					
<b>Shareholders' equity</b>	<b>559.2</b>	<b>738.8</b>	<b>786.8</b>	<b>729.2</b>	<b>815.3</b>
Share capital	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
Treasury shares	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Reserves and retained earnings	559.1	738.7	786.7	729.0	815.1
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>	<b>120.7</b>	<b>112.6</b>	<b>99.1</b>	<b>105.0</b>	<b>276.2</b>
Non-current financial debt	0.9	1.4	1.2	2.6	144.5
Employee benefit obligations	70.1	60.5	51.8	51.1	42.7
Non-current provisions	25.7	24.2	26.1	35.8	39.5
Deferred tax liabilities	24.0	26.5	20.0	15.5	49.5
<b>Current liabilities</b>	<b>232.2</b>	<b>244.2</b>	<b>241.1</b>	<b>379.1</b>	<b>410.4</b>
Trade payables	77.4	86.5	87.2	84.7	86.1
Current provisions and accrued expenses	97.9	108.2	105.8	112.9	125.0
Current financial debt	0.1	0.6	0.7	132.5	47.5
Current tax liabilities	20.3	18.9	14.5	26.6	27.6
Other current liabilities	36.5	30.0	32.9	22.4	26.6
Liabilities directly associated with assets held for sale					97.6
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>352.9</b>	<b>356.8</b>	<b>340.2</b>	<b>484.1</b>	<b>686.6</b>
<b>Total shareholders' equity and liabilities</b>	<b>912.1</b>	<b>1,095.6</b>	<b>1,127.0</b>	<b>1,213.3</b>	<b>1,501.9</b>



# FINANCIAL REPORT

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# Income statement for Forbo Holding Ltd

		2015	2014
<b>Income</b>			
CHF	Note		
Financial income:			
From investments in and loans to Group companies	2	222,556,666	153,150,197
From securities and current investments		46	30,976
Other income	3	0	9,587,448
<b>Total income</b>		<b>222,556,712</b>	<b>162,768,621</b>

		2015	2014
<b>Expenses</b>			
CHF	Note		
Administrative expenses	4	11,450,394	2,697,828
Financial expenses:		686,766	2,697,569
From investments in and loans from Group companies	5	686,766	2,697,569
Taxes		– 1,149,481	– 56,399
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>10,987,679</b>	<b>5,338,998</b>
<b>Net profit for the year</b>		<b>211,569,033</b>	<b>157,429,623</b>

# Balance sheet for Forbo Holding Ltd (before appropriation of available earnings)

		31.12.2015	31.12.2014
<b>Assets</b>			
CHF	Note		
<b>Current assets</b>		<b>12,464,831</b>	<b>12,434,622</b>
Cash and cash equivalents		4,407,843	10,550,821
Other receivables from third parties		0	8,402
Other receivables from Group companies		7,786,996	1,053,586
Accrued income and deferred expenses		269,992	821,813
<b>Non-current assets</b>		<b>441,591,225</b>	<b>328,326,487</b>
Loans to Group companies	6	119,094,504	13,170,266
Investments in Group companies	7	322,496,721	315,156,221
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>454,056,056</b>	<b>340,761,109</b>

		31.12.2015	31.12.2014
<b>Shareholders' equity and liabilities</b>			
CHF	Note		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		<b>183,388,008</b>	<b>37,693,304</b>
Current liabilities to third parties	8	12,949,598	20,450
Other liabilities to Group companies	9	170,103,258	30,571,400
Accrued expenses and deferred income		335,152	7,101,454
<b>Shareholders' equity</b>		<b>270,668,048</b>	<b>303,067,805</b>
Share capital	10	199,000	215,000
Statutory reserves:			
General reserves		15,600,000	15,600,000
Capital contribution reserves		43,288,528	73,636,128
Reserves for treasury shares	12	8,796,681	13,903,016
Available earnings:			
Retained earnings		227,049,935	214,997,673
Net profit for the year		211,569,033	157,429,623
Treasury shares	12	–235,835,129	–172,713,635
<b>Total shareholders' equity and liabilities</b>		<b>454,056,056</b>	<b>340,761,109</b>

# Notes to the financial statements for Forbo Holding Ltd

## 1 Accounting

These financial statements have been prepared for the first time in accordance with the new provisions on accounting and financial reporting of the Swiss Code of Obligations, which are mandatory as of January 1, 2015.

To ensure comparability, the figures for the previous year have been restated according to the new classification standards. Treasury shares are now carried as a debit item in equity. The reserve for directly held treasury shares has therefore been dissolved.

## 2 Financial income from investments in and loans to Group companies

Income from investments in and loans to Group companies amounting to CHF 222.6 million (2014: CHF 153.2 million) consisted mainly of dividend income, which came to CHF 221.5 million (2014: CHF 140.9 million) as well as interest income and realized price gains on loans.

## 3 Other income

The item 'Other income' included in the previous year the release of impairments on loans to subsidiaries, since the loans were repaid in full.

## 4 Administrative expenses

Administrative expenses include the fees paid to the members of the Board of Directors, the auditor's fees, and usual administrative costs, mainly for the Ordinary General Meeting, the Share Register, insurance and announcements. Forbo Holding Ltd does not employ any personnel.

Compared with the previous year, administrative expenses includes costs for services that were provided by Forbo International SA.

## 5 Financial expenses from investments in and loans from Group companies

Financial expenses include losses on foreign currency accounts and interest expense for liabilities to Group companies.

## 6 Loans to Group companies

Loans to Group companies are denominated in euros (CHF 106.4 million) and in Swiss francs (CHF 12.7 million).

## 7 Investments in Group companies

Investments in Group companies are measured at the cost of acquisition less necessary valuation allowances. In the year under review, these investments were higher because a loan of CHF 7.3 million to Forbo Flooring UK Ltd. was converted into equity.

As at December 31, 2015, Forbo Holding Ltd held the following direct investments:

Investments in Group companies					
Company	Registered office	Activity	Currency	Share capital in 1,000	Equity interest
Forbo America Inc.	US-Wilmington, DE	Holding/Services	USD	19,957	100%
Forbo Beteiligungen GmbH	DE-Lörrach	Holding/Services	EUR	15,400	100%
Forbo Financial Services AG	CH-Baar	Services	CHF	100	100%
Forbo Finanz AG	CH-Baar	Holding/Services	CHF	10,000	100%
Forbo Flooring AB	SE-Gothenburg	Sales	SEK	8,000	100%
Forbo Flooring UK Ltd.	UK-Derbyshire	Manufacturing and Sales	GBP	22,262	100%
Forbo-Giubiasco SA	CH-Giubiasco	Manufacturing and Sales	CHF	100	100%
Forbo International SA	CH-Baar	Services, Manufacturing, and Sales	CHF	100	100%
Forbo Participations S.A.S.	FR-Reims	Holding/Services	EUR	5,000	100%
Forbo Project Vinyl AB	SE-Gothenburg	Services	SEK	50,000	100%
Forbo Siegling (Thailand) Co. Ltd.	TH-Bangkok	Sales	THB	9,000	99.8%

## 8 Current liabilities to third parties

Current liabilities to third parties, amounting to CHF 12.9 million, corresponds to the withholding tax to be paid from the repurchase of the company's own shares in December 2015.

## 9 Other liabilities to Group companies

Other liabilities to Group companies as at December 31, 2015, includes in particular advances from Forbo Finanz AG in connection with its cash pool.



## 10 Share capital

As at December 31, 2015, the share capital of Forbo Holding Ltd totaled CHF 199,000 (2014: CHF 215,000), divided into 1,990,000 registered shares with a par value of CHF 0.10 each. 21,419 registered shares without voting or dividend rights are at the disposal of the Board of Directors.

At the Ordinary General Meeting of Forbo Holding Ltd held on April 24, 2015, the shareholders approved a capital reduction from CHF 215,000 to CHF 199,000 by cancellation of the 160,000 shares acquired in connection with the fixed-price share buyback offer and via the second trading line of the SIX Swiss Exchange, as approved at the Ordinary General Meeting of April 25, 2014, and adopted the corresponding amendment to the Articles of Association.

The capital reduction was completed with the entry into the Commercial Register of the Canton of Zug on July 10, 2015 and was published in the SHAB on July 15, 2015. The exchange adjustment took place on the same day.

The Board of Directors was furthermore authorized to buy back the company's own shares, over a period of three years, for the purpose of subsequent cancellation of the share certificates, up to a maximum of 10% of the share capital. In the framework of this new share buyback program approved at the Ordinary General Meeting of Forbo Holding Ltd on April 24, 2015, 190,000

shares were repurchased at a fixed price and via the second trading line until its finalization on December 23, 2015.

## 11 Conditional capital

Originally, conditional capital of CHF 8,500,000 for the exercise of shareholder options and warrants in connection with a bond issue was created by a resolution of the Annual General Meeting held on April 27, 1994. Following the exercise of options in 1994, 1995 and 1997 and reductions in the par value by CHF 22 per share in 2003, CHF 8 per share in 2004, CHF 6 per share in 2007, CHF 10 per share in 2008, and CHF 3.90 per share in 2009, the conditional capital on December 31, 2015, remained unchanged against the previous year at CHF 16,645.

## 12 Treasury shares

The treasury shares in Forbo Holding Ltd amounting to CHF 235.8 million on the balance sheet date correspond to the value of all directly held treasury shares valued at cost. The item 'Reserve for treasury shares' reflects the value of the treasury shares held by subsidiaries of Forbo Holding Ltd, amounting to CHF 8.8 million. Overall, the treasury shares held directly and indirectly developed as follows over the period under review:

Treasury shares	Cost CHF	Number of registered shares
As at January 1, 2014	186,616,651	261,150
Additions	213,568,056	191,533
Disposals	- 155,552,897	- 171,141
<b>As at December 31, 2015</b>	<b>244,631,810</b>	<b>281,542</b>

### 13 Contingent liabilities

Guarantees and letters of support to third parties in favor of Group companies amounted to CHF 9.4 million at year-end 2015 (2014: CHF 8.2 million), of which CHF 0.0 million (2014: CHF 2.8 million) was utilized.

The Forbo companies in Switzerland are treated for purposes of value added tax as a single-entity subject to value added tax (group taxation regime, Article 13, Federal Act on Value Added Tax). If one of the Group companies is unable to meet its payment obligations to the Federal Tax Administration, the other Group companies bear joint and several liability.

### 14 Significant shareholders

According to information available to the Board of Directors, the following shareholders or groups of shareholders with restricted voting rights constituted significant shareholders in the company pursuant to Article 663c Swiss Code of Obligations as at the reporting date:

	Number of shares	As percentage
Michael Pieper, Hergiswil, and Artemis Beteiligungen I AG, Hergiswil	544,122	27.34%
Forbo Holding Ltd, Baar, together with its two subsidiaries	281,542	14.15%
Forbo International SA, Baar, and Forbo Finanz AG, Baar		

### Shareholdings

IN 2015

As at December 31, 2015, the individual members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board (including related parties) held the following number of shares in Forbo Holding Ltd:

Shareholdings 2015		
	Shares	Options <sup>1)</sup>
Name and function		2012 series 1:1 <sup>2)</sup>
This E. Schneider, Executive Chairman <sup>3)</sup>	46,221	
Michael Pieper, Vice Chairman	544,122	
Dr. Peter Altorfer, Vice Chairman	1,104	
Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski, member	85	
Dr. Reto Müller, member	505	
Vincent Studer, member	754	
<b>Total Board of Directors</b>	<b>592,791</b>	
Stephan Bauer, Chief Executive Officer	1,524	
Matthias P. Huenerwadel, Executive Vice President Flooring Systems	1,944	500
Andreas Spreiter, Chief Financial Officer	1,102	
Jean-Michel Wins, Executive Vice President Movement Systems	195	
<b>Total Executive Board</b>	<b>4,765</b>	<b>500</b>

1) Following the amendment of the MIP, all the sums paid into it are invested in shares of Forbo Holding Ltd starting as of January 1, 2013. As of the 2013 business year, no further options were issued in connection with the MIP. However, there are still options outstanding within the MIP, which was launched in 2006 and revised in 2012.

2) Subscription ratio.

3) The share portion for the Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors includes the 19,483 shares from the employment contract for the period from May 1, 2013, to December 31, 2016. The shares are subject to lock-up periods of three, four, and five years. The last third of the shares will be available on May 1, 2018 at the earliest.

IN 2014

As at December 31, 2014, the current and former members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board (including related parties) held the following number of shares in Forbo Holding Ltd:

<b>Shareholdings 2014</b>		
	Shares	Options <sup>1)</sup>
Name and function		2012 series 1:1 <sup>2)</sup>
This E. Schneider, Executive Chairman <sup>3)</sup>	64,981	
Michael Pieper, Vice Chairman	616,779	
Dr. Peter Altorfer, Vice Chairman <sup>4)</sup>	1,032	
Claudia Coninx-Kaczynski <sup>5)</sup> , member	36	
Dr. Reto Müller, member	456	
Vincent Studer, member	695	
<b>Total Board of Directors</b>	<b>683,979</b>	
Stephan Bauer, Chief Executive Officer	538	
Matthias P. Huenerwadel, Executive Vice President Flooring Systems	1,500	3,051
Andreas Spreiter, Chief Financial Officer	570	
Jean-Michel Wins, Executive Vice President Movement Systems	92	
<b>Total Executive Board</b>	<b>2,700</b>	<b>3,051</b>

1) Following the amendment of the MIP, all the sums paid into it are invested in shares of Forbo Holding Ltd starting as of January 1, 2013. As of fiscal 2013, no more options were issued under the MIP. However, there are still options outstanding within the MIP, which was launched in 2006 and amended in 2012.

2) Subscription ratio.

3) The share portion for the Executive Chairman of the Board includes the 19,483 shares from the employment contract for the period from May 1, 2013, to December 31, 2016. The shares are subject to lock-up periods of three, four, and five years. The last third of the shares will be available on May 1, 2018, at the earliest.

4) Vice Chairman since the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting (previously member).

5) New member of the Board of Directors since the 2014 Ordinary General Meeting.

For further information regarding granted shares to the Board of Directors and the Executive Board we refer to pages 87 and 88 of the remuneration report.

## 15 Events after the balance sheet date

Between the balance sheet date and the date of publication of this annual report no event occurred that could have a significant effect on the 2015 annual financial statements.

# Proposal for appropriation of available earnings of Forbo Holding Ltd

The Board of Directors proposes to the Ordinary General Meeting that the available retained earnings, consisting of:

	2015
CHF	
Net profit	211,569,033
Retained earnings	227,049,935
Release of general capital contribution reserves <sup>1)</sup>	29,043,786
Treasury shares	– 235,835,129
<b>Total at the shareholders' meeting's disposal</b>	<b>231,827,625</b>

be appropriated as follows:

	2015
CHF	
Withholding tax-free distribution <sup>2)</sup>	29,043,786
To be carried forward	202,783,839
<b>Total at the shareholders' meeting's disposal</b>	<b>231,827,625</b>

1) The definitive amount to be distributed depends on the amount of the tax-free distribution as described below in footnote 2).

2) At the Ordinary General Meeting of April 29, 2016, the Board of Directors will propose a dividend payment of CHF 17 (2014: CHF 16) per registered share out of the capital contribution reserves, with the exception of the treasury shares held by Forbo Holding Ltd or a subsidiary thereof, for which no dividend is paid. The definitive amount may therefore still change.

# Report of the statutory auditor

## Report of the statutory auditor to the General Meeting Forbo Holding Ltd, Baar

### **Report of the statutory auditor on the financial statements**

As statutory auditor, we have audited the accompanying financial statements on pages 150 to 156 of Forbo Holding Ltd, which comprise the income statement, balance sheet and notes for the year ended December 31, 2015.

### **Board of Directors' responsibility**

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Swiss law and the company's articles of incorporation. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining an internal control system relevant to the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Board of Directors is further responsible for selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### **Auditor's responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss law and Swiss Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control system. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015, comply with Swiss law and the company's articles of incorporation.

### **Other matter**

The financial statements of Forbo Holding Ltd for the year ended December 31, 2014, were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements on March 11, 2015.

**Report on other legal requirements**

We confirm that we meet the legal requirements on licensing according to the Auditor Oversight Act (AOA) and independence (article 728 CO and article 11 AOA) and that there are no circumstances incompatible with our independence.

In accordance with article 728a paragraph 1 item 3 CO and Swiss Auditing Standard 890, we confirm that an internal control system exists, which has been designed for the preparation of financial statements according to the instructions of the board of directors.

We further confirm that the proposed appropriation of available earnings complies with Swiss law and the company's articles of incorporation. We recommend that the financial statements submitted to you be approved.

KPMG AG



Rolf Hauenstein  
Licensed Audit Expert  
Auditor in Charge



Regula Tobler  
Licensed Audit Expert

Zurich, March 9, 2016



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**Publisher:** Forbo Holding Ltd, Baar/**Concept and design:** Hotz Brand Consultants, Steinhausen/Zug  
**Photos:** Luxwerk, Zurich/**Layout, lithography, and printing:** Neidhart + Schön AG, Zurich

Our Annual Report appears in **German** language and in **English** translation and can be downloaded from our website [www.forbo.com](http://www.forbo.com). The printed German version is authoritative.

All statements in this report that do not refer to historical facts are forward-looking statements which are no guarantee of future performance. They are based on assumptions and involve risks and uncertainties as well as other factors beyond the control of the company.



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Print | ID53232-1603-1001



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