

## Press release

Date: 30 March 2001

### **Bucher Industries AG Annual Accounts 2000**

### **Bucher Industries record increased group result**

**In the financial year 2000, Bucher Industries, manufacturer of machinery and vehicles, recorded a 3% rise in net sales of 1503 million CHF as against the comparable figure for the previous year. The operating result increased by 29% to 102 million CHF following operational improvements and the group's net income for the year rose 37% to 80 million CHF. Distribution of an increased dividend of 45.-- CHF per bearer share and 9.-- CHF per registered share will be proposed to the annual general meeting.**

The group's net sales of 1502.8 million CHF exceeded the comparable previous year's sales figure by 2.8%. In this connection the figures for the previous year have been adjusted to take account of the divested activities of two group companies.

The operating result before interest and taxes (EBIT) of 102.2 million CHF corresponds to 6.8% of net sales, compared with 5.3% the previous year, and the net income for the year reached 5.3% of net sales (3.9% the previous year).

All divisions contributed to the improvement in the operating results. Kuhn Group was once again particularly profitable. Bucher Automotive maintained the profitability of the previous year. The marked improvement in the other divisions contributed substantially to the increase in the group's results.

The Board of Directors proposes to the annual general meeting of 22 May 2001 distribution of an increased dividend of 45.-- CHF per bearer share and 9.-- CHF per registered share. The dividend will be payable from 28 May 2001. Last year a dividend and a par value reimbursement together totalling 37.-- CHF per bearer share and 7.40 CHF per registered share were paid out

In the current financial year, providing that economic conditions are stable, Bucher Industries anticipates a further increase in business volumes and an over proportional improvement in results on the basis of restructuring and new products from divisions. Bucher Industries will publish the company's annual report at the Press and Financial Analysts' Conference on 26 April 2001.

## Key Figures

<b>Bucher Industries</b>		<b>2000</b>	1999	Change in %
<b>Incoming orders</b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>1636.8</b>	1447.6	+13.1
<b>Incoming orders adjusted<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>1636.8</b>	1402.9	+16.7
<b>Net sales</b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>1502.8</b>	1510.2	-0.5
<b>Net sales adjusted<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>1502.8</b>	1461.8	+2.8
<b>Operating result before interest and taxes (EBIT)</b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>102.2</b>	79.5	+28.6
<i>in % of net sales</i>		6.8	5.3	
- <b>Kuhn Group</b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>67.6</b>	65.0	+4.0
- <b>Bucher Automotive</b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>16.7</b>	16.0	+4.4
- <b>Bucher Foodtech</b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>9.4</b>	7.2	+30.6
- <b>Laeis-Bucher</b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	-7.5	n.a.
- <b>Emhart Glass</b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>7.7</b>	0.3	n.a.
<b>Operating result before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA)</b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>157.1</b>	132.6	+18.5
<i>in % of net sales</i>		10.5	8.8	
<b>Net income of the year</b>	<b>mill. CHF</b>	<b>79.9</b>	58.5	+36.6
<i>in % of net sales</i>		5.3	3.9	
<b>Number of employees at end of year</b>		<b>5556</b>	5409	+2.7

<sup>1)</sup> adjusted for divestments

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