



**Sika Finanz AG**  
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## Media Release

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### **Sika increases sales and net profit – proposal for dividend increase**

During the year 2000, the Sika Group generated consolidated sales of CHF 2 bn (previous year CHF 1 689). This corresponds to an increase of + 18.3 %, or + 15.6 % in local currency terms, reflecting the momentum of the Group's growth. Internal growth amounted to CHF 200 m, + 11.8 % respectively, while CHF 110 m was attributable to acquisitions.

In local currencies: Europe sales increased by a substantial + 18.4 % (previous year + 9.6 %). North America once again confirmed the upward trend, reporting growth of + 8.8 %. Latin America and Asia sales rose by + 18.5 % and + 13.1 % respectively. Africa contributed to the overall result with an increase in turnover of + 5.4 %.

The Construction Chemicals Division generated net sales of CHF 1 468 m (previous year CHF 1 256 m), corresponding to an additional turnover of + 16.8 %. The effect of currencies amounted to + 1.9 %. Once again, the Industrial Materials Division recorded above-average growth, increasing sales by + 22.6 % to reach CHF 530 m (previous year CHF 433 m). Here the positive effect of currencies amounted to + 5.1 %.

The Group confirms the expected net profit of approx. CHF 100 m (previous year CHF 93 m).

In the current year the Sika Group strives again to achieve a strong internal sales growth. The Group will also continue to make use of opportunities for further acquisitions, with the main objective to secure innovative technologies. Approx. CHF 140 m is budgeted for investments in tangible fixed assets, primarily to increase capacity.

The Board of Sika Finanz AG proposes to the Annual General Meeting an increase in dividend from 21 to 23 %.

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#### **Important dates 2001**

Media conference / financial analyst's meeting in Zurich  
Letter to the shareholders on 1st quarter 2001  
Annual General Meeting in Zug, morning (10.00 a.m.)

Thursday, April 19, 2001  
Tuesday, May 8, 2001  
Wednesday, May 30, 2001

SIKA FINANZ AG – LETTER TO SHAREHOLDERS:  
Business Performance 4th quarter 2000



SIKA INCREASES SALES AND NET PROFIT –  
PROPOSAL FOR DIVIDEND INCREASE

Dear Shareholders  
Dear Employees

We are pleased to inform you about the performance of our business during the year 2000 as follows:

## Sika Finanz AG

The improved results achieved by Group companies increased subsidiary earnings. The strong holding result enables the Board of Directors to propose to the Annual General Meeting an increase in dividend from 21 to 23 %.

## Sika Group

### Sales

During the year 2000 the Sika Group generated consolidated sales of CHF 2 bn (previous year CHF 1 689 m). This corresponds to an increase of + 18.3 %, or + 15.6 % in local currencies, reflecting the momentum of the Group's growth. Internal growth amounted to CHF 200 m, + 11.8 % respectively, while CHF 110 m was attributable to acquisitions.

During the fourth quarter, sales rose by an impressive + 17.8 %, or 17.2 % in local currencies.

### Regions (in local currencies)

In spite of the decline in the construction market in Germany, in Europe sales rose by a substantial + 18.4 % (previous year + 9.6 %). North America once again confirmed the upward trend, reporting growth of + 8.8 %. Latin America and Asia sales rose by + 18.5 % and + 13.1 % respectively. Africa contributed to the overall result with an increase in turnover of + 5.4 %.

### Divisions

The Construction Chemicals Division generated net sales of CHF 1 468 m (previous year CHF 1 256 m), corresponding to an additional turnover of + 16.8 %. The effect of currencies amounted to + 1.9 %. Once again, the Industrial Materials Division recorded above-average growth, increasing sales by + 22.6 % to reach CHF 530 m (previous year CHF 433 m). Here the positive effect of currencies amounted to + 5.1 %.

The Group confirms the expected net profit of approx. CHF 100 m (previous year CHF 93 m).

## Outlook

In the current year the Sika Group strives again to achieve a strong internal sales growth. The Group will also continue to make use of opportunities for further acquisitions, with the main objective to secure innovative technologies. Approx. CHF 140 m is budgeted for investments in tangible fixed assets, primarily to increase capacity, whereby the focus will be on North America, Switzerland, Germany, France and China. The joint venture in Dalian, northern China, in which Sika has a majority stake, will enable the Group to strengthen its market position in this part of the world.

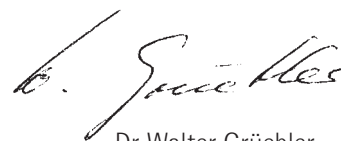
The organization of research and development has been restructured. Responsibility for product maintenance has been transferred to the regional technology centers integrated in subsidiary companies. This will enable corporate research to focus on medium to long-term objectives.

We thank our shareholders for their confidence. Our employees, active all over the world, deserve our special commendation. It is their exceptional commitment to their work which has made these impressive results possible. They are continuing to work with enthusiasm to achieve our ambitious goals for the current year.

Yours sincerely  
Sika Finanz AG



Dr Hans Peter Ming  
Chairman of the  
Board



Dr Walter Gruebler  
Chief Executive  
Officer

## Segment information

### Net sales

	1/1-31/12/2000		1/1-31/12/1999		Year-on-year change +/- in %	
	CHF m (of which acquisitions)		CHF m	in CHF	in local currencies	currency effect
<b>By region</b>						
Europe	1 208	(110)	1 051	+ 15.0	+ 18.4	3.4
North America	342		279	+ 22.5	+ 8.8	+ 13.7
Latin America	184		145	+ 26.8	+ 18.5	+ 8.3
Asia / Pacific	220		175	+ 26.1	+ 13.1	+ 13.0
Africa	44		39	+ 10.3	+ 5.4	+ 4.9
<b>Consolidated net sales</b>	<b>1 998</b>	<b>(110)</b>	<b>1 689</b>	+ 18.3	+ 15.6	+ 2.7
<b>By division</b>						
Construction Chemicals	1 468	(68)	1 256	+ 16.8	+ 14.9	+ 1.9
Industrial Materials	530	(42)	433	+ 22.6	+ 17.5	+ 5.1
<b>Consolidated net sales</b>	<b>1 998</b>	<b>(110)</b>	<b>1 689</b>	+ 18.3	+ 15.6	+ 2.7

### Net sales in the fourth quarter

	1/10-31/12/2000		1/10-31/12/1999		Year-on-year change +/- in %	
	CHF m (of which acquisitions)		CHF m	in CHF	in local currencies	currency effect
<b>By region</b>						
Europe	310	(49)	265	+ 16.8	+ 24.3	7.5
North America	80		70	+ 13.7	+ 1.8	+ 11.9
Latin America	50		40	+ 25.2	+ 15.5	+ 9.7
Asia / Pacific	61		49	+ 26.5	+ 18.3	+ 8.2
Africa	10		10	+ 2.9	+ 6.5	3.6
<b>Consolidated net sales</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>(49)</b>	<b>434</b>	+ 17.8	+ 17.2	+ 0.6
<b>By division</b>						
Construction Chemicals	375	(31)	322	+ 16.7	+ 16.2	+ 0.5
Industrial Materials	136	(18)	112	+ 21.0	+ 20.0	+ 1.0
<b>Consolidated net sales</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>(49)</b>	<b>434</b>	+ 17.8	+ 17.2	+ 0.6

### Important dates 2001:

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