

Media release

RUAG expands compliance und risk management system

Berne, 11.10.2016. The RUAG Board of Directors has commissioned a comprehensive Group project for the integral expansion and strengthening of the compliance und risk management system. Moreover, Gernot Dresch will take up his post of Vice President Compliance & Risk Management as of 1 January 2017.

At RUAG, organizational structures, processes and instruments as well staff training and awareness-raising are being enhanced in order to continuously strengthen the Group-wide culture of integrity and to firmly embed it as a practical reality. For RUAG, compliance means far more than simply following specific guidelines such as national laws and international agreements. The Group sets itself an ambitious benchmark for its own actions and critically examines whether its conduct is conscionable from an ethical and moral perspective.

Urs Breitmeier, RUAG Group CEO, says: “RUAG is a for-profit company under private law that is owned by the Swiss Confederation. In light of its ongoing internationalization and its activities in the defence sector, RUAG is subject to exceptional scrutiny by the public, media and policymakers. Impeccable conduct in not only legal but also ethical terms is of key importance.”

New Vice President Compliance & Risk Management

The strengthening of the compliance function decided by the Board of Directors at the end of 2015 is being acted on with the appointment of Gernot Dresch, a recognized specialist in this area. Dresch will take up his post of Vice President Compliance & Risk Management as of 1 January 2017. He was latterly employed at the international Liechtenstein-based tools manufacturer Hilti, where he already occupied the position of Chief Compliance Officer. Among other things, he was responsible for developing and managing a state-of-the-art compliance management system focusing on anti-corruption activities, cartel law and conflicts of interest. Before that, he was head of cartel law at the German energy utility E.On in Essen and Düsseldorf.

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RUAG develops and markets internationally sought-after technology applications in the fields of aerospace and defence for use on land, in the air and in space. 55% of RUAG products and services are destined for the civil market and 45% for the military market. The Group is headquartered in Berne, Switzerland. It has production sites in Switzerland, Germany, Austria, France, Sweden, Finland, Hungary, Australia and the USA. Around 8,200 employees – of whom 410 are trainees – generate sales of some CHF 1.75 billion.