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## Top management changes at Sika Group

Following 38 years of service at all levels of the Sika Group, Dr. Hans Peter Ming (66) will step down as Chairman of Sika AG's Board of Directors at the 2005 Annual General Meeting.

His designated successor is Dr. Walter Gruebler (62). Elected to the Board of Directors of Sika AG earlier this year, Gruebler has been CEO of the Sika Group for five years. He will relinquish that position at the end of 2004.

Ernst Baertschi (52), lic. oec. HSG, is to succeed Gruebler on January 1, 2005. Baertschi, CFO and Deputy CEO of the Group since 2002, has extensive business management experience, serving initially at Nestlé and subsequently 22 years with Schindler, including positions as executive director of its Swiss subsidiary and ultimately as CFO of the Schindler Group.

Concurrently, Silvio Ponti (50), Dipl. Bau-Ing. ETH, Head Europe North region, is being appointed Deputy CEO of the Group by the Board of Directors.

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## Company Profile Sika AG

Sika AG, based in Baar, Switzerland, is a leading global supplier of specialty chemicals. Sika offers process materials for sealing, bonding, damping, reinforcing and protecting of load-bearing structures in construction (buildings and infrastructure) and in industry (transportation, automotive, marine and appliances & equipment).

Sika's product line includes concrete admixtures, speciality mortars, sealants, adhesives, speciality acoustic and reinforcing materials, structural strengthening systems, industrial flooring and membranes.

Locally based operations in 66 countries with over 8'500 employees connect customers directly with Sika and guarantee for the success of all our partners. With this concept Sika achieves annual sales of approximately CHF 2.3 billion.

Visit the Sika website at [www.sika.com](http://www.sika.com).



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