

## Press Release

### PPC Electronic AG on course for expansion - sales leapt to 100 million SFr. in 2000

PPC Electronic AG of Cham has been able to continue consolidating its position as the European market leader in the manufacture of high-tech multilayer boards. The company - which is almost 100 % export-oriented - is one of the top technological achievers in the sector. Thanks to its innovative PCB designs in the high-end range, the firm has been able to build up an excellent position over recent years, and it now enjoys a worldwide reputation in associated industrial circles. The key features of the firm's products feature not only an exceptional level of complexity, but also high reliability and quality.

Against this backdrop, PPC Electronic AG is benefiting from the development boom in the telecoms industry. The major infrastructure providers in this sector are among PPC's principal customers: Ericsson, Marconi, Lucent, Nokia, Alcatel, Siemens and Bosch account for more than 80 % of the PCB manufacturer's total sales.

In 1999 alone, more than 50 new jobs were created (Jan. 00 figure: headcount 405) and expansion is set to continue this year as well.

The last six months have seen the total of incoming orders double! In 1999, the firm achieved sales of 82 million SFR, and due to this encouraging market development, it plans to boost the figure by more than 30% to reach 105 million SFr in 2000.

However, the company's leading market position also calls for massive investments in order to increase capacity as necessary, and to develop new PCB technologies. About 15 % of the sales figure is made available for these purposes each year. A new building is being constructed on the company's own site which will double the production area - this project should guarantee strong growth in the future.

The breathtaking developments in the information technology sector and the generally positive prospects for the economy mean that PPC continues to view the near future with confidence.



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