

Basle, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010

## 100 Years of SAUTER – 100 Years of Innovation

*SAUTER has always stood for innovation backed by tradition. The company's success story started back in 1910 at a small workshop in Switzerland's Bernese Oberland. This year, SAUTER is celebrating its centenary. With a workforce numbering some 2000 employees, the company now operates throughout the world and puts its commitment to climate protection into practice by developing innovative building management solutions. SAUTER: creating sustainable environments.*

One hundred years ago, Fritz Sauter began manufacturing the first high-precision time-switches of his era in a small workshop in Switzerland's Bernese Oberland. Thanks to this pioneering innovation, the tourist resort of Grindelwald was able to turn its electrical street lighting on and off automatically – a sensational achievement in those days. With this breakthrough, Fritz Sauter laid the foundations for a success story driven by the spirit of innovation, which was to continue for many years. Today, SAUTER is at the forefront of technology as a provider of integrated building management systems. Across the globe, our company develops, produces and markets energy-efficient solutions for building automation and system integration.

SAUTER has always stood for innovation backed by tradition. Bertram Schmitz, CEO of SAUTER, explains: "Our living tradition of continuous innovation gives us the ability to anticipate future challenges well ahead of time so that we can develop outstanding solutions. We offer Swiss quality products, sustainable solutions and services that are renowned for their high precision, long service life, environmental compatibility and energy efficiency."

Nowadays, SAUTER operates throughout the world and employs a workforce of more than 2000, well over 500 of whom work at the group's headquarters in Basle, Switzerland. SAUTER's success is made possible by committed employees who can draw on a vast stock of know-how. They endeavour to find the best solutions for our customers, ensuring that Fritz Sauter's innovative spirit lives on.

SAUTER is excellently positioned, and is able to act with agility thanks to its status as a dynamic family firm. According to Bertram Schmitz: "Our customers are the focus of our long-term strategy and of everything we do. We aim to grow organically by using our own resources, so that we can offer our customers genuine added value from our energy-efficient solutions. We are not satisfied with anything less than top performance."

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SAUTER is a leader in the field of building management solutions, and our company knows how to create perfect indoor climate conditions that offer maximum comfort for users. The firm has extensive expertise in energy efficiency and green buildings – factors that offer real added value in an era when ecological and sustainable solutions are vitally important and urgent.

Bertram Schmitz elucidates: "Global energy consumption by buildings now accounts for about 40% of all the energy consumed in the world. Each of us must shoulder a heavy ecological responsibility toward future generations, and we must do all we can to bring about a drastic reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. We want to play a major part here with our SAUTER solutions, such as our new SAUTER EY-modulo 5 automation system that cuts energy costs by as much as 35% and can reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by up to 20%."

SAUTER's administration, production, development and logistics operations share one factory site at the firm's Basle headquarters, where a new building will be officially opened on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2010, the precise date of the company's centenary. The new building is certified with the *Minergie* quality label and is a shining example of how energy can be saved and emissions can be cut thanks to innovative solutions. Once the new building is opened, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from all the buildings on the site will be cut by 55% as compared to the figures for 2000.

SAUTER has consistently developed its strengths over an entire century. Our company is constantly at work to improve and develop its technologies. With global warming in mind, SAUTER is integrating alternative energy sources such as photovoltaic systems, hydro-electrical power and geothermy into its building management concepts. Green buildings and passive (low-energy) houses are also areas where SAUTER will introduce new cutting-edge technologies. The success story is set to continue.

For more information on SAUTER's activities and the company's centenary, visit [www.sauter-100.com](http://www.sauter-100.com)

Bertram Schmitz, CEO of SAUTER, is readily available for interviews.

*SAUTER ensures good climate conditions and well-being in environments by providing solutions that shoulder the responsibility of protecting our environment for future generations. As a specialist, SAUTER develops, produces and markets energy-efficient systems for building management and offers a comprehensive range of services to guarantee energy-optimised operation. Our company ensures high levels of energy efficiency in office and administrative buildings, research and educational establishments, hospitals, industrial buildings and laboratories, airports, leisure facilities, hotels and in many other sectors.*

#### **SAUTER Group**

- Based in Basle, Switzerland, with worldwide operations
- Founded in 1910
- Currently has around 2000 employees and is expanding continuously
- Total solutions for building management from a single source, with the focus on providing maximum energy efficiency and sustainability
- Security of investment plus operational reliability over the whole life-cycle of the building
- Technological leader in green building automation and system integration
- Member of eu.bac
- References available at: [www.sauter-controls.com](http://www.sauter-controls.com)

Pictures, including photograph captions, at [www.sauter-100.com](http://www.sauter-100.com)