

Männedorf, 31 December 2003

Media Information

To the Extraordinary General Assembly of EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG on December 31, 2003

- **New Management structure of EMS**
- **EMS plans again extraordinary dividend for 2004**
- **Christoph Blocher gives up his EMS-participation**

The General Assembly of EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG, Domat/Ems, has nominated Messrs Dieter Klug and Albert Reich as Members of the Board of EMS at the Extraordinary General Assembly on December 31, 2003.

For 2004 EMS plans again an extraordinary dividend to the extent of the previous year.

The retiring Chairman of the Board, Christoph Blocher, announced at the General Assembly that he has – on the previous day – transferred his direct and indirect participation of 73% of EMS via gift and sale to his children.

As Blocher reiterated, EMS did not distribute a dividend in the years 1997 to 2002, since the funds should have eventually been accumulated for the repurchase of shares in case of a possible "going private". Therefore, the balance sheet showed a profit of CHF 713 mio. as of April 2003. Since, at the beginning of 2003 it was however established that EMS should remain a public company, EMS decided to distribute these funds to the shareholders by other means and to return to an innovative distribution policy. In 2003, apart from a repayment of the share capital, an extraordinary dividend in the amount of CHF 200 mio. was paid. As Blocher said, the

Board of EMS decided – in view of the favourable consolidated yearly statement 2003 and the profit carried forward of CHF 515 mio. – to propose a dividend of roughly CHF 8.-- for each share, i.e. a total of CHF 209 mio.

The year 2003 would close – as expected – to the extent of the previous year. For 2004 a positive market development – particularly in the USA – can be expected. Thus, EMS has increased its capacity of higher margin products. Blocher further mentioned that on the cost side, the current cost reduction program would additionally strengthen the competitiveness.

The General Assembly elected new Messrs. **Dieter Klug** and **Albert Reich** – as of January 1, 2004 for the period until the Ordinary General Assembly on August 14, 2004 – as Members of the Board. **Dieter Klug** will act as Chairman of the Board. Mrs. **Magdalena Martullo** will continue to act as Vice Chairman of the Board and will additionally act as Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Dieter Klug as the new Chairman declared that the new Management will maintain and increase the Company value. This would be in the interest of the shareholders and the employees.

Herewith Christoph Blocher – who has been elected as Federal Council as of January 1 , 2004 – retired from the Board of EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG and all his management functions of the EMS group.