

**Overview of financial year 2018** 

Financial results
Milestones and outlook 2019

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# HUBER+SUHNER reports strong organic growth – profitability increases significantly

#### **Broad-based growth in net sales**

- All regions grow at double-digit rates.
- All three technology segments increase order intake and net sales significantly.
- Communication market clearly up, transportation market with a growth spurt, industrial market with very positive development.

#### Significant increase in profitability and operational progress

- Gross margin maintained, disproportionately lower increase of costs.
- EBIT margin back in upper half of medium-term EBIT target range of 8–10 %.
- Pronounced reduction of NWC leads to high free operating cash flow.

#### Market share gains in core markets and dynamic development of growth initiatives

- Most important markets of HUBER+SUHNER characterised by friendly market environment.
- Market position in core markets expanded.
- Increase of customer projects in growth initiatives underlines good positioning for the future.



# Figures at a glance

#### CHF million

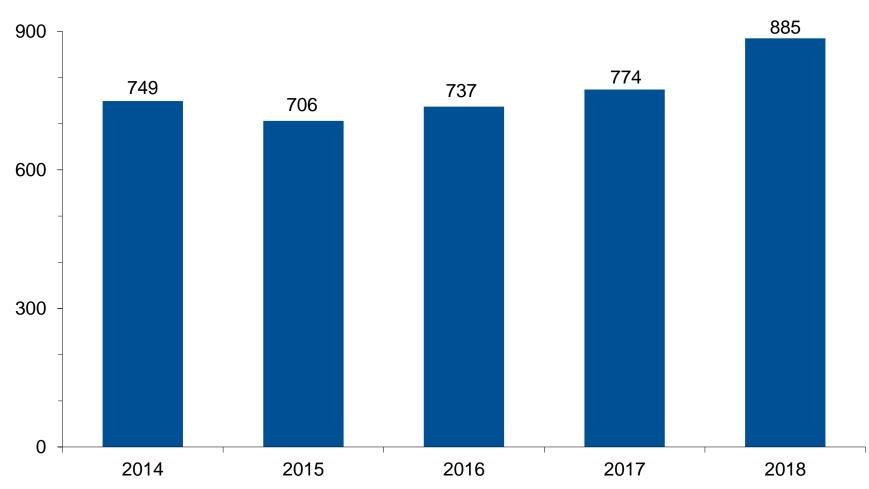
	2018	2017	Δ%
Order intake	915.2	826.3	+10.8
Net sales	885.0	774.0	+14.3
Operating profit (EBIT) as % of net sales	82.5 9.3	<b>58.1</b> 7.5	+41.9
Net income as % of net sales	<b>61.4</b> 6.9	<b>42.1</b> 5.4	+45.6



## Net sales

### Above-average growth

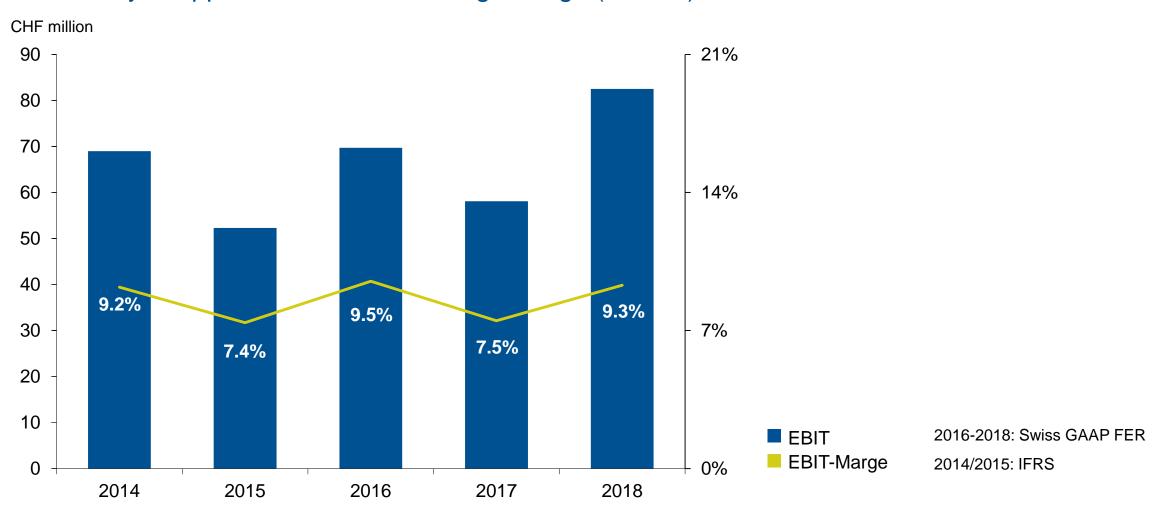






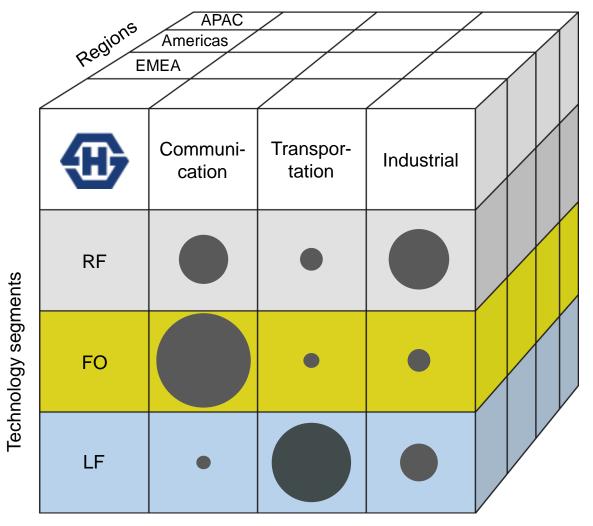
**EBIT** 

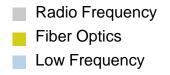
### Profitability in upper half of mid-term target range (8–10%)





# The three dimensions of our business Sales by technology segments, markets and regions







# Radio Frequency technology segment Double-digit growth – further increased profitability

#### CHF million

	2018	2017	Δ%
Order intake	269.1	239.9	+12.1
Net sales	255.4	231.2	+10.5
Operating profit (EBIT)  • as % of net sales	40.8 16.0	31.5 13.6	+29.4

#### **Key aspects**

- Order intake and net sales grow at double-digit rates
- Profitability at a high level
- All submarkets develop positively
- Position maintained in volume markets
- Market shares expanded in industrial markets



# Fiber Optics technology segment

#### Positive development in net sales – slight improvement in profitability

#### CHF million

	2018	2017	Δ%
Order intake	347.9	329.2	+5.7
Net sales	338.2	316.2	+6.9
Operating profit (EBIT)  • as % of net sales	20.0 5.9	17.7 5.6	+12.9

#### **Key aspects**

- EBIT margin not yet back at previous levels
- Technology continues to offer opportunities in different markets
- Mobile communications infrastructure projects in India with high revenue contribution
- Data centers and cell site businesses grow strongly



# Low Frequency technology segment Leap in net sales – EBIT margin nearly doubled

#### CHF million

	2018	2017	Δ%
Order intake	298.2	257.2	+16.0
Net sales	291.4	226.6	+28.6
Operating profit (EBIT)  • as % of net sales	28.7 9.8	11.6 5.1	+147.7

#### **Key aspects**

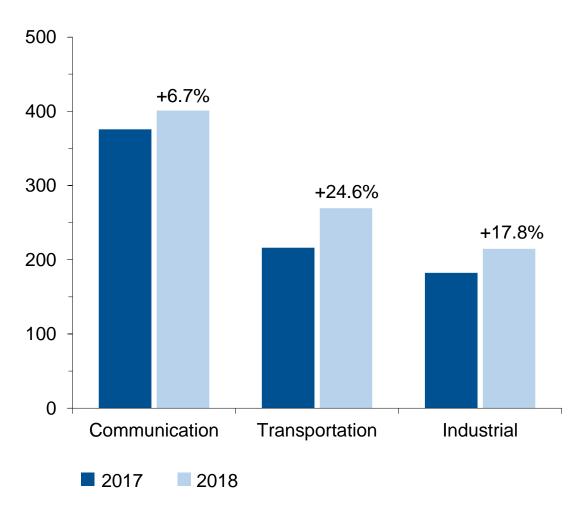
- Portfolio adjustment and high capacity utilization generate higher profitability
- Momentum in Asia and Europe in both submarkets railway and automotive
- Operational progress ensures delivery performance despite high workload
- Course set for merger of the two cable production plants Dorf and Witzberg in Pfäffikon
- Growth initiative EV Automotive with significant progress

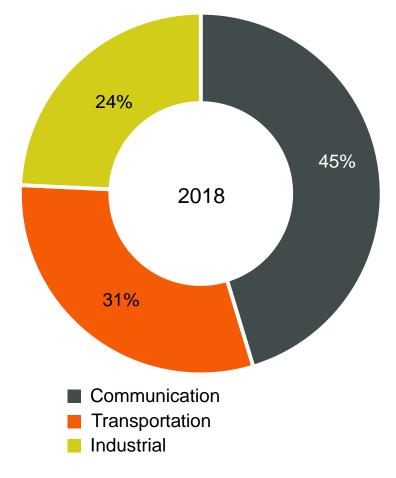


# Net sales by market

### All three main markets grow significantly

CHF million



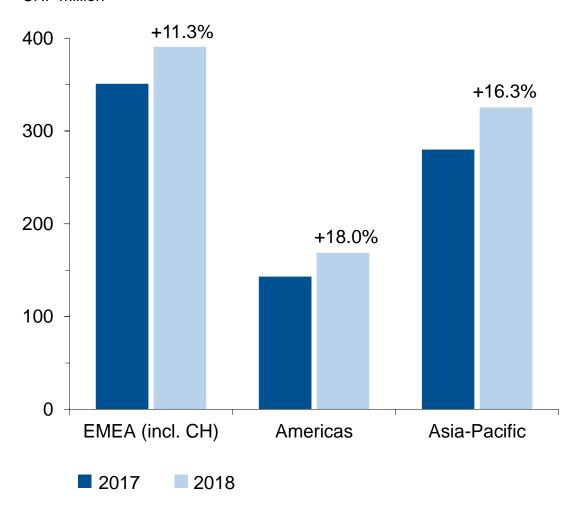


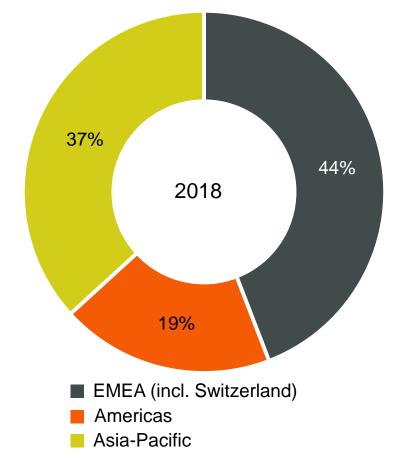


# Net sales by regions

## All three regions with double-digit increase

**CHF** million

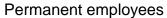


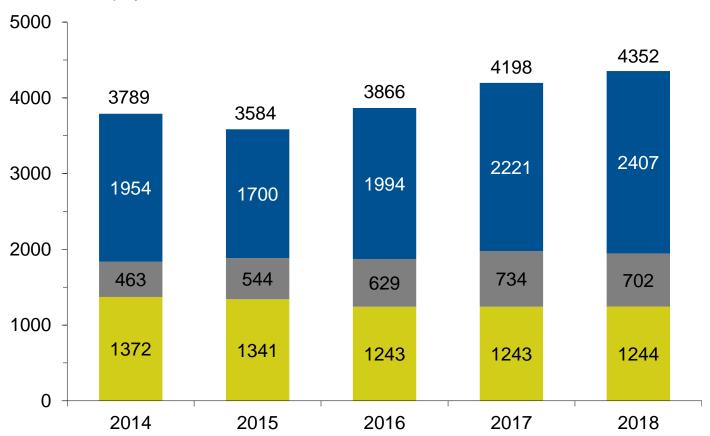


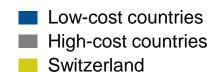


## Average number of employees

## Strong growth in net sales requires moderate increase in number of staff







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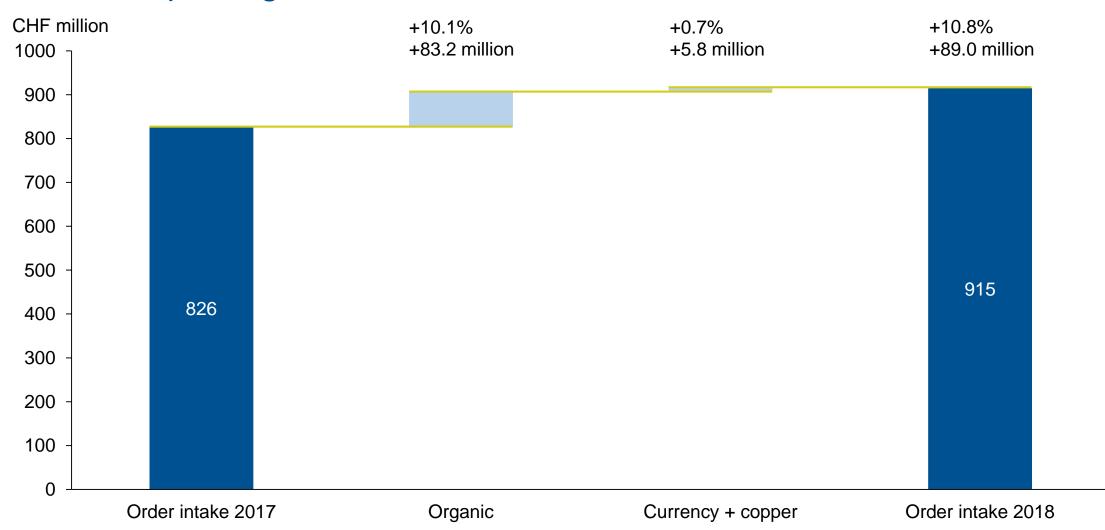
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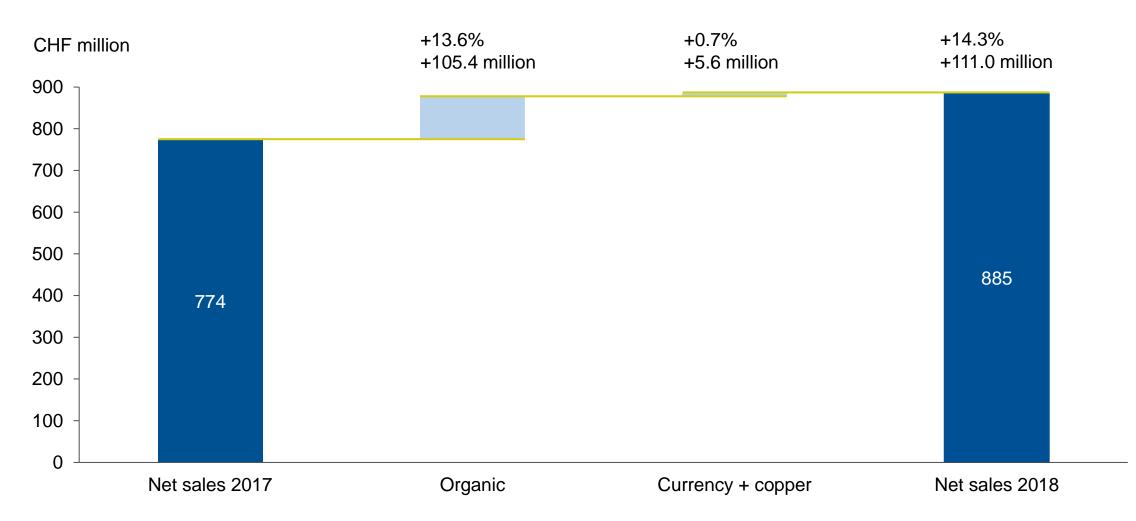


# Factors impacting order intake





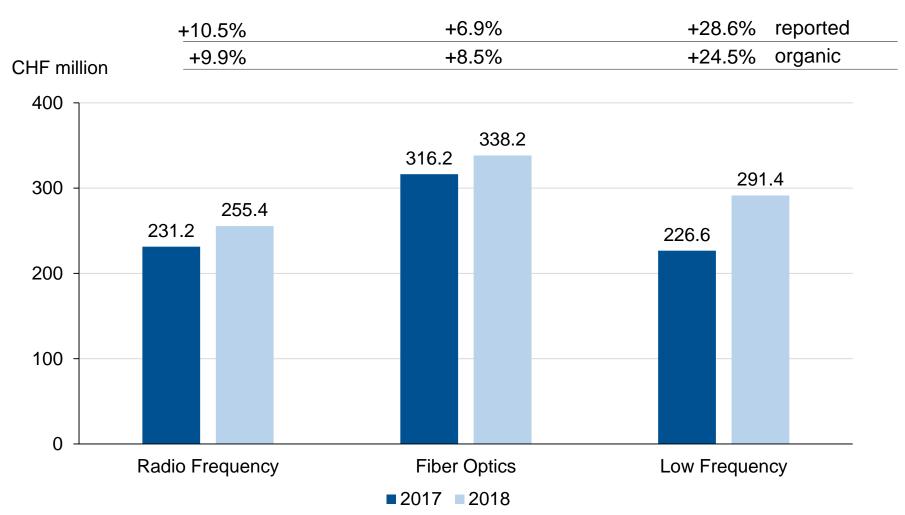
# Factors impacting net sales





## Net sales development by technology

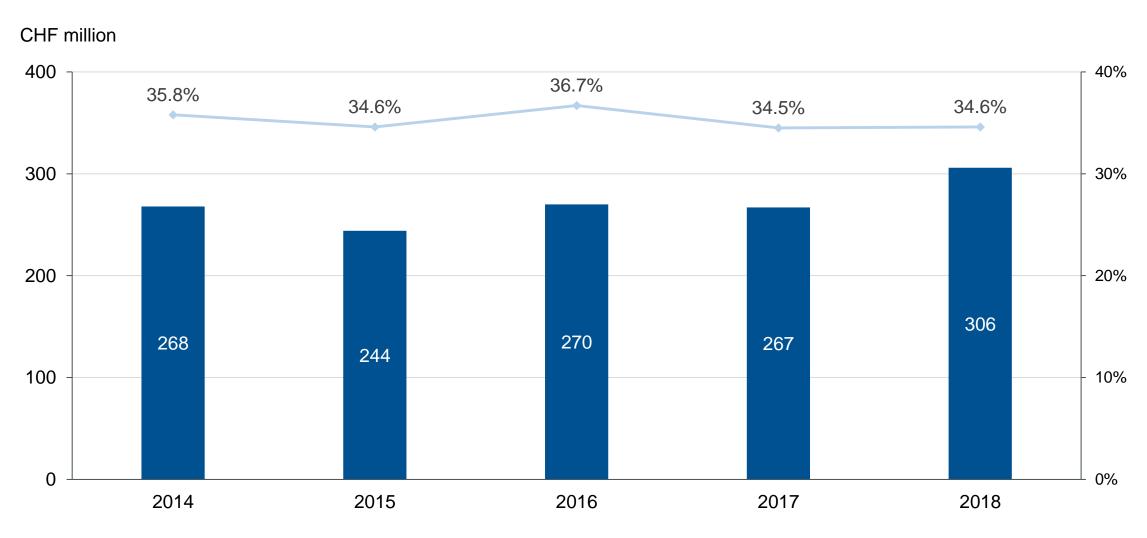
#### High organic growth in all three technology segments





# Gross margin

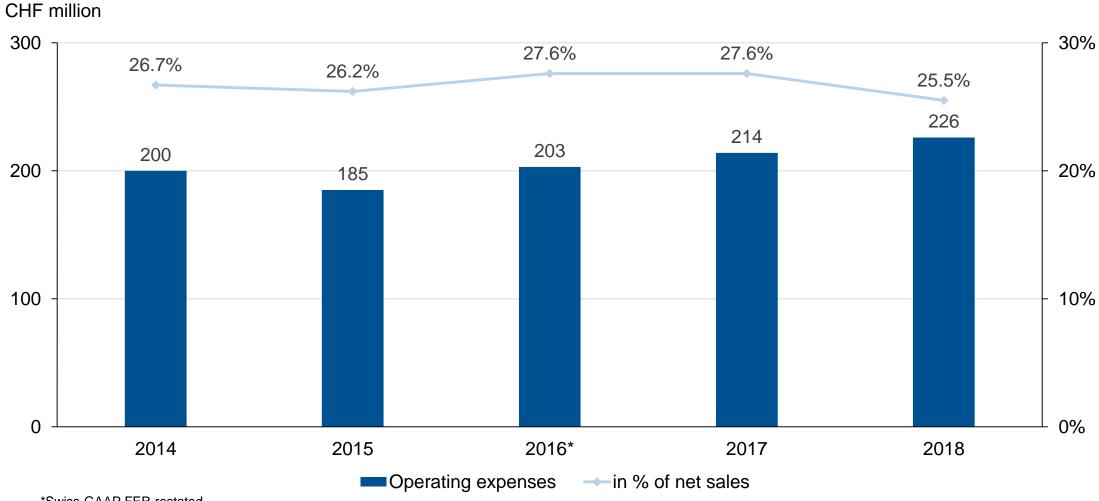
### Gross profit developed proportionally to net sales





# Operating expenses

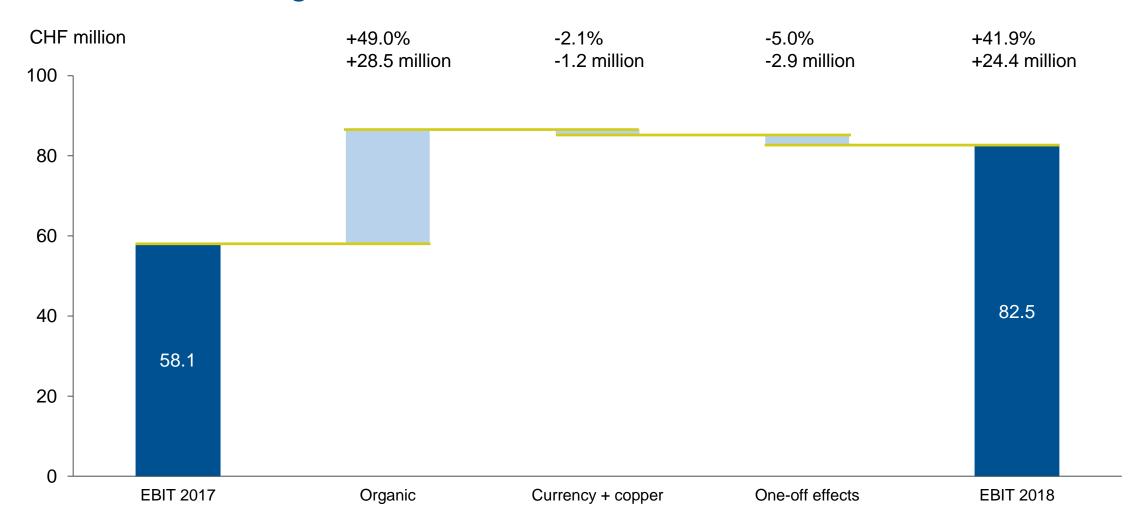
#### Disproportionately lower increase



<sup>\*</sup>Swiss GAAP FER restated



# Factors influencing EBIT





# EBIT by technology segments

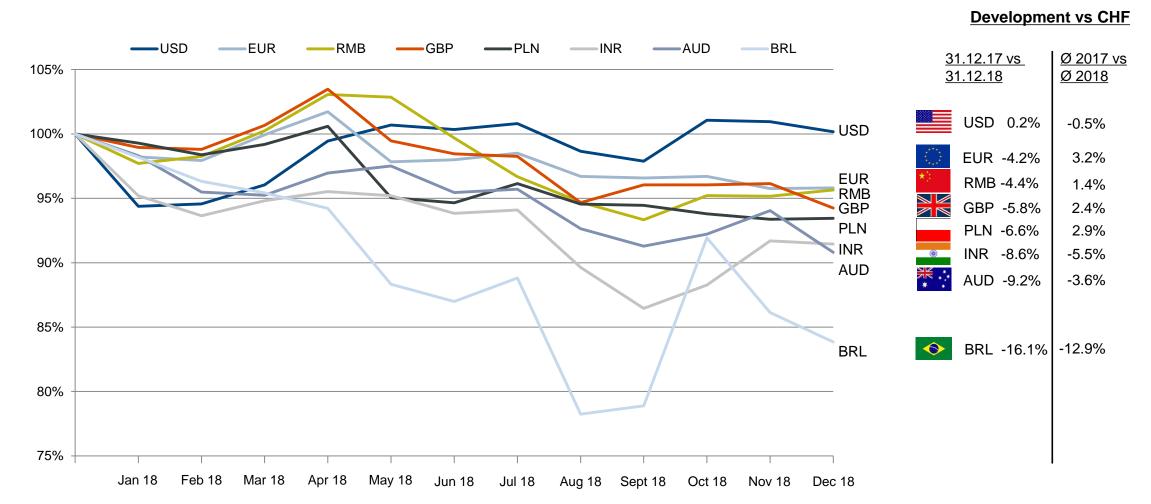
## All three segments with higher operating result

Total EBIT	82.5	9.3	58.1	7.5
Corporate	(7.0)		(2.7)	
Low Frequency	28.7	9.8	11.6	5.1
Fiber Optics	20.0	5.9	17.7	5.6
Radio Frequency	40.8	16.0	31.5	13.6
CH million	2018	in %	2017	in %



## Currency development in 2018

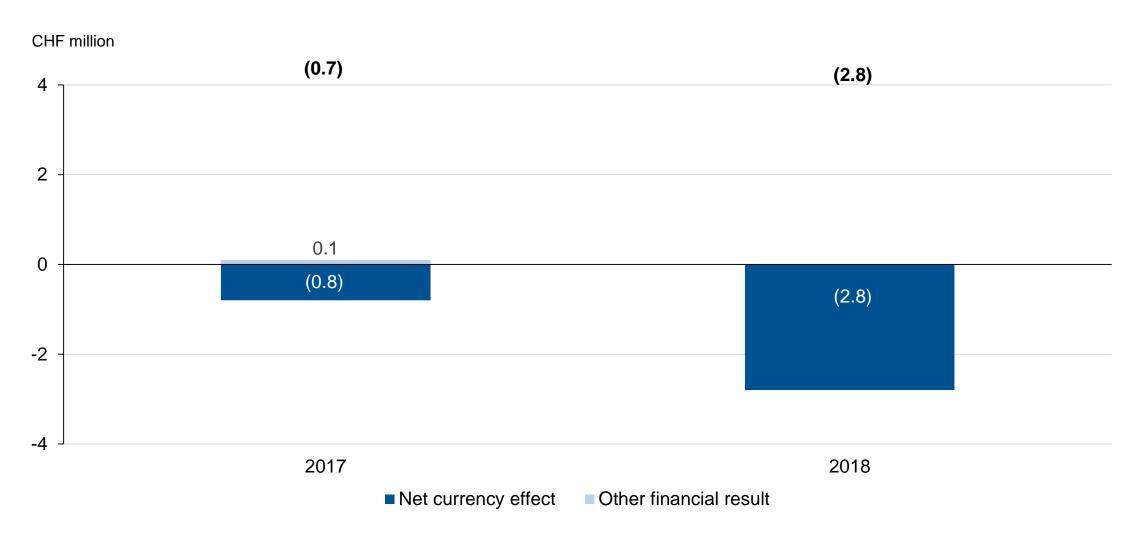
## Strengthened Swiss franc in the second half of the year





## Financial result

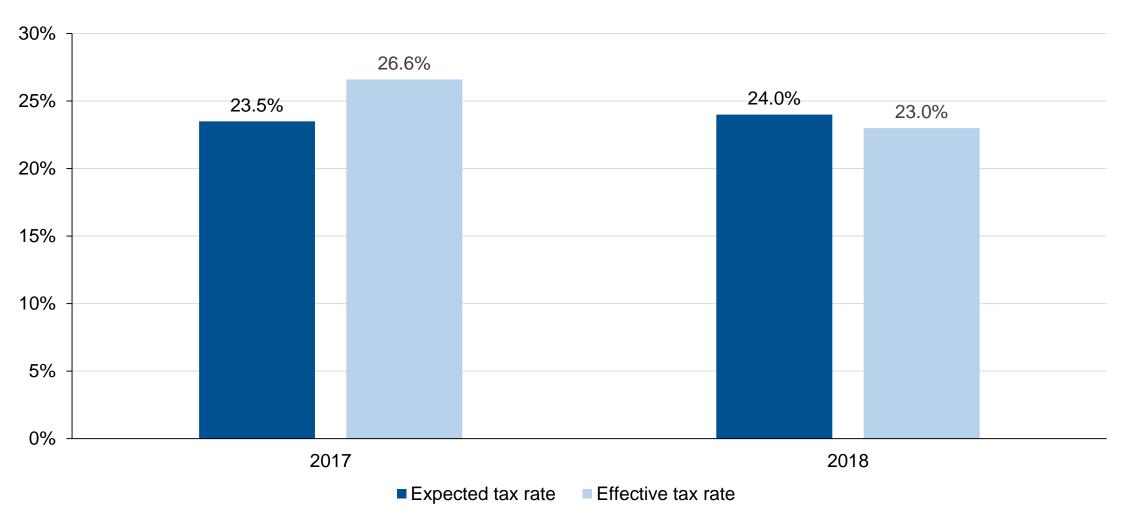
## Negative currency effects





# Group income tax rate

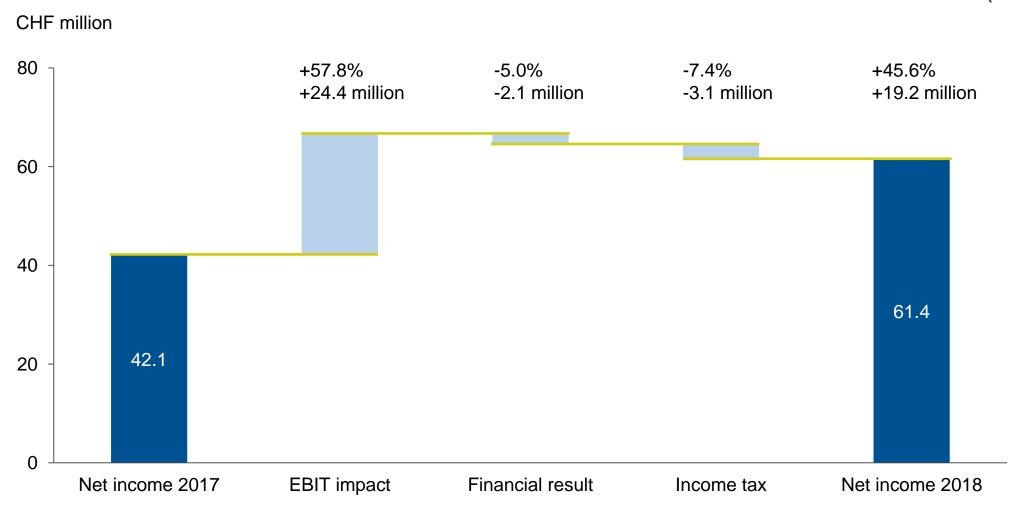
## Significant reduction in effective tax rate





# Factors influencing net income

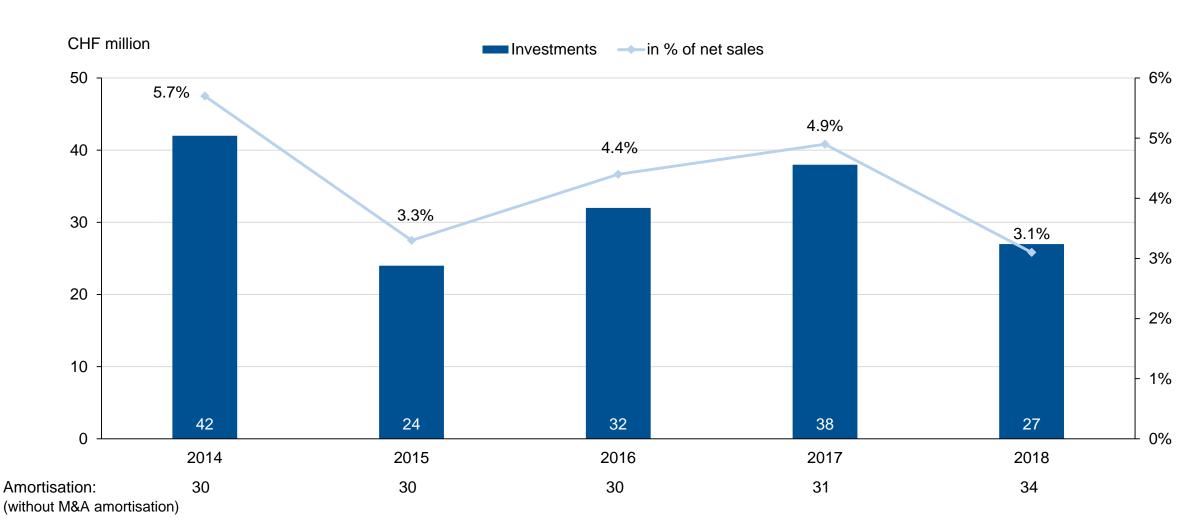
Earnings per share (CHF) 2.17 ► 3.15 (46%)





#### Investments

Below-average spending in 2018, project-related increase expected for 2019/2020





## Balance sheet

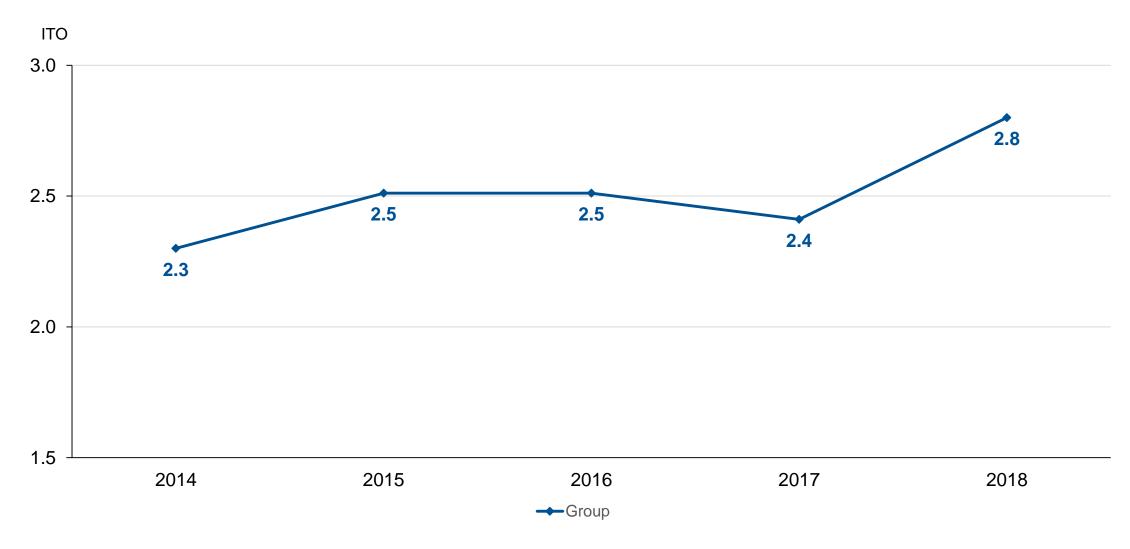
## Significant increase in cash and cash equivalent

CHF million	31.12.2018	31.12.2017		30.06.2018
Cash and cash equivalent	199	153	30%	151
Other current assets	332	347	-4%	376
Non-current assets	239	252	-5%	245
Liabilities	149	159	-6%	173
Equity	621	593	5%	599
in %	81%	79%		78%
Balance sheet total	770	752	2%	772
Net liquidity	199	153	30%	151



# Inventory turnover

Improvement thanks to operational progress





## Free cash flow

## Improved cash flow from operating activities

CHF million	2014	2015	2016*	2017	2018
Cash flow from operating activities	78.0	69.7	79.6	52.9	99.6
Cash flow from investing activities	(89.9)	(21.8)	(57.5)	(33.0)	(27.8)
Free operating cash flow	(11.9)	47.9	22.1	20.0	71.7

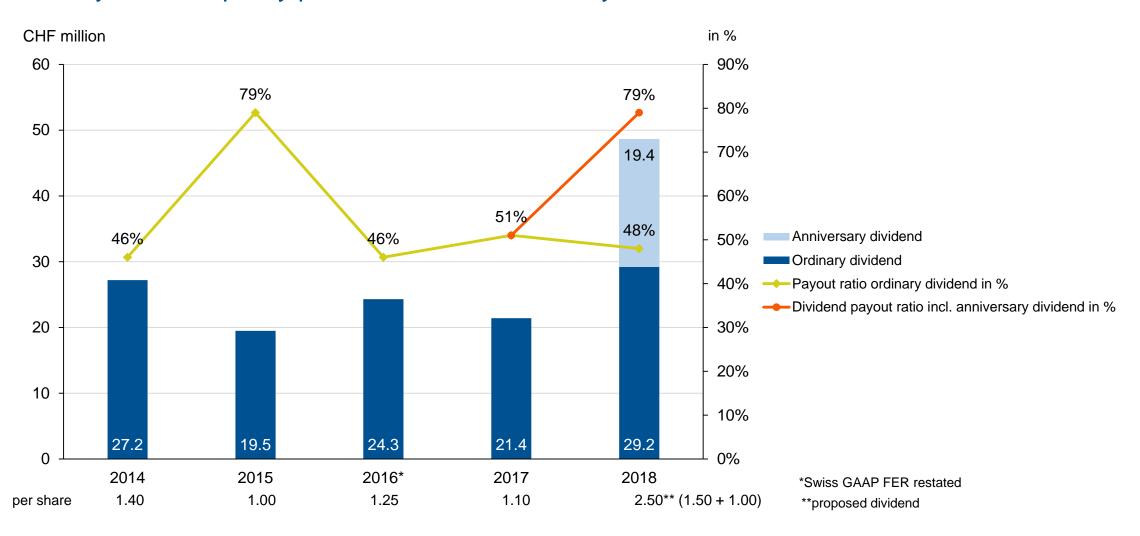
Dividend payment	(15.6)	(27.3)	(19.5)	(24.3)	(21.4)
Purchase of treasury shares	(1.4)	(0.9)	(1.4)	(1.3)	(2.2)
Free cash flow	(28.9)	19.7	1.2	(5.7)	48.1

<sup>\*</sup>Swiss GAAP FER restated



# Dividend development

#### Steady dividend policy plus additional anniversary dividend





### Financial assessment 2018

- ✓ Double-digit organic growth in order intake (+10.1%) and net sales (+13.6%)
- ✓ Operating profitability in the upper half of the medium-term EBIT target range (9.3%)
- ✓ Lower income tax rate (23.0%)
- ✓ Very high free operating cash flow (CHF 72 million)

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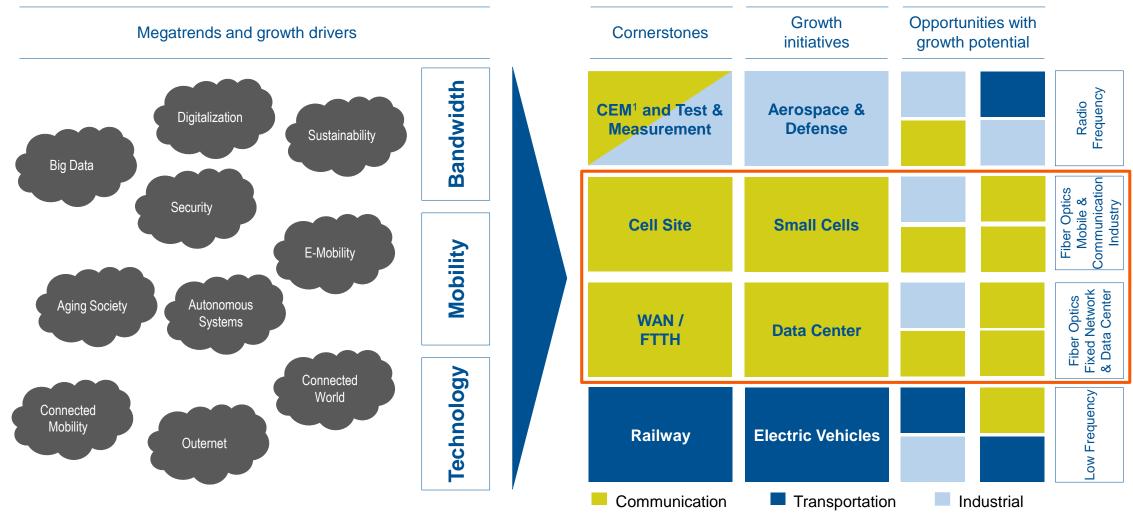
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## Focused strategy derived from megatrends and growth drivers





#### Milestones 2018



Transportation – Growth initiative EV Automotive

HUBER+SUHNER becomes a Tier 1 supplier to Geely, a leading Chinese electric vehicles manufacturer



# Communication – Growth initiative Data Centers

Delivery of entire fiber optic cabling to a German network operator of two of Europe's most advanced data centers



#### Communication – Growth initiative Small Cell

Market launch of active multiplexer and converter system solutions for optimal use of existing fiber optic infrastructure in densified 5G networks



#### Industrial – High-tech niche Medical

Breakthrough with customized radio frequency products in microwave ablation applications



## Outlook 2019 by markets

#### Overall slightly flattening dynamics with opportunities in growth initiatives

#### Communication

- LTE rollouts in price-sensitive emerging economies last 5G network provider position themselves in the market.
- Ongoing geographic expansion and intensive use of the Internet will further increase global data volume –
   demand for mobile and fixed network infrastructure as well as data centers will increase.
- Growth market Asia is characterized by competitive environment.

#### **Transportation**

- Railway market tends to remain stable at a high level with decreasing momentum China market remains strong.
- Electric vehicle market with increasingly wider offering from all major manufacturers; mass suitability of drive concept confirmed – EV share still at a low level, but strong development expected.

#### **Industrial**

- Growth rates in aerospace and defense continue to be at a high level thanks to increasing need for communication and security.
- Mixed signals regarding market development.



## Outlook 2019 by technology segments

#### Continuity in strategic direction

#### **Radio Frequency**

- Goal 2019: defend previous year's strong margin and confirm growth path.
- Strategic direction: increase market share in high-margin applications; grow stronger than the market in aerospace and defense; position for the future opportunity of autonomous driving.

#### **Fiber Optics**

- Goal 2019: increase profitability to the level of medium-term target range.
- Strategic direction: continue to further increase high-margin business in the data center market segment; participate in the development of 5G networks in the small cells market segment from the beginning.

#### **Low Frequency**

- Goal 2019: consolidate profitability at increased level despite a decreasing momentum in the railway market.
- Strategic direction: expand first successes with high voltage distribution systems in EV platforms to other OEMs;
   claim market leadership with high power charging cables.



#### Outlook 2019

#### Net sales guidance for 2019

From today's perspective, the Group expects net sales at the level of 2018 for the current financial year.

#### Medium-term target range over the business cycle and EBIT guidance for 2018

- Medium-term target range for EBIT margin unchanged at 8–10 %.
- Provided that exchange rates remain comparable to 2018, the EBIT margin is expected to be in the upper half of the medium-term EBIT target range of 8–10 % in 2019.

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