



Media release  
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## **Approval of partnership agreement with HECO**

**The competition authorities have approved the partnership agreement of SFS and HECO. Bringing together their complementary fastening solutions for structural timberwork will strengthen their respective market positions.**

As part of the partnership agreement, SFS acquires a 30% interest in HECO (Ludwig Hettich GmbH & Co. KG) via a capital increase. The relevant competition authorities have approved the transaction that has been completed on 1<sup>st</sup> October. The proceeds from the share issue will be spent on projects to improve competitiveness and accelerate growth.

The two largely complementary product ranges will allow to serve customers better and thereby strengthen the market positions of SFS and HECO. Close collaboration will enable them to also take advantage of manufacturing synergies and strengthen their competitive profile. The partnership will have no negative effects on the employment levels at the various company sites.

### **About SFS Group**

SFS Group is organised into three business segments Engineered Components, Fastening Systems und Distribution & Logistics which represent the three business models. In the **Engineered Components** segment, SFS partners with customers to develop and manufacture customer-specific precision formed components, fastening solutions and assemblies. The segment operates in the Automotive, Electronics and Industrial divisions and sells its products under the SFS intec and Unisteel brands. In the **Fastening Systems** segment, consisting of the Construction and the Riveting divisions, SFS develops, manufactures and markets application-specific mechanical fastening systems under the SFS intec (Construction) and GESIPA (Riveting) brands. In the **Distribution & Logistics** segment with the SFS unimarket brand, SFS is a leading provider of fasteners, tools and architectural hardware as well as innovative logistics solutions in Switzerland. SFS Group is a global player with manufacturing sites and distribution companies at 72 locations in 24 countries around the world. Sales in business year 2014 amounted to CHF 1.383 bn and the work force numbered approximately 8,300.

For further information visit [www.sfs.biz](http://www.sfs.biz)

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