

## Gurit EBIT remains unchanged

**Wattwil, January 18, 2005.** On the basis of preliminary figures, Gurit-Heberlein (SWX: GUR) expects to report a 13% sales increase to CHF 576 million and a roughly unchanged EBIT of around CHF 32 million. The Health Care Division can look back on a successful year. Restructuring measures and ramp-up investments depressed results from the Industrial Applications Division.

After last year's one-off costs, the Health Care Division is firmly back on track – both in the dental and the medical business – and will report pleasing results for 2004. In the Industrial Applications Division, the Fiber Technology activities failed to pick up as expected in the second half-year; in addition to this, restructuring costs in Germany impacted results negatively. Delays and higher costs for the ramp-up of North American operations pushed down the result in the composite business. The weakness of the American dollar had a negative impact on the overall Group result. On the basis of preliminary figures, Gurit-Heberlein expects to report a 13% increase in the volume of sales to around CHF 576 million and an almost unchanged EBIT of some CHF 32 million for 2004. Following lower financial results, a first rough estimate shows a net profit of around CHF 16 million.

Further details will be announced towards the end of March, while the Group plans to discuss results at a Media and Analyst conference on April 22, 2005.

### **About Gurit-Heberlein ([www.gurit.com](http://www.gurit.com))**

The Gurit-Heberlein Group specializes in clearly defined areas of the Chemical and Synthetics Technology sector. Group companies have profound and wide-ranging expertise in materials, processes and basic research for the synthetics sector. Gurit focuses on applications for the health care and industrial sectors. The Health Care Division addresses two market segments: the dental sector, where the main priorities are forming and filling materials, as well as a wide range of supplementary products for dentists and dental laboratories; and the medical and pharmaceutical industries, where the Group manufactures respiratory and disposable OEM products under clean-room conditions. Gurit's Industrial Applications Division is one of the world's leading suppliers of state-of-the-art material and construction systems. In the fiber technology sector (manufacture and finishing of synthetic fibers), key components from Gurit-Heberlein set standards for the industry worldwide.