

ERNST GÖHNER FOUNDATION

2016 REPORT



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For more information on the Foundation, please consult our website: www.ernst-goehner-stiftung.ch.

CONTENTS

PREFACE AND A FEW FACTS & FIGURES	4
OUR INVESTMENTS	6
Strategy and Organization	6
EGS Beteiligungen Ltd.	9
Seewarte Holding Ltd.	12
Financial Investments	17
OUR CHARITABLE WORK	18
Over 1,300 Projects	18
Diversity and Breadth of Projects and Funding Disbursed	20
Our Most Significant Projects	22
Chestnuts, the “Bread of the Poor”	24
Alicia’s Dream	27
Applied Science Fiction	30
The Path Is the Goal	33
FROM ARTISAN GLAZER’S TO FOUNDATION	36
Prefab Construction	38
The (Company) Family	40
Biographical Notes	42
Publications	43

PREFACE AND A FEW FACTS & FIGURES

Switzerland is often referred to as a “paradise for foundations”, not only because of its liberal foundation laws and long foundation tradition, but also because there are 16 charitable foundations for every 10,000 inhabitants. Switzerland is also one of the world’s leaders when it comes to total capital held in foundations and the amount of funding distributed per inhabitant.

Over half of all charitable foundations in Switzerland were founded after 1990. The increasing number of new foundations being established has continued unabated during the last couple of years, despite the unfavorable economic climate. Currently there are ca. 13,000 charitable foundations in Switzerland, most of which are headquartered in the Canton of Zurich. The highest growth rate can be found in the Canton of Geneva as measured by the number of inhabitants, with the Canton of Basel City exhibiting the highest concentration.

The total amount of capital invested in charitable foundations in Switzerland is estimated at CHF 70 billion, with annual funding disbursements estimated at between CHF 1.5 and 2 billion. The total volume of funding provided by the over 129,000 charitable foundations in Europe is estimated at over EUR 53 billion, with foundation capital assets in excess of EUR 452 billion. Germany, which in Europe along with Spain, Sweden, Romania and Hungary has the largest number of foundations, is estimated to have almost 20,000 foundations, with assets totaling CHF 80 billion and disbursed funding of almost CHF 4 billion. With 2,700 and 670 foundations respectively, the foundation sector in neighboring countries France and Austria is much less significant. The U.S. has 80,000 foundations with capital assets of CHF 600 billion.

Established in 1957, the Ernst Göhner Foundation — one of approximately 1,000 corporate foundations in Switzerland — is one of the “old” foundations. With disbursed funding in excess of CHF 36 million in 2016, the Foundation supported over 1,300 charitable projects, thus making for an aggregate total in excess of CHF 500 million for some 26,000 projects since the Foundation was founded. According to its charter, one of the purposes of the Ernst Göhner Foundation is that of a family foundation: as of the end of 2016 the Foundation’s family beneficiaries numbered 29.

ERNST GÖHNER FOUNDATION

FOUNDER Ernst Göhner (1900–1971)

FOUNDED 1957

PURPOSE Corporate, charitable and family foundation

CORPORATE HOLDINGS

Sectors: Construction, Energy, Foodstuffs, Logistics, Industrial Enterprises, and Real Estate

AREAS OF FUNDING AND SUPPORT

Culture, Environment, Social, and Education & Science (“Social” including former employees of Göhner companies)

REGISTERED OFFICE / ADDRESS

Artherstrasse 19, 6300 Zug, Switzerland

WEBSITE www.ernst-goehner-stiftung.ch

FOUNDATION BODIES

FOUNDATION BOARD

Dr. Beat Walti (chairman)
Dr. Franziska Widmer Müller (vice-chairman)
Dr. Christoph Franz
Mark Furger
Prof. Dr. Thomas Gutzwiller
Dr. Rudolf W. Hug (until 9/7/2016)
Fritz Jörg
Isabel Kühnlein Specker
(representative of the family beneficiaries)
Dr. Roger Schmid
Peter Ulber (from 9/7/2016)

COMMITTEES

Finance and Internal Control Committee

Chair: Dr. Beat Walti

Donations

Chair: Dr. Franziska Widmer Müller

Family Beneficiaries

Chair: Isabel Kühnlein Specker

Audit Committee

Chair: Mark Furger

Nomination and Remuneration Committee

Chair: Dr. Rudolf W. Hug (until 9/7/2016)

Chair: Fritz Jörg (from 9/7/2016)

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

Dr. Roger Schmid

OFFICE

Maria Arnold (office)
Michaela Gasser (Environment and Social projects)
Sonja Hægeli (Theater, Dance, Literature,
Heritage Conservation and Cultural History)
Miriam Müller (accounting)
Dr. Suzanne Schenk (Social, Education &
Science projects)
Corinne Linda Sotzek (Visual Arts and Music)
Doris Stalder (Music and Film)
Lucia Tellenbach (office)
Tanja Vogel (Visual Arts and Music, from 11/1/2016)

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Regulatory Board for Occupational Pension Plans
and Foundations of Central Switzerland

SWISSFOUNDATIONS

SwissFoundations (www.swissfoundations.ch), the Association of Grant-Making Foundations, is a network dedicated to the continued development of foundations in Switzerland. Established in 2001 at the initiative of Switzerland's eleven largest charitable foundations, including the Ernst Göhner Foundation, it currently has ca. 140 members. The Ernst Göhner Foundation is represented in various working groups. SwissFoundations stands for transparency, professionalism and the efficient use of foundation assets.

That is why SwissFoundations published its good governance code for grant-making foundations in Europe in 2005. 2015 marks the third, completely revised edition: *Swiss Foundation Code 2015 – Principles and Recommendations for the Establishment and Management of Grant-Making Foundations*. In its Foundation Governance series SwissFoundations has published other items such as *Switzerland – A Paradise for Foundations* (2004), *Foundations and Society* (2006), *Professional Management of Foundations* (2007), *Grant-making Foundations* (2010), *Reporting and Auditing of Grant-Making Foundations* (2011), and *Innovation – Not Stagnation* (2013). Since 2009 SwissFoundations has published the annual Swiss Foundation Report in association with the Center for Foundation Law of the University of Zurich and the Center for Philanthropy Studies (CEPS) of the University of Basel, SwissFoundations being the co-initiator of CEPS.

Cofunded by the Ernst Göhner Foundation, this interdisciplinary center opened its doors in 2008. Today it possesses the status of an independent university institute. Apart from engaging in practice-led research, it focusses on continuing professional education, one such example being the one-week immersion course for the management of grant-making foundations.

OUR INVESTMENTS

STRATEGY AND ORGANIZATION

Pursuant to its charter, the Ernst Göhner Foundation is tasked with managing its assets in accordance with business principles and exercising entrepreneurial initiative. As such, it primarily invests in companies and real estate owing to their long-term horizon. The Foundation's primary focus is Switzerland as a business location and SME environment. It engages in considerable diversification in its individual investment categories. Taking an active approach in managing the Foundation's assets is designed to generate income that provides for optimum stability so as to enable the continued fulfillment of the Foundation's designated remit.

The Foundation's overall strategy is regularly reviewed in terms of its financial management and use of financial resources, it having last been subjected to one such review in 2015. It showed that the Foundation's present strategy could be by and large confirmed. Minor changes were made to the rules for corporate holdings, for example, now enabling minority stakes to also be acquired. The Foundation now also provides venture capital for startups. Investment is made exclusively in investment vehicles with a focus on Swiss startups during their growth and expansion phase.

The Foundation has holdings in various companies through its wholly-owned subsidiary EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. Real estate investments are made by Seewarte Holding Ltd., a company wholly-owned by the Foundation. The members of the board of directors of both affiliates are foundation board members for the most part, and are presided over by one such member. Both bodies are augmented by external independent board members possessing the requisite expertise, professional experience and network of connections.

The stake in Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd. and the financial investments are held directly by the Foundation. At 46%, the stake in publicly-listed Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd. continues to be the Foundation's most significant corporate holding. The Panalpina Group is one of the world's largest logistics companies with its international air and ocean freight services and contract logistics. The Group has a combined headcount of ca. 15,000.

Panalpina is the last corporate holding of the Ernst Göhner Foundation to be acquired by founder Ernst Göhner for inclusion in the Foundation. The Foundation's charter also explicitly provides for participating holdings in former company members of the Göhner Group. EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. re-acquired a stake in one such company in 2009, i.e. Bauwerk Parkett AG (now: Bauwerk Boen AG).



Panalpina workers looking over a sea of containers in the port of Shanghai

STANDARDIZED SHIPPING CONTAINERS

The advent of standardized shipping containers revolutionized the logistics industry in much the same way Ernst Göhner once rationalized the construction industry in Switzerland by introducing prefab construction techniques. Previously, cargo was packed in sacks, drums, and crates and had to be loaded and unloaded by longshoremen in manual back-breaking work, an extremely labor-intensive process.

Then in 1956, American transportation entrepreneur Malcom P. McLean came up with the idea of using shipping containers in truck and marine shipping. McLean originally came up with the idea of loading “trailer vans”, or entire trucks, onto ships to avoid having to laboriously load and unload freight. Later only the trailers and semi-trailers with their containers full of freight were loaded, followed by only the containers themselves. The era of containerization was born.

ENTREPRENEURIAL INITIATIVE AND CHARITABLE WORK

The Ernst Göhner Foundation's charitable work is also sometimes linked to its corporate operations. By the same token, its corporate holdings also frequently engage in charitable work.

The idea for a joint humanitarian effort in concert with UNICEF came about at Panalpina one year while planning the traditional Christmas gifts for customers and staff. It led to the realization that making a donation in the form of a relief effort would be a much more valuable contribution. Panalpina consciously focusses its humanitarian work on crisis areas that are not on the media's radar.

In one such effort before Christmas 2016, Panalpina chartered an air freighter on behalf of UNICEF to fly 80 tons of life-saving supplies to N'Djamena, the capital of crisis-ridden Chad in Central Africa. In the three years preceding, Panalpina delivered vital medical supplies to Freetown, Sierra Leone, to Bangui, the capital and largest city of the Central African Republic, and to Bujumbura, the capital of Burundi in East Africa.

In view of the many Swiss companies operating at the international level, part of the Ernst Göhner Foundation's work also involves the provision of support to Swiss schools abroad in infrastructure projects or the funding of Swiss teachers and instructors. The management members of such companies and their families depend on these schools during their assignments abroad.

To strengthen Switzerland's dual model of vocational education and training, the Foundation also supports Swiss vocational competitions and the participation of young Swiss professionals in European and world championships. The Swiss delegation is able to regularly celebrate significant successes at these international events, demonstrating the caliber of Switzerland's vocational training system.

Finally, the Ernst Göhner Foundation also fulfills part of its social objective in its entrepreneurial remit by obtaining stakes in companies with a view to creating and maintaining jobs in Switzerland.

EGS BETEILIGUNGEN LTD. THE FOUNDATION'S COMPANIES

A significant part of the Foundation's assets is invested in stakes in private and listed companies headquartered in Switzerland. These holdings are maintained with a view to long-term profitable growth coupled with enhancing the value of these companies, while preserving jobs and expertise in Switzerland to the extent that this is possible.

The Foundation's objective is to further develop its portfolio companies by way of active support and advice, in particular by sitting on their boards of directors and contributing to the boards' work through the Foundation's representatives. The management of the existing portfolio and its continued enhancement are the task of EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. ("EGS"). It implements together with its sister company Seewarte Holding Ltd. — in charge of real estate investments — the corporate components of the Foundation's remit and, in so doing, creates the basis for achieving the Foundation's other goals.

ORGANIZATION

FOUNDED

2009

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Prof. Dr. Thomas Gutzwiller (chairman)

Dr. Frank Gulich

Dr. Roger Schmid

Valentin Vogt

Dr. Beat Walti

STAFF

Dominik Sauter (managing director)

Dr. Franz Studer (investment director)

Urs Eberhard (senior investment manager)

David Kurman (investment consultant)

REGISTERED OFFICE / ADDRESS

Dufourstrasse 31, 8008

Zurich, Switzerland

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young

WEBSITE

www.egs-beteiligungen.ch

Founded in 2009 and domiciled in Zurich, EGS is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Ernst Göhner Foundation. Through a capital increase — subscribed fully by the Foundation — EGS acquired the Foundation's corporate holdings as contributions in kind. Today all equity investments with the exception of Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd. are held by EGS Beteiligungen Ltd.

EGS invests in established medium-sized companies in the industrial and service sector with sales revenues in excess of CHF 50 million and a proven business model and track record, and strong, persuasive management. The geographical focus is on Switzerland yet investments in holdings in Germany and Austria exhibiting a significant value-added share in Switzerland are also examined. Growth *and* buy-out projects are financed. Other investment criteria include the companies' favorable prospects for the future, strong market position and international markets. EGS's objective is to build a portfolio of equity investments in approximately fifteen companies.

In 2009 EGS acquired its first four corporate holdings, including Bauwerk Parkett AG (now: Bauwerk Boen AG), which possesses a direct historical link to Foundation founder Ernst Göhner. Established by Ernst Göhner in 1944 and then managed by his nephew Paul Göhner, it was sold to Elektrowatt AG in 1971. 2013 saw the merger of Swiss parquet flooring manufacturer Bauwerk Parkett AG with Norwegian Boen SA, the combined Bauwerk Boen Group now figuring as Europe's second largest provider of premium wood flooring. EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. currently holds a 33% stake in the company.

This was followed in 2010 by the acquisition of stakes in office supplies manufacturer Biella-Neher Holding Ltd. (24%) and fashion clothing retail chain Schild AG (40%), and, in 2012, in e-bike pioneer Biketec AG (40%) and food conglomerate ORIOR Ltd. (10%). Other acquisitions since 2011 have included a minor stake (slightly below 5%) in Huber+Suhner Ltd., a listed company and one of the world's leading manufacturers of electronic and fiber optic components and system solutions. In 2014, EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. acquired a controlling interest (81%) in Biketec AG and a 45% stake in Boucledor SA. Headquartered in Meyrin, Boucledor is a leading supplier of watch band clasps made of steel or precious metal (gold and platinum) for Switzerland's premium watch manufacturers.

2014 saw the completion of the sale of fashion clothing retail chain Schild AG to The Globe Stores Ltd., owned by the Federation of Migros Cooperatives, and of industrial investment company Polygena Ltd. to its majority shareholders. 2016 saw the sale of CEDES Holding AG, in which EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. and the Ernst Göhner Foundation had had a 40% stake since 2007, to the Swedish ASSA ABLOY Group. This disposal was the result of the succession reorganization of CEDES' majority shareholder. Listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange, the ASSA ABLOY Group is the global leader in door opening solutions with a workforce of ca. 44,000.

To promote networking among its corporate holdings, an event was organized in 2016 for the sixth time to which the members of the board of directors and the executive management boards of these companies were invited. The get-together took place in Biel/Brügg at the headquarters of Biella-Neher Holding Ltd. This manufacturer of office supplies has an international focus, and is a market leader in Switzerland and throughout Europe in the production of folder filing supplies.

As of the end of 2016, EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. held the following significant stakes:

<p>Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd.</p> 	<p>Leading global logistics corporation with the core activities air and ocean freight forwarding and complementary logistics services (publicly listed). Acquired: 1969, stake: 46%.</p>
<p>Wasserwerke Zug AG</p> 	<p>Utility company (water, power and telecoms) servicing the Zug region and surrounding areas; Switzerland's second largest cable operator (Quickline). Acquired: 1988, stake: 10%</p>
<p>Bauwerk Boen AG</p> 	<p>Leading manufacturer of parquet floor coverings at the international level. Europe's number 2 provider of premium parquet flooring. Acquired: 2009, stake: 33%.</p>
<p>Biella-Neher Holding Ltd.</p> 	<p>Manufacturer of office supplies with an international focus; market leader in Switzerland and throughout Europe in the production of folder filing supplies. Acquired: 2010, stake: 24%.</p>
<p>Huber+Suhner Ltd.</p> 	<p>One of the world's leading manufacturers of electronic and fiber optic components and system solutions (publicly listed); Acquired: 2011, stake: just under 5%.</p>
<p>Biketec AG</p> 	<p>Pioneer in the development and marketing of electric bikes (Flyer); Europe's leading manufacturer of premium e-bikes. Acquired: 2012, stake: 81%.</p>
<p>ORIOR AG</p> 	<p>Swiss food group (publicly-listed) specializing in fresh convenience food and Swiss-style deli meat specialties (including Rapelli and Ticinella). Acquired: 2012, stake: 10%.</p>
<p>SwissTech Watch Components SA</p> 	<p>Leading supplier of watch band clasps made of steel and precious metal (gold and platinum) for the premium watch segment. Acquired: 2014, stake: 45%.</p>



Refurbished stairwell, Stockerstrasse 47, Zurich

SEEWARTE HOLDING LTD. THE FOUNDATION'S REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES

The second pillar of the Foundation's investments is formed by the real estate pooled in the Seewarte Group. The Group's diversified portfolio includes approximately 40 investment and development properties. The name Seewarte dates back to Seewarte AG Zürich, a real estate company acquired by Ernst Göhner for the Foundation in 1959 with its two Zurich properties Nüscherstrasse 24 and Dufourstrasse 29/31; the portfolio still contains these properties.

Engaging in long-term real estate investments and actively optimizing and further developing the properties so acquired is designed to generate constant, calculable income and sustained capital growth. In order to achieve an optimal earnings-to-risk ratio, investment is done in a diversified manner according to the location, utilization, size and age of the properties. Investment is done directly in residential and commercial properties in cities (and their catchment area) providing for favorable economic prospects and a good infrastructure.

The emphasis of real estate investment lies in residential properties located in the economic areas of Zurich and Zug. Seewarte has withdrawn completely from engagements outside of Switzerland via staggered sales of individual properties in keeping with the respective market situation. 2013 saw the disposal of the last property in Canada. Both logistics real estate properties in Stuttgart and Nuremberg, Germany, were sold off in 2016, as was the last property in the US.

The largest individual project since acquiring 100% of AXA-Winterthur in 2016 was the regional shopping center in Regensdorf, constructed at the beginning of the 1970s by Ernst Göhner AG. In exchange, all of the retail trade properties of Vegsimmo Holding Ltd., in which Seewarte Holding Ltd. still holds a 50% stake, were sold. Plans have been made to divest this stake entirely.

ORGANIZATION

FOUNDED

2008

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Fritz Jörg (chairman)

Giacomo Balzarini

Mark Furger

Reinhard Giger

Dr. Roger Schmid

STAFF

Thomas Regli (CEO)

Mirko Käppeli (CFO)

Daniel Hübscher (controlling)

Miriam Müller (accounting)

Roger Schoch (accounting, June 1 to October 31, 2016)

Claudia Uster (accounting)

Carla Vesper (portfolio / construction management)

REGISTERED OFFICE / ADDRESS

Artherstrasse 19, 6300 Zug, Switzerland

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young

HOMEPAGE

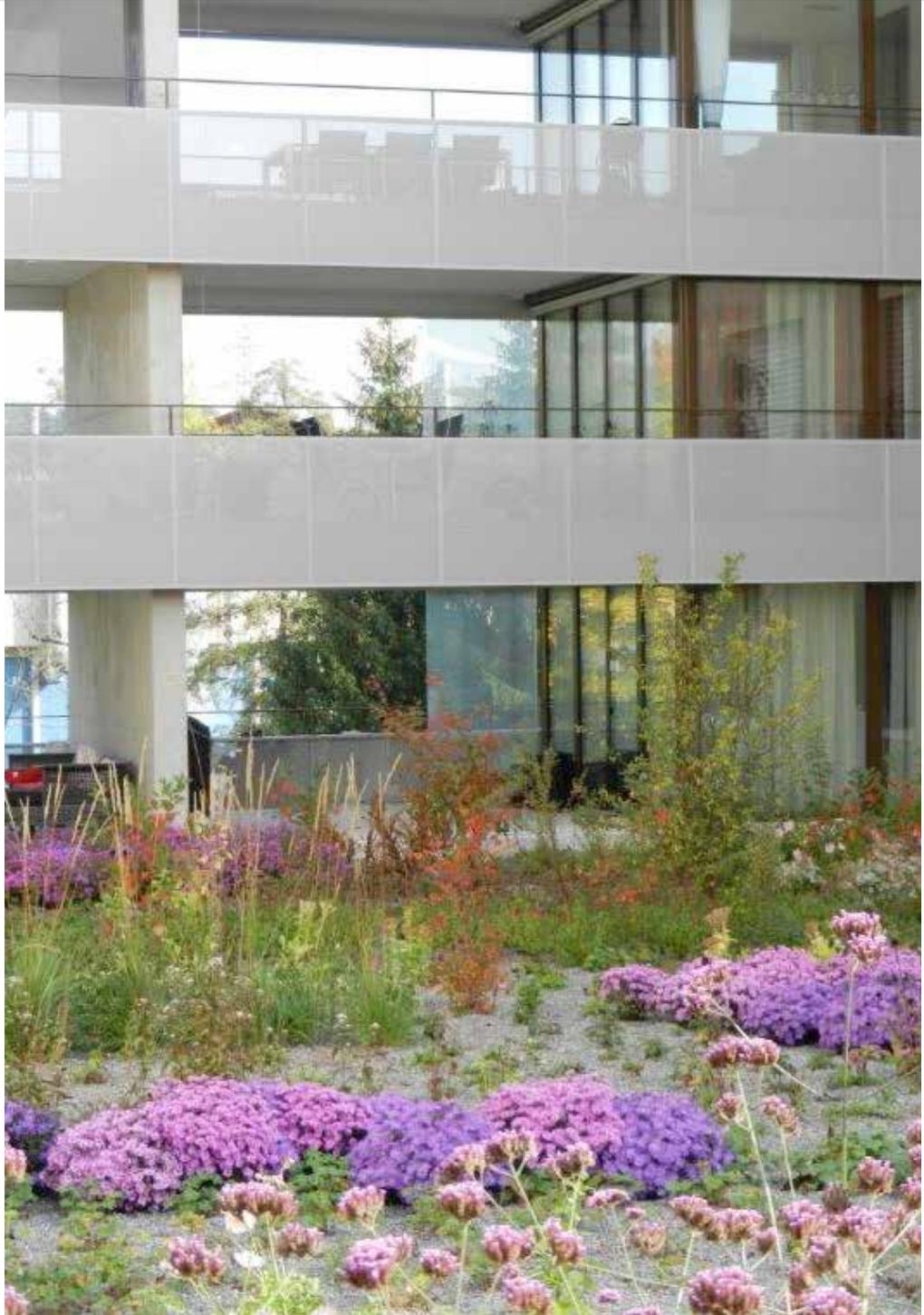
www.seewarte.ch

Through the end of 2015 a cooperative arrangement existed with the Allreal Group for the management, project development and execution of new construction and refurbishment projects, the Group acquiring the service business of former subsidiary Hammer Retex AG in 2012. The real estate portfolio of Livit Ltd. has been managed since 2016, and ongoing new construction and refurbishment projects will continue to be managed by Hammer Retex AG until they are completed. This enables Seewarte to concentrate fully on its core business as a real estate investment company.

After completing both office building refurbishment projects at Nüscherstrasse and Stockerstrasse in Zurich in 2015, Seewarte continued the expansion and rejuvenation of the properties in its own real estate portfolio during 2016.

Work on the apartment developments Riedpark Stage III in Zug (62 units) and Obermühleweid Stage II in Cham (72 units) was completed. The renovation of the 26 apartment units at the Pfaffensteinstrasse building complex in Pfaffhausen was also completed. Land located along the Limmat River in Unterengstringen was purchased which will be used to construct 20 residential units next year. Another property was acquired in Brugg. The idea for this site is to build 60 rental apartment units under the Alte Post development plan in association with the town of Brugg.

With its refurbishment projects, Seewarte is not only attempting to sustainably enhance the quality of interior work and standard of amenities offered by these apartment units but also maintain the associated upward adjustments in rent at a reasonable level. Ecological concerns are also taken into consideration. Example: the refurbished residential buildings of the Im Langacher housing development in Greifensee — Göhner prefab structures, Minergie-certified. In 2015, the Obermühleweid Stage I residential development project in Cham was awarded a prize by the Nature & Economy Foundation for its exemplary near-natural landscaping.



Obermühleweid complex, in Cham

PARQUET FLOORING PAR EXCELLENCE

Quality Bauwerk parquet flooring, a product closely associated with Ernst Göhner, is being laid in all the units. The question of how to consciously design living environments was important to pioneer Göhner. He laid the foundation for Bauwerk Parkett AG, a premium wood flooring company, already in 1936 with the manufacture of the first mosaic parquet flooring. From the very outset, he put his knowledge of wood processing to use and also produced car bodies made of wood for the German automobile industry.

In 1946, Bauwerk Parkett started up the series manufacture of parquet flooring in St. Margrethen. The machinery required for manufacture was developed in-house by the company. In 1971 Ernst Göhner sold the company to Elektrowatt AG; in 2009 EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. acquired a minority stake in the company, now doing business as Bauwerk Boen AG.



Riedpark, in Zug

FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS

The Foundation's liquid assets are channeled into various classes of assets: money market instruments, bonds, and commodities including precious metals and equities. The growth target of the two other investment categories — corporate holdings and real estate — is financed from free cash flow and financial investments. In the process the Foundation's financial investment strategy has been brought in line with the overall allocation of its assets.

The Foundation's financial investment strategy was established in concert with external specialists with a view to the planned continued growth of the Foundation's two affiliates and the uncertainty concerning the prevailing economic climate and performance in financial markets. Since the preservation of value takes front and center stage in the Foundation's investment strategy, this has been taken into account in the allocation of the various asset classes and further minimization of risk by engaging in further diversification within the asset classes and hedging foreign currencies. Investment is made only in liquid securities and with counterparties with an excellent credit rating.

Since 2016, the Ernst Göhner Foundation has also made a small portion of its liquid assets available as venture capital for startups. Investment is made exclusively in investment vehicles with a specific focus on Swiss startups during their growth and expansion phase. In so doing, the Foundation has closed a gap in its investment activities between supporting young entrepreneurs in its charitable work and the investments of EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. in established companies.

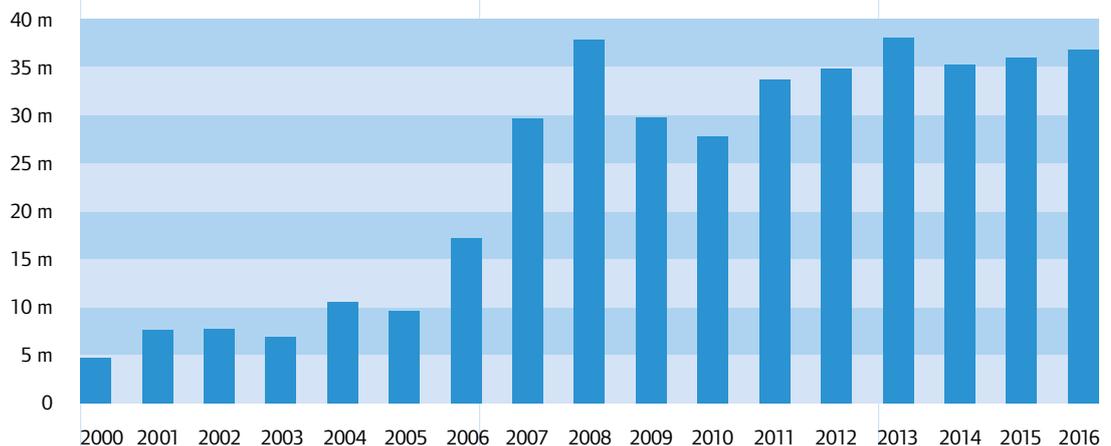
The direct management of the Foundation's financial investments and its engagement in startups is left to specialist banks and management companies that are monitored by the Foundation's committee charged with this task. In administering these investments, the Foundation attaches particular importance to the transparency and appropriateness of the cost structure.

OUR CHARITABLE WORK

OVER 1,300 PROJECTS

In 2016 the Ernst Göhner Foundation approved funding totaling CHF 36.8 million for 1,351 projects. The minimum amount of disbursed funding established in the Foundation's charter has thus been exceeded many times over. Since its establishment, the Foundation has supported ca. 26,000 projects with over CHF 500 million in assistance. For 2017, the foundation board has appropriated the same budget as in previous years.

Approved funding 2000–2016 (in CHF)



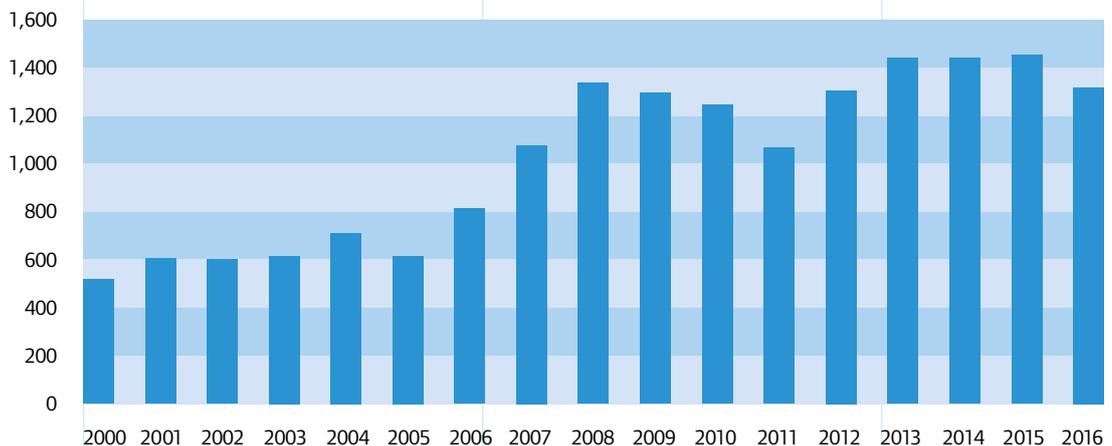
The number of projects for which funding requests are received has increased by almost 30% over the past ten years; at 2,938, the number of requests in 2016 was the highest ever received, the number of project proposals exceeding the previous-year figure by 1%.

The highest annual growth recorded during the past ten years was 15% in 2007. This development was the desirable result of the more active funding policy introduced by the foundation board in the wake of the IPO of Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd. in 2005 and the significantly higher budget appropriated for this purpose.

Of the project proposals received during 2016, 2,834 were reviewed, with funding being approved for 1,351 of them, the approval rate thus amounting to 48%. In the years prior to 2007, the average approval rate amounted to 40%. The increase in the approval figure is not due to a more generous interpretation of the funding guidelines but rather to the advance advice provided to funding applicants and the more detailed information and checklists to be found on the Foundation's website and the request form published there. These actions have contributed to a significant increase in the quality of the applications received — also a result of the increasing professionalism of the industry in general — and a reduction in the number of patently unpromising projects.

The general criteria for the Ernst Göhner Foundation's funding and support activities are: quality, impact, sustainability, innovation and originality, and orientation to societal needs. Support is provided in the form of funding in consultation and collaboration with other partners. In so doing, the Foundation does not assume any core tasks that are exclusively the remit of public funding, but rather provides supplementary funding or renders financial assistance in cases in which public authorities can be expected to participate at a later point in time.

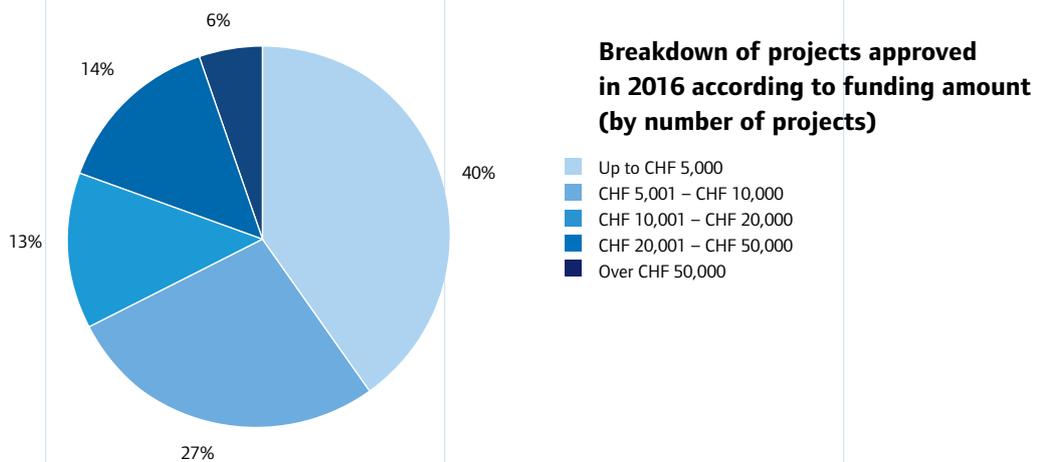
Approved projects 2000–2016



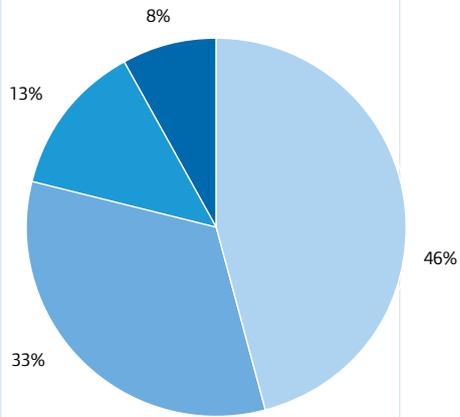
DIVERSITY AND BREADTH OF PROJECTS AND FUNDING DISBURSED

According to the precepts of its charter, the Foundation fosters diversity and breadth as a matter of principle. This is reflected not only in the broad range of the various areas supported but also in the varying size of the funding amounts disbursed.

As a consequence, in 2016 40% of all approved projects received funding of up to CHF 5,000, with another 40% receiving between CHF 5,000 and CHF 20,000, and 14% receiving between CHF 20,000 and CHF 50,000, and 6% receiving over CHF 50,000. However, if the total amount awarded for all projects is taken as a yardstick, this results in a different picture: Of the aggregate amount, 58% was accounted for by the group of projects receiving over CHF 50,000 and only 6% by the group of small projects receiving CHF 5,000 or less.



In 2016, 46% of the total funding disbursed went to Culture projects, with 33% going to Social projects, 13% to Education & Science projects, and 8% to Environment projects. The most significant change compared to the previous year occurred with regard to Culture projects, whose share decreased from 50% to 46%.

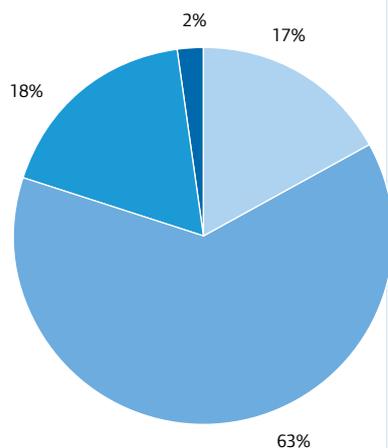


Breakdown of amounts approved in 2016 according to area of funding and support

- Culture
- Social
- Education & Science
- Environment

The Ernst Göhner Foundation is active throughout Switzerland. However, selected projects abroad with a close link to Switzerland or the Foundation's entrepreneurial activities are also taken into consideration as an exception.

Last year, 98% of all projects approved were in Switzerland — with a distinct focus on the German-speaking area of Switzerland (63%). 17% of the projects were linked to Switzerland as a whole. 18% of the total amount of approved funding went to the French-, Italian- and Romansh-speaking parts of Switzerland (13% to western Switzerland and 5% to Ticino). The regional distribution corresponds to the Ernst Göhner Foundation's mission as a charitable foundation active throughout Switzerland, with appropriate account being taken of all areas of Switzerland.



Breakdown of amounts approved in 2016 by geographical area

- Swiss-wide projects
- Projects in German-speaking Switzerland
- Projects in French-, Italian- and Romansh-speaking Switzerland
- Foreign projects

OUR MOST SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS

Part of the projects in which the Ernst Göhner Foundation is engaged involve innovative, creative and unconventional endeavors with a pioneering or experimental character in response to changes and newly emerging requirements of society for which no success can be guaranteed or expected in the near future and thus experience difficulty in attracting funding.

One example of a project of this type is Venture Kick, whose designated purpose is to promote the transfer of innovation and foster young entrepreneurs at Swiss institutions of higher learning. Since its launch in 2007, the project has advanced remarkably. The PreSeed Money Fund — set up in collaboration with other private charitable foundations with an entrepreneurial background — supports young entrepreneurs with a “killer” business idea and entrepreneurial flair in developing a business plan and financing their startups with up to CHF 130,000 and access to investors. The business plans of the candidates are further developed under expert mentoring in a competition and in “kick-start camps”. Extensive use is made of these volunteer support offerings.

Of the ca. 2,500 applications received to date from over 20 Swiss institutions of higher learning, 905 business ideas have been admitted to a presentation pitch before a qualified jury consisting of a pool of over 100 experts, including EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. in the person of David Kurmann since 2015. Of this number, 463 projects have attracted funding totaling CHF 18.65 million. This has resulted in the founding of 303 new companies that have succeeded in attracting additional financing in excess of CHF 1.3 billion and creating almost 3,900 new full-time jobs. Of the companies placing among the 100 Top Startups in Switzerland competition, 54 were fostered by Venture Kick, of which seven startups figured among the Top Ten.

Most of the startups receiving funding were born at the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology in Zurich (ETHZ) and Lausanne (EPFL). However, the share of those from universities of applied sciences is also notable. One third each is accounted for by the disciplines of Life Sciences and Information & Communications Technology (ICT). The other third is distributed among cutting-edge innovative projects of various high-tech disciplines.

Since 2014, interested executives of startups that have successfully competed at Venture Kick also receive a grant funded by the Ernst Göhner Foundation for taking advantage of the CPD opportunity “Management of Growth in Technology Companies” offered at the Henri B. Meier School of Entrepreneurs of the University of St. Gallen.

The following projects figure among the most significant initiatives promoted by the Ernst Göhner Foundation during the past few years (not including various grant programs):

EDUCATION & SCIENCE

- The PreSeed Fund's Venture Kick project for fostering young entrepreneurs
- Expansion of the University of St. Gallen by acquiring the property at Tellstrasse 2
- New construction of the Agora cancer research center of the ISREC Foundation in Lausanne
- Construction of the Student Project House (creative think, maker and contact space) by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich
- Lighthouse for the future construction of research institute EMPA's Nest project, in Dübendorf

CULTURE

- Extension of Kunsthaus Zürich (Zurich Museum of Modern Art)
- Digitalization of the recordings of the Montreux Jazz Festival by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology of Lausanne (EPFL)
- Expansion of the Swiss National Museum in Zurich
- Construction of a new building housing the Cantonal Museum of Fine Arts in Lausanne
- Construction of a temporary concert hall for the Tonhalle Orchestra Society in Zurich

SOCIAL

- "Swiss Food Bank" and "Tischlein deck dich" (an organization that collects and distributes food that has passed its sell-by date but is still safe to consume)
- Construction of the new children's hospital by the Eleonore Foundation in Zurich
- Construction of student accommodation by the Central Social Assistance Office in Geneva in the *Le Nouveau Prieuré* (The New Priory) project



Emanuel Helfenstein and Susanne Rieder in the young chestnut grove

CHESTNUTS, THE “BREAD OF THE POOR”

by Christian Schmidt (journalist and book author)

Once upon a time, chestnut groves graced the landscape north of the Alps. Now they are being rediscovered and replanted. For example, by Susanne Rieder in Gersau.

Wherever Susanne Rieder is, you’ll find Chico. Now she has to keep her black sheepdog rescue from Mallorca on a short leash. He’s picking up the scent of the deer who frequent the grove almost every night to nibble on the saplings. But to no avail since the young trees are protected by a fence gate. Yet the scent of the unwanted guests tantalizes Chico and he responds accordingly.

We’re standing on a steep slope overlooking Lake Lucerne, surrounded by 63 chestnut saplings on whose branches the first chestnuts are growing. Below us the roof of the closed Rotschuo Paradise Hotel, which Susanne Rieder and her husband are planning to bring back to life after they retire.

Of course, the chestnut trees will also play a major role in this project. In other words: If it weren’t for the hotel project Susanne would probably not have plunged into the adventure with the grove. But how else is she to cope with all those chestnuts? A tree will produce 45 lbs. in a single season. Susanne is imagining how she will climb the trees with her guests, collect the chestnuts, and then process them. For example, transform them into *vermicelles* (sweet chestnut noodles), or *marrons chauds* (hot roasted chestnuts), and chestnut flour. The help is all volunteer: “Being able to work in nature is gaining in popularity and is highly sought after.” It goes without saying that the harvest will land on the table.

Originally “bread of the poor”, sweet chestnuts are gaining in importance on account of allergies: People suffering from celiac disease can eat bread and pasta made with chestnut flour without any problems; the flour is gluten-free.

The idea with sweet chestnuts occurred to Susanne one day when she discovered a wild-growing sapling in her garden. She became interested and learned that chestnuts have a long tradition in Central Switzerland. Originally native to Turkey, the Romans brought the chestnut tree with them to Ticino. From there the chestnut spread further north until the Little Ice Age caused a large portion of them to die in the Late Middle Ages. The decline of chestnut groves was hastened by the opening of the Gotthard Base Tunnel for train traffic: now the chestnut fruit could be imported cheaply from the south.

The sweet chestnut has been experiencing a renaissance around Lake Lucerne for going on twenty years, thanks to the work of the Swiss Countryside Fund (Fonds Landschaft Schweiz), the Pro Chestnut Interest Group of Central Switzerland, and of neighboring cantons. Forestry engineer Emanuel Helfenstein heads the joint project “Revival of Chestnut Groves in Central Switzerland”.

He's crazy about the trees: "They're not only beautiful: with their fruit and high-quality wood they're a valuable part of the local flora and help to secure biodiversity."

Helfenstein supports Susanne Rieder in her project. He drops by when needed, sees how things are going, gives care advice, and discusses the next steps to be taken with Susanne. He sees an excellent future for the grove: "The location is suitable. The soil and climate are just right." He goes on to say that the trees perform a key stabilizing function: their roots hold the top soil together and prevent erosion and landslides, an ever-present danger in the past.

We continue climbing, to the edge of the forest where a few ancient chestnut trees from their former heyday have managed to survive among the other deciduous trees. Plans have been made to free them of the choking undergrowth surrounding them so they can again thrive in all their glory. Susanne gazes across the grove. "It's hard to remember what it looked like here until fairly recently. Everything was overgrown with blackberry bushes, a veritable thicket of thorns. What a labor of love," she chuckles. "But I don't regret it one bit. I have the patience of Job when it comes to trees, a lot more than I can say for people."

For her project, Susanne is receiving financial support from the initiator of the project, the Swiss Countryside Fund. In exchange, she had to contractually obligate herself to care for the grove for the next thirty years at minimum. To satisfy this requirement, Susanne's daughter is already preparing to take over this task and is undergoing the necessary training to this end.

All of a sudden Susanne has had enough of Chico's fidgeting. We walk downhill towards the road and pass the Rieders' apiary along the way. It houses five bee hives. The little wooden structure is surrounded by sage, lavender, rosemary, thyme — all for the bees. Together with the nectar from the chestnut blossoms, the honey is sure to be "fantastic", Susanne's positive. And, needless to say, she'll also process this together with her guests and put it on the table in the new hotel — as a spread for the bread made with chestnut flour.

To date, the Pro Chestnut Interest Group of Central Switzerland has kick-started the planting or revival of eighteen groves with almost one thousand saplings in various communities around Lake Lucerne. Most of its financial support is provided by the Swiss Countryside Fund, established by the Swiss parliament in 1991, the year marking the 700th anniversary of the Swiss Confederation. The fund is characterized by its multifaceted, professional and effective advocacy for near-natural cultivated landscapes in Switzerland – which is why the Ernst Göhner Foundation has supported projects with it since 2008.

ALICIA'S DREAM

by Christian Schmidt (journalist and book author)

The Stage Pool program of the FOCAL Foundation enables young filmmakers to complete internships on the sets of film productions. Alicia Nogueira Leceta is one of these interns. As an assistant to the costume mistress, she outfits actors for the TV series *Der Bestatter* (“The Undertaker”).

“Gotta dash...” — and already Alicia Nogueira Leceta is off again. She noticed that a clothing label was visible on one of the two boxers. That won't do. For one thing, it's not a pretty sight. And for another, the brand is visible on the label, which would be product placement, a no-go. Her braid dangles back and forth across her back as she slaloms her way between extras, spotlights, cameras, a fog machine, and a maze of cabling. Then she climbs into the ring and secures the offending label with a safety pin.

She had just begun to tell me what she's doing here: Alicia, 31, is completing an internship in the Stage Pool program of FOCAL, the Foundation for Professional Training in Film and Audiovisual Media. For three months she'll be working on the set of the TV series *Der Bestatter* (“The Undertaker”), as an assistant to costume mistress Viola Kunzmann.

Alicia returns from the ring, just in time. “Quiet, please. Camera. Action!” calls director Katalin Gödrös. Today's shooting includes a boxing match. In addition to the film team and cast, 40 extras are squeezed into the stuffy basement reeking of sweat.

And then the action begins: The two boxers pummel each other, simulate strikes, and the fans create the right atmosphere on cue: “Get him! Show him! Undercut! Yeah, that's more like it!” According to the script, one of the boxers will drop dead right after the fight. The obvious question is: who's the perpetrator? A case for “undertaker” Luc Conrad aka Mike Müller and detective Anna-Maria Giovanoli aka Barbara Terpoorten.

Alicia continues: She once completed an apprenticeship as a men's tailor, “because I liked sewing as a kid.” She always liked fantasy clothing much better, so she continued her training to become a costume designer and then went on to work on various productions as a costume mistress, e.g. at the Zurich Opera House and the Chur City Theater. Then...

“Alicia,” calls Viola Kunzmann. Alicia hurries to her boss, listens, runs back to the ring with a spray bottle and moistens the jerseys of both boxers with water to create the illusion of sweat, then returns: “Gotta dash to the bus.” That means she has to rush out to the parking lot to the wardrobe bus of the film production and lay out the costumes for Mike Müller and Barbara Terpoorten.

Alicia opens the door of the bus and disappears into the jungle of hanging costumes, pushing hangers back and forth, muttering: “Now where is...?” To be sure, she had painstakingly put all the costumes together and hung them in exactly the right order according the shooting schedule —



Assistant Alicia Nogueira Leceta applying the final touches

that's also part of her job. Finally, she re-emerges with a black suit, shoes and the "undertaker's" watch. She closely examines the watch: Do the hands show the right time so they match the time in the film? Now she retrieves the "detective's" clothes. She turns and smooths the blouse, and then again the most frequently heard utterance of the day: "Gotta dash...".

She rushes off, in the direction of the cast's dressing room. On the way she continues: After a few years at the theater she felt she needed to learn more. And since she was a fan of period films she looked for an opportunity in this area. Then one day she heard about FOCAL's Stage Pool program. She was immediately taken with the idea. She applied, and now she's here. "I'm learning a lot, and it's fantastic." For example, how to artificially age clothing by distressing it with bleach or giving leather jackets that vintage look by going over them with sandpaper. But she is also fascinated by all the work in the background: the complex logistics, and of course selecting the costumes, fine-tuning them to the character depicted in the role. "Clothing is so expressive, it has a language all its own."

Alicia pushes the door open to the dressing room. "Detective" Barbara Terpoorten is already there and is going through her lines. "Hi", hug. "I've got to touch up your blouse," says Alicia and plugs the iron in. While she's waiting for it to heat up she goes through her schedule to see what's next. There are frequently last-minute changes, also to the costumes. "Gotta dash...".

What does "detective" Barbara Terpoorten have to say about Alicia? Without hesitating, she says: "Alicia's fantastic! She does an outstanding job. She's extremely invested. That makes me feel secure as an actor. I know everything is perfect with my costume." Alicia smiles, clearly enjoying the compliment. Costume mistress Viola Kunzmann continues in the same vein later on: "I really like working with Alicia. She's great. I can only recommend her."

And that's also what Alicia's dream is about. That the FOCAL internship will be a springboard in helping her to achieve her goal one day: designing her own costumes!

Launched in 2009, the Stage Pool internship program helps young filmmakers to gain a foothold, doing its part in fostering the next generation of professionally-trained filmmakers. Internships are offered in 16 areas – ranging from makeup and editing to directing –, giving interns the opportunity to learn all the technical, creative and logistical aspects of their chosen vocation. An average of 45 applicants are placed each year. The Ernst Göhner Foundation has supported the Stage Pool program from its inception to today, and has been involved in various grant programs. Examples include cofunding projects together with the Pestalozzi Foundation in mountain communities, where young people are fostered in non-academic craft trades. Similar programs are supported in higher education in concert with the Swiss Study Foundation or for artists with the Kiefer Hablitzel Foundation (Music and Fine Arts).



Tanja Zimmermann in the Vision Wood unit

APPLIED SCIENCE FICTION

by Christian Schmidt (journalist and book author)

Pioneering construction products and technologies are test-driven in the NEST building lab of the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Testing and Research. NEST provides a flexible infrastructure that enables expansion using modular R&D units. One of them is “Vision Wood”. It is proof positive that wood is more than just wood.

No doubt about it, Tanja Zimmermann chose the right vocation: she’s head of the Department for Applied Wood Research of EMPA, the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Testing and Research, in Dübendorf. And not only that, she’s successful. Yet the 48-year-old scientist could also embark on a second career as a real estate agent. The way she is “selling” the Vision Wood unit is that convincing. At any rate, the perfectly furnished unit — the beds are made, there are washcloths hanging in the bathroom — makes you want to move in right away and try out what Tanja and her team have conjured up.

Everything is brand new and has never been lived in — you can’t come in if you’re not wearing felt slippers. At first glance, and smell, there’s nothing unusual about the module. It’s made of wood, and smells of wood. But Vision Wood is more than just wood, it goes nature one better. The materials have been given novel properties. This is where applied science fiction comes in.

“Let me show you around,” says Tanja. Stale air hits you when entering the first room. “Oh well, the ventilation doesn’t seem to be working.” She points to the door. There’s nothing remarkable, except that the wood has a whitish sheen. “We’ve infused the wood with lime. The result: flammability has been reduced by around two thirds.” Meaning one of the biggest disadvantages of wood is now a thing of the past.

Question to the researcher-cum-real estate agent: Why didn’t anybody think of this earlier?

“Because it’s difficult to integrate lime in the structure of wood. It took years of research to achieve this. Now we’ve come so far that the mineral is stored directly in the cell walls. Without using or creating any toxins.”

Tanja opens the door to the balcony and points to the façade, where the next innovation is hiding. “Every architect wants to use wood on the exterior that doesn’t weather or become discolored over time or is broken down by microorganisms.” But there’s no fooling Mother Nature, she has a mind of her own. At least not until now. Tanja and her team found several ways around this thorny problem. Solution one: Provide the wood with protection against the sun, made of natural melanin. The pigment is extracted from mushrooms that, like humans, protect themselves against the damaging effects of the sun. Solution two: Infuse the surface of the façade with zinc or titanium oxide nanoparticles. “That is incredibly difficult,” says Tanja. Yet her team has succeeded in doing just that, thanks to cellulose microfibers. These fibers form the network structures that enable

the nanoparticles to be evenly distributed in the surface coating — so they can no longer be easily flushed out.

“How do you come up with all these ideas?” Tanja chuckles. “We’re a multidisciplinary team: wood specialists, chemists, physicists, biologists, nanotechs, and material scientists from a dozen different countries. Solutions like these are possible if we think about something long enough.”

“By the way,” Tanja adds, “these minute cellulose fibers can also be used for other purposes. Like spinal disc implants. We’re working on it. But that’s another topic.”

What is so special here? There’s nothing obvious at first glance. Tanja points to the door handle: It’s made of oak and looks elegant. But that’s only a side effect. The researchers have infused it with iodine. The result: germs are killed, the door handles are aseptic. “That might be a solution for hospitals,” says Tanja. The future residents of Vision Wood will now be testing how good this patented idea pans out in everyday life: “We’re going to take swab samples on a regular basis.”

“Yes, and here is the washbasin, made of beech wood.” Beech reacts sensitively to moisture like no other wood. “But we’ve treated the surface with metal oxides that merge with the cell structure of the wood. The result: water is repelled and simply rolls off.” A world first.

A total of ten wood innovations have been integrated into Vision Wood. For Tanja their chances of being accepted by the market one day are excellent. “Wood is making a comeback.” And thanks to the new properties, the sky’s the limit when it comes to potential applications. “Why burn the excess from our forests? There are much better options.”

Making new technologies market-ready requires R&D effort and companies who are not risk-averse. The NEST building (NEST = Next Evolution in Sustainable Building Technologies) opened its doors in 2016 and is helping to accelerate the innovation process. Experimental modules currently include: “The Office of Tomorrow (University of Lucerne (HSLU)), “Sustainable Use of Water and Wastewater” (Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (EAWAG)), “Lightweight Construction” (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETHZ)), and “Regulating the Temperature and the Air” (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology of Lausanne (EPFL)). The experimental residential and work modules enable innovations to be tested under real-world conditions. One of the reasons the Ernst Göhner Foundation is involved in the infrastructure for construction R&D and innovation is because Ernst Göhner was instrumental in advancing the development of residential construction and wood applications in Switzerland (cf. the Foundation’s Bauwerk Parkett AG, EgoKiefer AG holdings).

THE PATH IS THE GOAL

by Christian Schmidt (journalist and book author)

With the architectural concept embodied in its new daycare center, the Weidli Foundation in Stans has chosen an unconventional path to promote the quality of life of the people in its care. At its center: a 700-foot-long ramp.

The new daycare center of the Weidli Stans Foundation opened its doors only a month or so ago. Much in this four-story building is still new for Céline Limacher, but she already masters one of its main features. Remaining seated in her wheelchair, she is able to go from the second floor to the ground floor without having to ask for assistance once or be dependent on technology. “Greeeat!” calls Simon Ackermann, who has been observing Céline. She giggles enthusiastically. He also sets off, but without a wheelchair. Simon is perfectly capable of walking if he can hold on to something. And he keeps his eye on Céline to see how far ahead she is.

The new building of the Weidli Stans Foundation is a building unlike any other; management went with an unusual idea. The four floors of the daycare center are accessible not only by stairs and an elevator, but also by way of a ramp. A ramp conceived of as a meeting place and activity room. The ramp winds its way through the building, like a bobsled run, with lots of curves. All told, the ramp is 700 feet long.

The link between floors — the most important architectural feature? “Yes. Our goal was to ensure that all areas of the building could be reached without having to negotiate any barriers. This idea took precedence over all others,” explains executive manager Markus Knupp. This is in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and its guiding principles of participation and inclusiveness: people with disabilities are to be free to make their own choices, enjoy equal opportunity to the greatest extent possible, and enjoy legal capacity on an equal basis with others in all aspects of life. Accessibility, and thus the ability to move freely, is a key element.

Yet the ramp is much more than just an obstacle-free link. The platforms between the individual floors invite those on the ramp to join in the activities offered in the workshops of the daycare center. Knupp: “This means that everyone can see and hear one another, from the very top of the building to the bottom. In other words, live participation and inclusiveness. Another use is summed up by daycare head Klaus Keller in “encounter through movement”. “For our clients, the way up or down becomes a physical challenge and thus an opportunity to move about. That’s much more interesting than passively taking an elevator.” Also, the team actively uses the ramp as a type of gym. “Our staff seeks to combine exercise with fun and games.” Which also provides an opportunity to chat and make friends. “The ramp enables us to enhance the quality of life in our center.”



Residents with caregivers on the new ramp

Markus Knupp likes the unconventional solution; he's more than a little proud of the center's achievement: "The ramp is unique throughout Switzerland."

Meanwhile, Simon has caught up with pal Céline in her wheelchair. But only because she stopped at one of the many boxes that are secured to the railing of the ramp. Each of the boxes contains a surprise: a doll, a chirping bird, balls, supersoft pieces of fabric, a feather... "That, too, is part of the overall concept," explains Keller. "We utilize every opportunity to enable our clients to be active and stimulate their senses." Now Simon and Céline have arrived at the bottom and disappear in the direction of the cafeteria. Simon's laughter can still be heard in the distance.

Although the ramp has been in use for only a short while, executive manager Knupp can term it an "unqualified success". "Our experience to date has only been positive." It took courage to view the improvement not as an architectural necessity, and treat it as a necessary evil, but rather to do the opposite and embrace it as an opportunity. I.e. to let the new feature take front and center stage and expand it to maximize participation and inclusiveness. Keller adds: "With our new daycare center we can now actually practice the much-touted, yet seldom-lived, guiding principle 'The Path Is the Goal'."

Apart from the daycare center, the Weidli Foundation offers 140 adults with disabilities an assisted living residence and a sheltered workplace and work. During the previous 15 years, the daycare center had been housed in tiny, cramped, and insufficiently equipped makeshift facilities which posed a disadvantage to wheelchair-bound residents. With the new building, the foundation is able to pursue the objective of unimpeded participation and inclusiveness in a striking manner, while satisfying the requirements of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, ratified by Switzerland in 2014. The Ernst Göhner Foundation contributed funding to the construction of the new daycare center in recognition of this effort.

FROM ARTISAN GLAZER'S TO FOUNDATION

"... All of us build the future. Building something is constructive in the broadest sense of the word. And since we seek to preserve the continuity of our work and our places of work, that is why I am establishing my own foundation." These are the words used by Ernst Göhner to describe his vision in the film *Ein Beispiel* ("An Example") produced in 1970 on his life and work.

On June 15, 1957, Ernst Göhner established the family foundation Aabach Oberrisch, named after his estate "Aabach" in Risch on Lake Zug, where he had lived since 1950. In 1960 the Foundation, to which founder Ernst Göhner contributed a significant parcel of stock of Ernst Göhner AG, was entered in the commercial register under the new name of "Aaborn Foundation", and thus was put under the oversight of the Canton of Zug. In 1969 the Foundation was renamed "Ernst Göhner Foundation".

Shortly before his death at the end of 1971, Ernst Göhner sold the core parts of his group of companies to Elektrowatt AG. The Foundation's charter was revised at the same time. In it the founder explicitly established the entrepreneurial character of his foundation.

To this day, the stake in Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd. acquired by Ernst Göhner at the end of the 1960s — subsequently expanded by the Foundation — and the comprehensive real estate portfolio are the essential sources of funding for the grants made by the Ernst Göhner Foundation.

In 2008 the Foundation moved to its new quarters in Zug in the historical Stadlin Villa, built in 1895. It had acquired the villa from the City of Zug and restored it in an elegant manner in line with the villa's cultural heritage. The history of the Stadlin Villa and its owners, and its restoration are documented in a brochure published in 2009. During the traditional August 1st Open House Day organized by the City of Zug, the public has the opportunity to tour the restored villa and its gardens.



Staircase, Stadlin Villa, Zug

Every year the Stadlin Villa is toured by students of the “Haus der Farbe”: it offers an in-service program over six semesters at Zurich’s School of Color and Design, the program being completed with the Swiss federal diploma in Color and Design. The Color and Materials module of this program is taught by Marius Fontana of the renowned restoration firm of fontana & fontana, which was also involved in restoring the villa. Marius Fontana likes to refer to the Stadlin Villa as a “miniature Dolder Grand” and showpiece of 19th century decorative painting. The highlights of his tours of the villa include the original stenciled ceiling paintings and the reconstructed silkscreen wallpapers.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE FROM MADERANERTAL

According to its charter, the purpose of the Maderanertal Youth Fund, established in 1966, is to enable field trips for the school-age kids of the village of Bristen and to support other charitable efforts benefiting young people in the Maderanertal valley (canton of Uri).

The initiative to this end was started by Rudolf Lange, who owned a vacation chalet in the valley. His boyhood friends Ernst Göhner — with Göhner’s Aaborn Foundation —, Albert Junker and Jean Vannini cofounded the fund, each contributing a part of the fund’s assets. In a letter to Ernst Göhner, Lange explained his motivation as follows:

“What has prompted me to do this is the fact that the school-age kids of Maderanertal (village school of Bristen) — whose parents are almost invariably mountain farmers living in precarious circumstances — have never come to know the joy of a field trip, not even to Altdorf [the canton’s main town located ca. 10 miles away].”

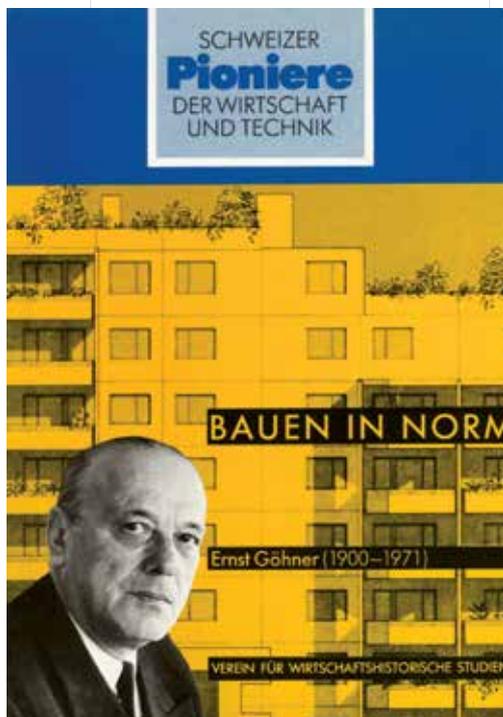
With the funding disbursed by it, the youth fund — which receives the lion’s share of its financial and administrative assistance from the Ernst Göhner Foundation — not only enables field trips but also excursions, ski and sports days, and other school projects.

PREFAB CONSTRUCTION

Ernst Göhner (1900–1971) was a pioneer of the Swiss construction industry. He was adept at adapting new developments engineered abroad to the exigencies of Switzerland. The key impulses provided by Göhner to the Swiss construction industry were rationalization and optimized organization. This essentially led to two innovations: the execution of complex construction projects by general contractors and standardized prefab building elements.

After the Second World War, Göhner co-developed with architect Gottfried Schindler (1904–1990) the SGS or Schindler Göhner System, in which the individual components are prefabricated and then assembled at the construction site. This meant that construction could be completed faster, more efficiently and economically, thus providing for relief in the overheated market created by the housing scarcity of the 1960s and 1970s.

The prefab construction of the 60s and 70s has increasingly become the subject of scientific inquiry for the past couple of years. The Swiss National Scientific Foundation is currently funding a research project of the Institute for the History and Theory of Architecture (gta) of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich entitled “Machines for Living and Workers’ Palace. Mass Housing in the Welfare States and Planned Economies of the 1960s and 1970s.”, which is part of an international project. The subject of the university’s research includes the Sonnhalde residential development in Adlikon constructed by Göhner AG.



Cover illustration of Sigmund Widmer’s publication on Ernst Göhner



A building by Ernst Göhner AG: the Mahmud Mosque, in Zurich

A GÖHNER BUILDING: THE MAHMUD MOSQUE IN ZURICH

The first mosque in Switzerland, the Mahmud Mosque on Forchstrasse in Zurich, was built by Ernst Göhner AG. Since it was located directly across from the Balgrist Evangelical-Reformed Church, the headline run by the morning edition of *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* marking the mosque's opening in 1963 referred to this event as "Where Rooster and Crescent Moon Meet" (in reference to the rooster and crescent moon weather vanes adorning the two buildings).

Back then, the building with its 60-foot-high minaret evoked little in the way of emotion. There were never any objections. Except that the city had relinquished the land in terms of building rights, and the mosque's congregation, constituted as an association, was not compelled to pay any cantonal tax, making for a certain degree of irritation among the state churches. The dedication took place in the presence of then mayor Emil Landolt and the UN secretary general.

The mosque houses a prayer hall with a cupola, along with a residence and a lecture room.

THE (COMPANY) FAMILY

The Göhner Company was founded in 1890 by Gottlieb Göhner, the father of Ernst Göhner, as a family-run business. Later on, various members of the family worked at Ernst Göhner AG, Tufa AG and Bauwerk AG. From 1931 Ernst Göhner's childhood friend and brother-in-law Viktor Kühnlein-Göhner was one of the inner circle of employees who oversaw the transformation of the then glazing company into the Göhner Group. Viktor Kühnlein was general manager of Tür- und Fensterfabrik TUFA AG (a door and window manufacturer located in Altstätten) during the 1940s. And Paul Göhner, one of Ernst Göhner's nephews, was managing director of Bauwerk AG (in St. Margrethen).

For his workforce, Ernst Göhner — by then a self-styled industrialist — had established three major employee welfare foundations already in the 1940s. Göhner is purported to have said the following in this context: "I don't want to stand in front of my people with empty hands should times get rough" (quoted from *Erinnerungen an 25 Jahre Ernst Göhner AG 1946–1971* ("Memories from 25 Years at Ernst Göhner AG 1946–1971") (typescript) by Gaudenz Tschärner, a long-time employee of Ernst Göhner).

In the Foundation's charter Ernst Göhner also provided for gifts to deserving employees of the companies of the Göhner Group and family members. The Göhner-Meritas Foundation, an employer-funded trust with over 400 beneficiaries, was established in 1972 for employees of outstanding merit to supplement their occupational retirement and disability benefits. This foundation made its final disbursements in 2007. The beneficiaries of the Göhner-Meritas Foundation and the retired employees of Göhner Merkur AG get together every two years at the invitation of the Ernst Göhner Foundation for a day's outing. The last event in 2016 took place on Mount Rigi in Central Switzerland.

Gifts to the current total of 29 family members are made under the legal framework provided for family foundations. Support of education and occupational/professional training takes front and center stage upon one's entry into working life and in difficult times. Most of the family beneficiaries live in Switzerland, the others reside in the U.S. The youngest family members are already great grand nieces and nephews of founder Ernst Göhner. The annual get-together of the family beneficiaries took place on June 25, 2016, in the Zug area. A visit was made to the Hammergut farm estate and the Obermühleweid residential development, properties of Seewarte Holding Ltd. in Cham, in addition to the Brickworks Museum in Hagendorn and the Goldau Nature Park and Zoo. The last two have received funding from the Ernst Göhner Foundation on a number of occasions.



The Gottlieb Göhner family shortly after 1900; Ernst Göhner at right with trumpet

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

1890	Founding of the artisan glazer's shop in Zurich-Seefeld by Gottlieb Göhner (1863–1920), the father of Ernst Göhner.
1900/20	February 28, 1900: Ernst Göhner born as the second youngest of six children. 1920: Ernst takes over the shop after his father's death. The sole proprietorship is later transformed into Ernst Göhner AG (publicly listed corporation).
1925/32	Acquisition of TUFA AG (Türen- und Fensterfabrik AG) in Altstätten (from 1962: Ego Werke AG; today: EgoKiefer AG, member of the Arbonia-Forster Group since 2004).
1934	Founding of Holzkarosserien AG (abbreviated: Holka AG). Sale to Th. Willy AG in 1966.
1940	Assumption of general agency for DKW (Auto Union GmbH) in Switzerland and, from 1954, in South Africa by United Car and Diesel Distributors, which subsequently also assumed agency for Daimler-Benz. After World War II: aid in rebuilding Auto Union GmbH in Germany. From 1950/51: significant holding in Auto Union GmbH, sold to Daimler AG (Stuttgart, Germany) in 1958.
1944	Founding of Bauwerk AG in St. Margrethen (wood working/parquet flooring).
1950	Founding of Reederei Zürich AG with Gottlieb Duttweiler and the Federation of Migros Cooperatives. Sale of holding some years later to Migros.
1962	Acquisition of holding in Alpina-Reederei AG of Basel (maritime shipping) with Oerlikon Bühle & Co. (25% stake each). Increase of holding to 49% each. 1988: sale to German Harmstorf Shipping Group.
Beginning of the 1960s	Acquisition of German companies Bartels-Werke GmbH in Langenberg (wood working) and Ibus-Werke GmbH in Lüneburg (manufacture of wood panels).
1969	Acquisition of 40% stake in Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd.
1971	Sale of Ernst Göhner AG, Ego Werke AG, Bauwerk AG, Bartels-Werke GmbH and Ibus-Werke GmbH to Elektrowatt AG. Death of Ernst Göhner on November 24, 1971.

PUBLICATIONS

Selection of books, articles and films on the life and work of Ernst Göhner, produced partly in association with the Ernst Göhner Foundation:

- Dorothee **VÖGELI**: “Man grüsst sich wieder. Das Regensdorfer Problemquartier Sonnhalde erwacht zu neuem Leben” [“People are greeting each another again. Problem child Regensdorf district Sonnhalde is coming back to life”]
- Fabian **FURTER**: “Das gebaute Manifest. Der Fachausschuss Wohnen und sein vergessenes Architektur-Handbuch” [“The constructed manifest. The Expert Committee on Residential Construction and its long-forgotten architecture manual.”]

Both published in: *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, issue no. 247, Oct 22–23, 2016, p. 20 ff.

- Fabian **FURTER** and Patrick **SCHOECK-RITSCHARD**: *Zwischen Konsumtempel und Dorfplatz. Eine Geschichte des Shoppingcenters in der Schweiz* (“Between Consumer Temple and Village Square. Story of the Shopping Center in Switzerland”), Verlag hier+jetzt, Baden, Switzerland, 2014
- Peter **STEIGER** and Hansruedi **MEIER**: “Die Sonnhalde in Adlikon – Entstehungsgeschichte einer Siedlung in Plattenbauweise aus den 70er-Jahren und Ausblick auf das Quartierleben und die Erhaltung der Wohnqualität” (“Sonnhalde in Adlikon — How a Prefabricated Concrete Slab Housing Development Came About during the 1970s. Outlook on Life in the Community and the Preservation of Quality of Life.”), Heimatkundliche Vereinigung Furttal (publisher), *Mitteilungsheft* no. 43, self-published, Regensdorf, Switzerland, 2013
- Fabian **FURTER** and Patrick **SCHOECK-RITSCHARD**: *Göhner wohnen. Wachstumseuphorie und Plattenbau*, (“Göhner Living. Growth Mania and Industrialized Building. The Göhner Housing Developments of the 1960s and 1970s”), Verlag hier+jetzt, Baden, Switzerland 2013
- Reto **NUSSBAUMER** et al.: *Villa Stadlin* (brochure on the current seat of the Foundation), Ernst Göhner Foundation (self-published), Zug, Switzerland, 2009
- Annual reports of the Ernst Göhner Foundation: Volumes 2006–2015, self-published, Zug, Switzerland

- Sigmund **WIDMER**: *Ernst Göhner (1900–1971). Bauen in Norm* (“Ernst Göhner (1900–1971). Building in Standards”), Verein für wirtschaftshistorische Studien (Association for Historical Research in Economics) (publisher), volume 49 in the series *Schweizer Pioniere der Wirtschaft und Technik* (Swiss Pioneers of Business and Technology), self-published, Meilen, Switzerland, 1989/2000 (reprint)
- Alfred A. **HÄSLER**: *Einer muss es tun. Leben und Werk Ernst Göhners* (“Someone has to do it. The life and work of Ernst Göhner”), Verlag Huber, Frauenfeld, Switzerland/Stuttgart, Germany 1981
- **Ein Beispiel** (“An Example”) (the life and work of Ernst Göhner — on the occasion of Ernst Göhner’s 70th birthday, film commissioned by Ernst Göhner AG), directed by: Stanislav Bor, Condor-Film AG, Zurich, Switzerland, 1970
- Franz **FASSBIND**: *Göhner 1890–1960*, brochure on the 70th anniversary of Ernst Göhner AG (publisher), the company started by Ernst Göhner’s father, self-published, Zurich, Switzerland, 1960

