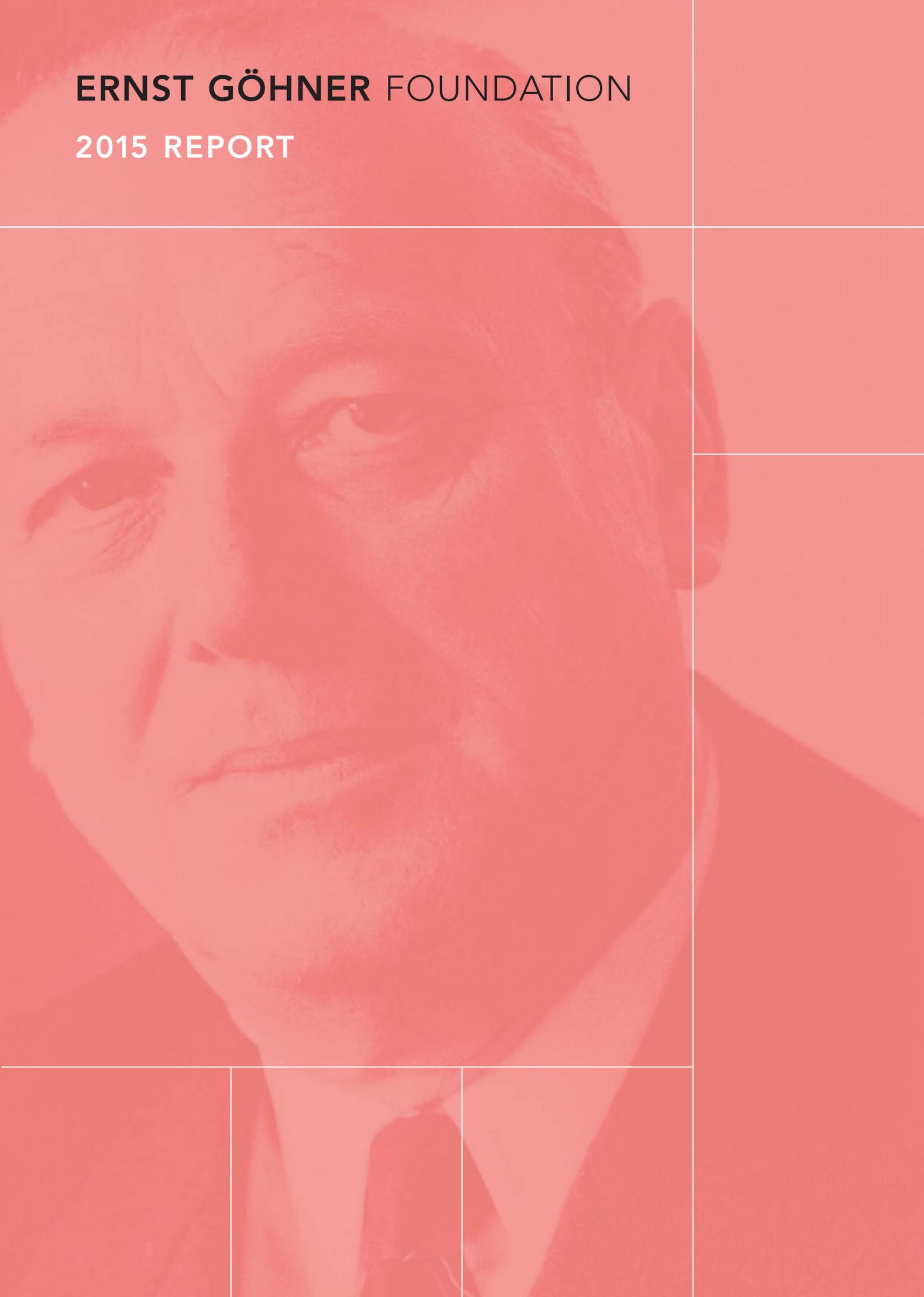


ERNST GÖHNER FOUNDATION

2015 REPORT



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2015 REPORT

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Zug, Switzerland, in April 2016

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

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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 2015, the Foundation supported over 1,400 charitable projects, thus making for an aggregate total of CHF 470 million for some 25,000 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 2015 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)

CHF 470 million for ca. 25,000 projects since the Foundation’s establishment

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 (member)
Mark Furger (member)
Prof. Dr. Thomas Gutzwiller (member)
Dr. Rudolf W. Hug (member)
Fritz Jörg (member)
Isabel Kühnlein Specker (member/representative of family beneficiaries)
Dr. Roger Schmid (member and CEO)

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

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

Dr. Roger Schmid

OFFICE

Maria Arnold (office)
Michaela Gasser (Environment and Social projects)
Sonja Hägeli (Culture projects)
Miriam Müller (accounting)
Dr. Suzanne Schenk (Social, Education & Science projects)
Corinne Linda Sotzek (Culture, notably visual arts)
Doris Stalder (Culture projects, notably music and film)
Lucia Tellenbach (office)

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 126 members. The Ernst Göhner Foundation is represented on the executive board and 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 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. 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. In 2014 CEPS was granted the status of an independent university institute.

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 confirmed in principle. Minor changes were made to the rules for corporate holdings, for example, now enabling majority 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 ca. 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 over 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).



Air and ocean freight of Panalpina (the logo is based on an ink drawing from the 15th century of German artist Peter Vischer the Elder)

ENTREPRENEURIAL INITIATIVE AND CHARITABLE WORK

The Ernst Göhner Foundation's charitable work is sometimes linked to its corporate operations. By the same token, our 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 and led to the realization that making a donation in the form of a relief effort would be a much more valuable contribution.

In one such effort before Christmas 2015, Panalpina chartered an air freighter on behalf of UNICEF to fly 70 tons of life-saving supplies to Bujumbura, the capital of crisis-ridden Burundi in East Africa. In the two years preceding, Panalpina delivered vital medical supplies to Freetown, Sierra Leone, and to Bangui, the capital and largest city of the Central African Republic.

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, thus showcasing the caliber of Switzerland's vocational training system. The Swiss team came in 4th place at the 2015 World Skills in São Paulo, Brazil, making for the best showing by far of all European countries.

Finally, the Ernst Göhner Foundation also fulfills part of its social objective by way of 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 (member)

Dr. Roger Schmid (member)

Valentin Vogt (member)

Dr. Beat Walti (member)

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. 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 2012 include a minor stake (almost 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.

2013 saw the merger of Swiss parquet flooring manufacturer Bauwerk Parkett AG with Norwegian Boen SA, the combined Bauwerk Boen Group figuring among Europe's two leading providers of premium wood flooring. EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. holds a 33% stake in the company. 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 shareholder. In the same year 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 premium watch manufacturers.

2015 saw the sale of CEDES Holding AG, in which EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. 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. The sale was completed in the first quarter of 2016.

To promote networking among its corporate holdings, an event was organized in 2015 for the fifth time to which the members of the board of directors and the executive management boards of these companies were invited. The event took place in Baselland's Böckten at ORIOR Group member Le Patron, the leading Swiss maker of terrines and pâtés and a variety of fresh convenience products, e.g. soups, salads and meat dishes.

As of the end of 2015, EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. held the following significant stakes:

<p>Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd.</p> 	<p>Leading global logistics corporation with 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>CEDES Holding AG</p> 	<p>One of the world's leading manufacturers of light curtains and optoelectric sensors for elevators, escalators, gates and doors based on active infrared technology and intelligent image processing. Acquired: 2007, stake: 40%.</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 AG</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>International leading manufacturer of components and systems for electrical and optical connectivity 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 or precious metal (gold and platinum) for the premium watch segment. Acquired: 2014, stake: 45%.</p>



Regensdorf shopping center, wholly-owned by the Foundation since the beginning of 2016

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 60 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 is withdrawing 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. Except for one property, this withdrawal process has been completed in the U.S. The disposal of the two logistics properties in Stuttgart and Nuremberg, Germany, is scheduled for 2016.

The retail properties are essentially held by way of two partnerships. Together with AXA-Winterthur, Seewarte has a 50% stake in the shopping center constructed by Ernst Göhner AG in Regensdorf at the beginning of the 1970s. Seewarte also holds a 50% stake together with another partner in Vegsimmo Holding Ltd., the owner of various specialty stores in Switzerland. At the beginning of 2016 Seewarte acquired a 100% stake in the shopping center in Regensdorf and in exchange will gradually divest its stake in Vegsimmo Holding Ltd.

Through the end of 2015 a cooperative arrangement existed with the Allreal Group for the management, project development

ORGANIZATION

FOUNDED

2008

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Fritz Jörg (chairman)
Giacomo Balzarini (member)
Mark Furger (member)
Reinhard Giger (member)
Dr. Roger Schmid (member)

STAFF

Thomas Regli (CEO)
Mirko Käppeli (CFO)
Daniel Hübscher (controlling)
Miriam Müller (accounting)
Claudia Uster (accounting)
Carla Vesper (portfolio/construction management)

REGISTERED OFFICE / ADDRESS

Artherstrasse 19, 6300 Zug, Switzerland

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young

WEBSITE

www.seewarte.ch

and execution of new construction and refurbishment projects, the Group acquiring the service business of former subsidiary Hammer Retex AG in 2012. Since 2016 the real estate portfolio is managed by Livit Ltd. The current 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.

During 2015, Seewarte succeeded in further expanding its own real estate portfolio. The two office building refurbishment projects at Nüscherstrasse and Stockerstrasse in Zurich were completed. Work on the rental apartment property developments Riedpark Stage III in Zug (62 units) and Obermühleweid Stage II in Cham (72 units) commenced in 2014; their completion is scheduled for 2016/2017. The acquisition of the Alte Post site in Brugg resolved in 2015 was completed in the first quarter of 2016. Plans have been made to construct offices there for sale to the town for its own administration and to build rental apartments as well.

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 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.

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.



Obermühleweid Stage I, Cham, awarded prize for its exemplary naturalistic landscaping



Nüscherstrasse 24, Zurich, full renovation of the interior and exterior in 2015

FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS

The proceeds from the IPO in 2005 of Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd. were gradually 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 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 2015 the Ernst Göhner Foundation is again making 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.

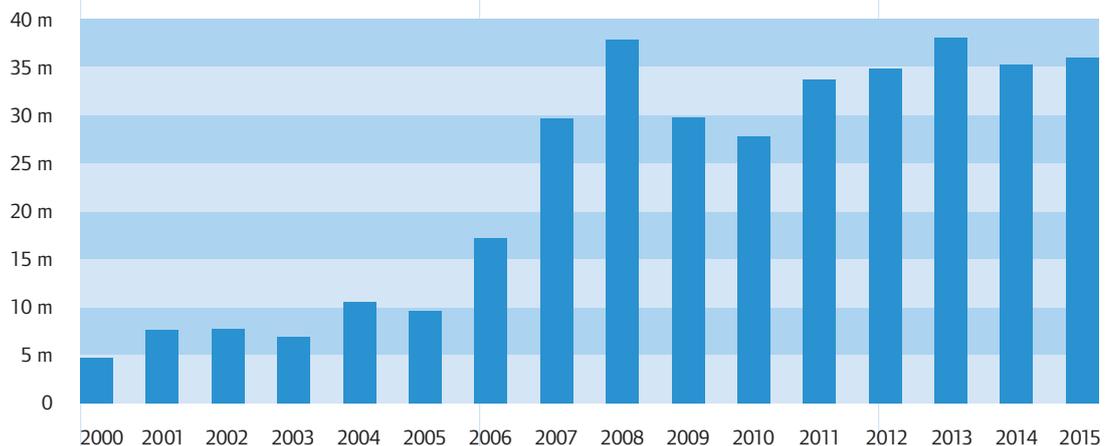
The direct management of the Foundation's financial investments and its engagement in startups is left to specialist banks and management companies that are monitored by the Foundation's committee charged with this task. In administering these investments, the Foundation attaches particular importance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

OUR CHARITABLE WORK

OVER 1,400 PROJECTS

In 2015 the Ernst Göhner Foundation approved funding totaling CHF 36.1 million for 1,451 charitable 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. 25,000 projects with CHF 470 million in assistance. For 2016 the foundation board has appropriated the same budget as in previous years.

Amounts of approved funding 2000–2015 (in CHF)



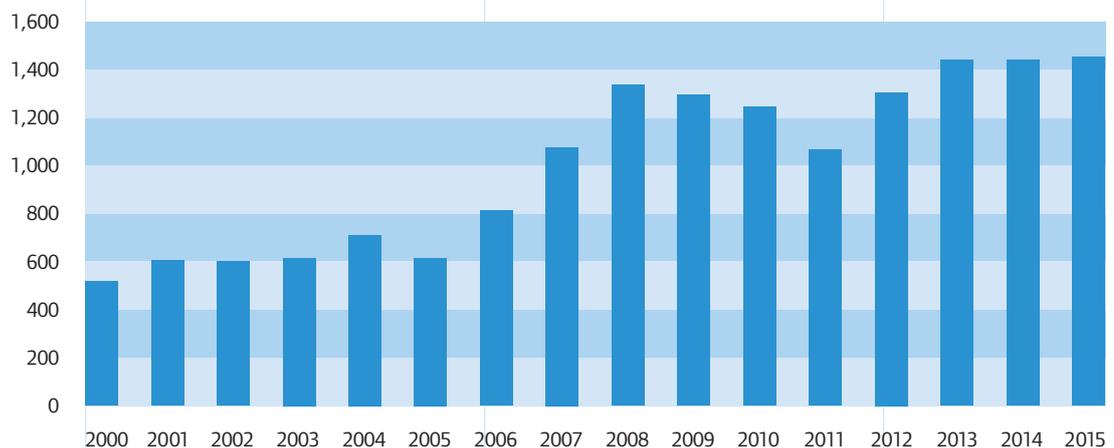
The number of projects for which funding requests are received has increased by 45% over the past ten years; at 2,856 the number of requests in 2015 was the highest ever received, the number of project proposals exceeding the previous-year figure by 1%.

The highest annual growth rates recorded during the past ten years were 20% in 2006 and 15% in 2007. This development was the desirable result of the more active sponsor 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 2015, 2,847 were reviewed, with funding being approved for 1,451 of them, the approval rate thus amounting to 51%. 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.

Number of approved projects 2000–2015

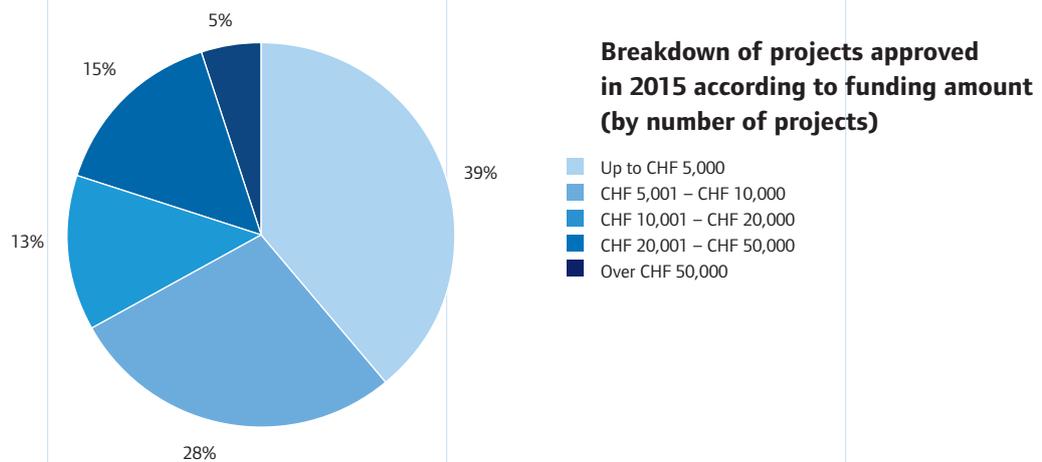


DIVERSITY AND BREADTH OF PROJECTS AND FUNDING DISBURSED

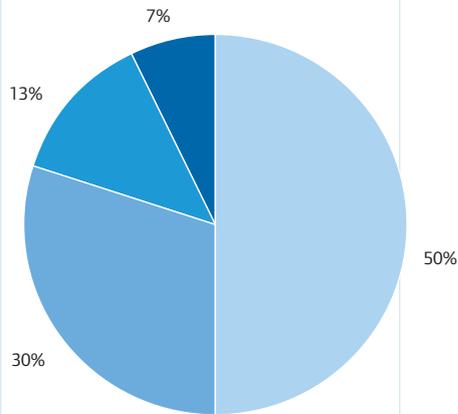
According to the precepts of its charter, the Foundation fosters diversity and breadth as a matter of principle. This is reflected not only in the broad range of various areas supported but also in the varying size of the funding amounts disbursed.

As a consequence, in 2015 39% of all approved projects received funding of up to CHF 5,000, with another 41% receiving between CHF 5,000 and CHF 20,000, and 15% receiving between CHF 20,000 and CHF 50,000, and 5% receiving over CHF 50,000.

If the total amount awarded to these projects is taken as a yardstick, this results in a different picture: of all the funding amounts approved, approx. 51% was accounted for by the group of projects receiving over CHF 50,000 and only 7% by the group of small projects receiving CHF 5,000 or less.



In 2015, 50% of the total funding disbursed went to Culture projects, with 13% going to Education & Science projects, 30% to Social projects, and 7% to Environment projects. The most significant change as compared to the previous year occurred with regard to Social projects, whose share increased from 26% to 30%.



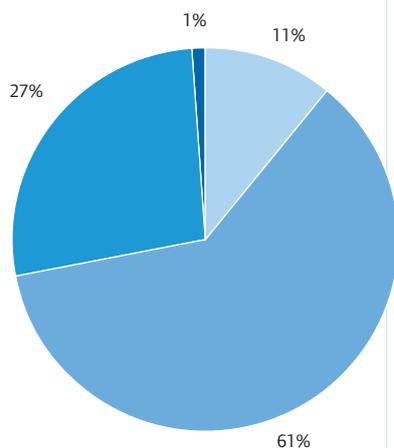
Breakdown of amounts approved in 2015 according to area of funding and support

- 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.

In the past year 99% of all projects approved were in Switzerland — with a distinct focus on the German-speaking area of Switzerland (61%).

11% of the projects were linked to Switzerland as a whole. 27% of the total amount of approved funding went to the French-, Italian- and Romansh-speaking parts of Switzerland (21% to western Switzerland and 6% 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 2015 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 scientific innovation and foster young entrepreneurs at Swiss institutions of higher learning. Since being launched 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 in “kick-start camps”. Extensive use is made of these volunteer support offerings. To date, 234 such events have been organized.

Of the 2,100+ applications received to date from over 20 Swiss institutions of higher learning, 785 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, 403 projects have attracted funding totaling CHF 16 million. This has resulted in the founding of 290 new companies that have succeeded in attracting additional financing in excess of CHF 700 million and creating over 3,000 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 (17%) of those from universities of applied sciences is also notable. Most of the business ideas are ICT, or Information & Communications Technology concepts. 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 scholarship 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
- Youth science lab for Technorama (Swiss Science Center) in Winterthur
- 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

SOZIAL

- "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)
Due to the many years of support by the Ernst Göhner Foundation, "Tischlein deck dich" christened one of its refrigerated trucks "Ernst": it collects donated food and delivers it to the food pantries.
- Construction of student accommodation by the Central Social Assistance Office in Geneva in the *Le Nouveau Prieuré* (The New Priory) project



Snowboarder Gian Sutter chatting with trainer Alex Hüsler

WHERE WORLD CHAMPIONS ARE BORN

by Christian Schmidt (journalist and book author)

The Engelberg Winter Sports High School is a combination of training center and residential community in a monastic setting — with impressive success.

If you can dream it — do it! Gian Sutter sees this slogan each and every day: it features prominently on the wall in the gym of the Engelberg Winter Sports High School where sweat not only smells of sweat but also of the will and ambition to persevere and succeed.

And that's what Gian intends to do. Gian is 16 and has been snowboarding since before he could tie his shoes. Because he has one goal in life: to stand under the Olympic flag with a gold medal around his neck.

That's why he's jumping up and down on the large trampoline — front flip, back flip, double front flip, now with a twist — as if this were the most natural thing in the world. Then he jumps onto some balls to practice his balance, seizes a skateboard and glides into the pipe, grabbing and tweaking, back and forth, sliding over the rails. Now he pops into the office wing to check his mail: ski boots are stacked next to computers, clothes drying racks, and slalom poles as if this was a shared apartment. Gian then heads for the weight room, where he goes through his routine — warm-up with 30 push-ups, 30 right side plank dips, 30 left side plank dips and 50 sit-ups, repeating this three times. Followed by a marathon workout on the weight room equipment. Gian knows it, they all know it: talent is good, and it is important, but it is only the beginning.

The rest is hard work, and that is what the 90 young people at the Engelberg Winter Sports High School do: work brutally hard. "To reach the top you need to complete 10,000 hours of training," says Eskil Läubli, school head and himself previously an active winter athlete. Let's do the math: at 5 hours a day and 200 workout days a year it takes ten years until the body has reached its peak performance level. "To everybody who starts in here I say: 'We can't guarantee that you'll be a world champion someday, that's up to you. But we *can* provide the optimal conditions to enable you to reach your goal.'"

The Engelberg Winter Sports High School — set up as a boarding school cum residential community — is one of three centers in Switzerland that fosters young winter sports talent. Alpine and Nordic skiing are disciplines featured here as are snowboarding, freeskiing and biathlon. Established in 1995, almost three hundred students have been educated and trained at the school. Some of them with considerable success. At the 2014 Winter Olympic Games in Sochi alone eleven participants were Engelberg graduates, including such famous names as Dominique Gisin, Silvan Zurbriggen and 18-year-old Fabian Bösch, world champion freeskier in 2015.

By completing his grueling workout Gian Sutter has done only half of his work for the day. His education is just as important for not every graduate makes it to the Olympics. Besides which, all sports careers come to an end someday, which is why the team at Engelberg already plans for the post-sports career phase. That means: the school provides formal education starting at grade 9, the students having the option of the commercial vocational training program or the college prep program. That is why Gian also has to attend class every day and do his homework. He is unable to stifle his yawn when he thinks of having to hit the books after lunch. The subject matter is as deadly boring as it is complex: a Finance and Law test is on the agenda for 3:30. Together with working out, attending class and studying the students at Engelberg easily rack up 50 to 60 hours a week. Eskil Läubli: "Either they have the stick-to-itiveness to make it, or they're in the wrong place."

The young athletes attend class at the boarding school at the neighboring Engelberg Abbey. At least theoretically. In actuality they are gone most of the time, somewhere in the Alps in winter, and in training camps in New Zealand or Argentina in summer. "It's a constant coming and going", says Läubli. To prevent their classwork from suffering, the students are in contact with the teaching faculty via Skype, they learn from video recordings of class sessions or study with the aid of the Internet. They are accompanied by a teacher when they go on long trips. No school vacations or breaks are provided for in the school's program during which students laze about. "When there is no class we talk about a 'class-free period'," says Läubli. That means that students are constantly encouraged to work on achieving their dream.

No problem for Gian Sutter. Discovered by talent scouts on the slopes of Davos and now at Engelberg for the last two years, he has only one word for the school: "Mega!" And not least because everything in his life is going according to plan. He is completely satisfied with his academic achievements (solid B student), and is successful in his budding sports career. In 2014 he was Swiss Master in his category. In the same year he stood on the podium twice in the World Rookie Tour.

And what is Gian's next goal? "The 2016 Winter Youth Olympics in Lillehammer." Chances of success? "Maybe. But I have to qualify first, and that will be a hard nut to crack." His fiercest opponents are also close friends and classmates: like him they are students at the Engelberg Winter Sports High School.

Before being admitted to the school the young athletes have to pass an aptitude test first. Of the 57 applicants in 2015, only slightly less than half were admitted. All students perform at a high athletic level upon admission. The Engelberg Winter Sports High School is a corporation with a staff of 35 which continues to grow. The Ernst Göhner Foundation is supporting the proposed expansion of the school's capacity and the revamping of its infrastructure and thus takes pride in fostering the athletic (and educational) training of ambitious, talented young people.

OPEN TO NEW THINGS

by Christian Schmidt (journalist and book author)

A third of the cells are empty. Yet the Fahr Abbey is being completely renovated. The prioress is convinced that this Benedictine monastery of nuns founded in 1130 has a future.

The ringing of the bell is greeted with “Come in!” The monastery gate opens, the boundary between two worlds: the noise of the 21st century on the one side, and silence since the year 886 on the other. Inside: the Fahr Abbey on the Limmat. Prioress Irene Gassmann leads us into a room of the former priory for the interview: walls of Swiss stone pine, cassette parquet flooring, ceiling decorated with stuccowork. And the odor of time and permanence. At 50, Prioress Irene is the youngest nun.

Prioress Irene, will there still be a Fahr Abbey in twenty years’ time?

We can’t know what the future will bring. But the abbey is part of our cultural heritage, and it is our job to preserve it. Letting it deteriorate and go to ruin would go against what we stand for. Saint Benedict has tasked us with cherishing beauty and caring for it.

The buildings will still stand, but will they be inhabited by nuns?

I don’t know but I am very curious and look forward to doing my part in shaping the future. I am open to everything that God has in store for us. Who says that the future will be worse? But whatever happens I hope that the Fahr Abbey will remain a spiritual place. People should be able to draw strength from being here and I am confident they will succeed. Otherwise I would hardly be willing to take charge of such a major renovation project. Then I’d say: let those who come after us worry about it.

How do you intend to achieve your goal?

We’re in the middle of a major strategy process. Assisted by specialists, we are looking for re-orientation, a new direction. The Fahr Abbey is more than just the abbey. It also includes a large farm, and a fruit orchard and vineyard, not to mention a restaurant. Until 2013 we also had a women’s agricultural school (*Bäuerinnenschule*); these buildings are currently being renovated, afterwards they will be vacant. What should we do with them? What direction should development take? These questions remain to be answered.

What is your favorite vision?

Hard to say, but I am open to new things. I like thinking in terms of ongoing processes and reacting spontaneously to change. Yet I hardly think that there will someday be an event park or recreation center here. I have found my fulfillment here and I am confident that this place will have the same meaning for others when I am gone.

But you still must have some ideas.

The idea of “living and residing” appeals to me. We already have ten guest rooms, eight more are being created. We want to make them available to women who are looking for solitude or wish to enjoy time



Sisters Andrea Felder, Veronika Odermatt and Daniela Laube in the newly renovated vestment workshop

out for body and soul. They would take part in our daily rhythm, meaning they would also take part in prayer. They would generally stay for a couple of days, but we also have long-term guests in residence. One woman wanted to spend the first year after retirement with us, now she has extended her stay by one year. We don't have any fixed concept. We always seek a personal solution, tailored to the individual and their situation.

So the Fahr Abbey is opening up. The era of the religious order, celibacy, habits and vows to God appears to no longer fit in with the 21st century.

That we live in challenging times is right. But I believe the principle of monastic life still has a future. The Benedictine life is 1,500 years old and has managed to survive all crises to this day. Perhaps twenty or more nuns will no longer be living here in the future, but only five. But a circle of other people with different commitments and varying proximity to the monastery will gather here. They might be women who are entering the second or third phase of their lives and are looking back and asking themselves: Is that all there is?

In the U.S. the New Monasticism movement is gaining ground. Religious and spiritual people are establishing communities but without habits and vows, they are engaged in paid part-time work and they may also marry. Could you imagine that the opening of the Fahr Abbey might go this far? At the moment? No. We were founded as a convent almost 900 years ago, that is our designated purpose and we will abide by it. It would be more conceivable for individual sisters to work on the outside, in the parish or in a school or hospital. I can't perceive any opening of the abbey going beyond this. I believe it crucial that we abide by our profile, particularly in these times.

And that means?

The Order of Saint Benedict came about during the Great Migration Period (also known as the Barbarian Invasions) in the fifth century, during a period of unrest and mass movement. With its principle of stability — also with regard to place — the order consciously offers a counterbalance. Now people are migrating again, in the hundreds of thousands. That is why monasteries are important. They are a calming influence and oasis and provide a sense of stability. We seek to give this *stabilitas* to all seekers and those without a sense of direction, also in the 21st century.

In the area of heritage conservation the Ernst Göhner Foundation is funding some of the renovation, restoration and repurposing costs of publicly accessible cultural landmarks. This is increasingly coming to include abbeys throughout Switzerland. The Fahr Abbey is a place of encounter and hospitality for the entire Limmat Valley, in addition to being a cultural magnet and green oasis. Individual buildings and art objects are of substantial significance in terms of their cultural and historical importance. The Foundation has supported the renovation and repurposing of the following abbeys during the past few years: Capuchin Monasteries at Mels and Wesemlin, Lucerne; Franciscan Monastery in Fribourg; Fischingen Abbey; Saint John's Abbey, Müstair; Saint Avgin's Monastery (former Capuchin monastery), Arth; Disentis Abbey; Wurmsbach Abbey, Bollingen; Saint Catherine's Convent, Wil.



Mentor Helmut Houben with twins Pirithveen and Piraveen in a museum

MIGRATION – INTEGRATION – BRIDGING GENERATIONS

by Christian Schmidt (journalist and book author)

The MUNTERwegs association is proof that there is an elegant and easy solution to seemingly complex issues. For example, the question of how children from foreign countries can be better integrated in their new home.

Hmmm, what's going on there? The couples standing in front of the Museum of Prehistory (and Prehistoric Stories) in Zug make for a striking picture. One of them is a grown-up, the other a child. But they are obviously not parents out with their kids because of the motley ethnic combinations of Europeans with children from Africa or Asia. If there was only one couple, they might be a random parent and child, but there are ten of them ... And the couples seem to know each other quite well, because the little people are holding onto their grown-ups by the hand or are romping around, or are teasing them. A sign of trust.

The riddle is solved at the entrance to the museum, where Miriam Hess is waiting. She's an educationalist who specializes in intercultural education. And also the founder and head of MUNTERwegs. This association caters to the children of migrants, children who need more care and attention than others in their new home. This care and attention is provided by adults in their spare time. As volunteer mentors they spend an average of two afternoons a month with their mentees.

Today the children are not meeting one-on-one with their mentors in the usual fashion but rather all the couples have met for a group get-together. Guided by museum instructor Ursina Zweifel, herself also a MUNTERwegs volunteer, they will be embarking on a journey back in time, but not until Esey has made name tags for them all. Esey, from Eritrea, is Ursina Zweifel's charge. Today he is able to assist Ursina, and he is as proud as he can be.

Now all ten couples are sitting around the life-size figure of a girl who lived in the Stone Age: she is standing in snow in her animal-skin garments. "Alangan had a hard life. Most of the time she went hungry. In winter it was bitter cold. Her only protection from the elements was a tent," tells Ursina Zweifel.

Which greatly surprises Pirithveen and Piraveen. They wouldn't want to live like that! The ten-year-old twins are from Sri Lanka. They were brought to the museum by their mentor Helmut Houben. Before retiring, Houben, 67, worked in the banking sector, now he's an active member of MUNTERwegs and describes his work as a "win-win situation many times over". Being the twins' mentor he has become a father of sorts late in life, without a "delivery date" as it were. With Pirithveen and Piraveen he visits zoos and plays chess. They have also conquered the Swiss Museum of Transport. But the highlight of their exploits together to date was a trip through a car-wash. Houben chuckles.

What does Houben know about where the two come from and their background? A topic he broaches only if Pirithveen and Piraveen aren't within earshot. "They're traumatized." Their father was shot because he belonged to the Tamil minority, an atrocity the twins witnessed first-hand. In 2009 the twins and their mother managed to escape to Switzerland.

Her everyday work as a teacher prompted Miriam Hess to think for the first time about how migrant children could be integrated better in their new home. She looked for solutions and happened upon a project in Sweden. "This gave birth to MUNTERwegs — a wonderful adventure for children and adults alike."

Ursina Zweifel continues her tour of the past. The children make necklaces with shell pendants. Then it's time for a snack. "What did Alangan do when she was hungry? Right. She went hunting." Now the children go into the garden of the museum where there is a target with a bear painted on it that has to be shot with a bow and arrow. Quite a challenge, even for the mentors.

Lucy Rees-Kohler is not exactly enthralled with her own aim, but Serena, her MUNTERwegs "better half", turns out to be a good shot. Serena comes from Italy, her parents run a restaurant and are always busy. The family only speaks Italian at home. Serena, who is painfully shy, has difficulties at school. One day Rees heard of MUNTERwegs and got in touch, "because I had the time and wanted to do something meaningful." It took a while for Serena to learn to trust her, but now they are close.

"The mentor and mentee have to enter into an obligation for eight months," explains Miriam Hess, while Serena draws the bow. Hess acts as a facilitator: MUNTERwegs works with various communities in the Canton of Zug who look for suitable children by going into the schools. Hess then puts the mentors in touch with the children. "I think about who would be a good match for who." The program not only functions well but is a huge success. "Most of the couples continue getting together beyond their initial eight-month obligation."

The journey into the past has now come to an end. Museum instructor Ursina Zweifel says goodbye. And what does Esey, the boy from Eritrea, think about his mentor? Is he satisfied with her? "You bet," says the 11-year-old. "Ursina likes to cook. Me too, so we're frequently cooking something up in the kitchen." And not only that: he can do whatever he likes with Ursina. "That's the best thing."

To date, MUNTERwegs has brought 300 mentor-mentee couples together. Plans are made to expand the program. The Ernst Göhner Foundation not only supports projects for integrating youths in the workplace but also projects that foster the respectful co-existence of different generations and ethnicities.

EXPLOSIVE WORDS

by Christian Schmidt (journalist and book author)

Three writers, one table, one task: jointly creating a theater script — supported, guided and funded by the Stück Labor project.

A text is born. No, it's about to pop out. No, it's a twinkle in the author's eye. No, not even that: actually people are just getting to know one another. Ariane Koch, Dominik Busch and Michael Fehr sit together in a rehearsal room of the Lucerne Theater. The three of them are in their mid-twenties to mid-thirties. Currently hired as writers in residence of the Lucerne Theater, they are tasked with creating an evening at the theater, to premiere in April. They are sitting at a long table on which all sorts of paper are scattered: flat, crumpled up and smoothed out again, shredded bits or whole piles of torn-up bits, but also clean piles of paper. The three sit huddled together at one end as if they were under attack. Along the long sides of the table sit two directors and two actors, at the other end the dramaturge, or theatrical advisor. It's late September 2015, and everybody is collaborating for the first time, for the next two weeks. They're in the middle of tryouts. And to be sure, they're quite trying.

That's why this development program for new Swiss theater texts is called "Stück Labor". "Stück Labor" is a play on words: it can translate as "play lab" and "piece of hard work". Every year the program enables selected writers to develop a play over a season in collaboration with theater professionals, to get to know the theater business and making theater from the inside, up close and personal, and to experience first-hand what happens with their text on stage. The Lucerne and Basel Theaters and the Bern Concert Theater are involved. The premieres take place at the end of the season. Normally one writer in residence works at each of the theaters — this year the Lucerne Theater is experimenting with a team of writers for the first time.

What is going on in the rehearsal room of the Lucerne Theater is a direct reflection of the name of the project: people are laboring away. The authors have brought texts with them: Dominik Busch's text is on commodities trading, but he isn't quite sure yet whether there will be monologues or dialogues. "Maybe there'll only be dream sequences." Ariane Koch has written text snippets on the topic of "all you can eat". In other words on everything that is washing up in her at the moment, including stories about a magician, a lion and the ocean engulfing people. Michael Fehr has brought along various stories, none of which have been written specifically for the theater, but which all are suitable for telling in the theater, including the story of a student who manages to recover her lost virginity.

These texts now lie on the table, having been perused many times, often passed around, just as often criticized, praised, put away and then retrieved. All bear the corrections of a swift hand.



Writer Ariane Koch, director Franz-Xaver Mayr, dramaturge Erik Altorfer, and writers Michael Fehr and Dominik Busch engaged in discussion

“Have we read the dialogue about Africa?”

“Yes, but we haven’t discussed it at length.”

“We continued with the airplane thingamajig.”

“Is it engaging enough?”

“I’m for the student.”

“Do you have the new version?”

“Don’t know.”

“Let’s get down to business: what do we start with?”

Yes, what to begin with? There is to be a public rehearsal for the first time this evening: for the first time an audience will be listening and watching. And it is still not clear which texts will be used. Difficult situation.

Then a decision is made: three texts but they aren’t to be presented in succession. On the contrary. Which is why the pages are cut and torn apart into individual sentences and sections, creating a text jumble. Then everything is recombined: the actors stand on stage, pick out a slip of paper, and present the text on it. An amalgam of Koch/Fehr/Busch is created, as explosive as a mixture of saltpeter, charcoal and sulfur. The audience enjoys this radical deconstruction of the writers’ work. Thirty have shown up, more than expected. Including Heike Dürscheid, the head of the project. She’s a freelance drama advisor, lecturer and mentor, and supports budding writers with workshops and coaching. She networks and organizes.

Dürscheid characterizes the Stück Labor project as an “excellent opportunity for Swiss writers.” All of them already have some experience, but it is the collaboration with renowned theatrical and literary advisors — in Lucerne: Erik Altorfer — that enables them to advance further. Equally important is the joint analysis and dissection of the texts in the course of the workshops offered by the Stück Labor project, an intensive phase of collaboration from which the writers benefit immensely.

The actual rehearsals begin two months before the premiere. Until then there is still time for Koch, Busch and Fehr to experiment. Maybe a collaborative writing process might evolve, “Even though no one really believes this will happen,” says Dominik Busch.

Whether the result of this collaborative effort can be called a “play” at the end of the day is still debatable. Perhaps there will only be fragments as presented this evening, and only the setting, currently a hotel lobby, will be the link that ties the whole thing together. Or, as Michael Fehr reckons, the theater evening will last only a couple of minutes, and the three of them will perform a single word each. Or the whole thing can go down in a completely different way and the performance will last all night. “Keeping everything open and up in the air is more difficult than having a clear-cut program,” says Ariane Koch. “But also more promising.”

Theaters are always looking for contemporary pieces, and there are lots of talented writers in Switzerland. The Stück Labor project initiated by the Basel Theater affords writers who have less than three premieres under their belt the opportunity to become immersed in a working theater as a writer in residence for a season. Since the 2011/2012 season, 12 plays — or three a year — have been premiered, penned by Melinda Nadj Abonji, Michèle Roten and Gabriel Vetter, and others. During the 2015/2016 season Philipp Heule has been working at the Basel Theater, Elia Rediger at the Bern Concert Theater, and the writer team Ariane Koch, Dominik Busch and Michael Fehr at the Lucerne Theater. The Ernst Göhner Foundation is facilitating this project in concert with the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia, the Migros Culture Percentage, the Landis & Gyr Foundation, and the Prof. Otto Beisheim Foundation.

FROM ARTISAN GLAZER'S TO FOUNDATION

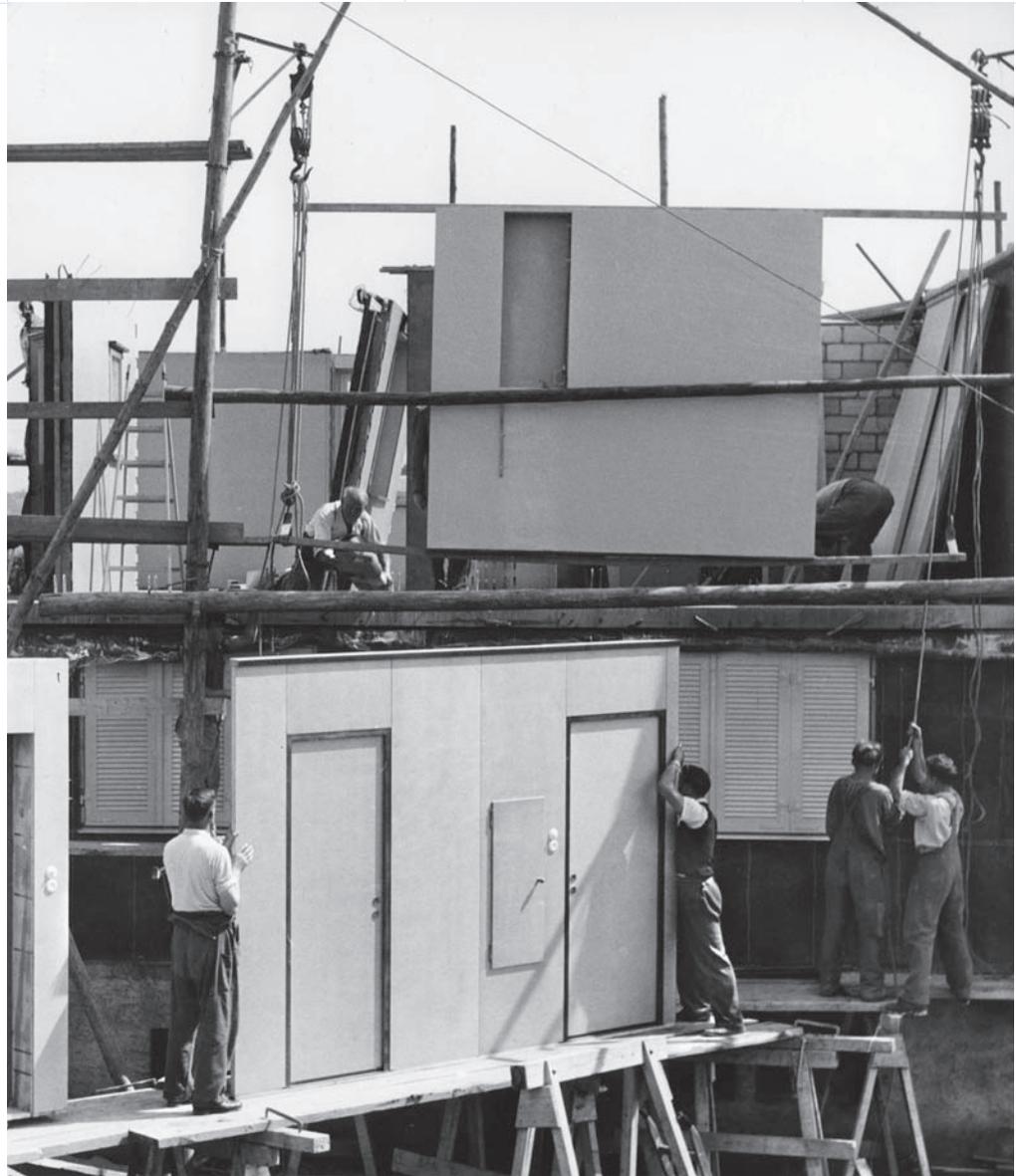
"... All of us build the future. Building something is constructive in the broadest sense of the word. And since we seek to preserve the continuity of our work and our places of work, that is why I am establishing my own foundation." These are the words used by Ernst Göhner to describe his vision in 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 — expanded later on 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 120-year-old historical Stadlin Villa. It 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.

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.



Göhner building constructed using prefab elements, 1950s

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 been 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.



Promotional brochure for a Göhner prefab modular kitchen in the 1950s in Lucerne

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 — established three major employee welfare foundations already in the 1940s. He 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, an employee of many years 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. For employees of outstanding merit Ernst Göhner had the Göhner-Meritas Foundation, an employer-funded trust with over 400 beneficiaries, established in 1972 to supplement 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.

Advertisement for the
carpenter's shop, 1925



Ernst Göhner giving a speech at the Göhner 70th Anniversary Celebration (1890 –1960) on October 28, 1960, in the Kongresshaus Zürich

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 on June 27, 2015, in Neuhausen am Rheinfall marked the 125th anniversary of the founding of the glazing company by Gottlieb Göhner (father of founder Ernst Göhner) in Zurich, which was taken over by Ernst Göhner in 1920.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

1890	Founding of the artisan glazing 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.
1925/32	Acquisition of TUFA AG (Türen- und Fensterfabrik AG) in Altstätten (from 1962: Ego Werke AG; today: EgoKiefer AG, member of 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) 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 Bührlé & Co. (25% share 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 in part in association with the Ernst Göhner Foundation:

- Fabian **FURTER** and Patrick **SCHOECK-RITSCHARD**: *Zwischen Konsumtempel und Dorfplatz. Eine Geschichte des Shoppingcenters in der Schweiz* ("Between Consumer Temple and Village Square. A 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 and 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"), hier+jetzt Verlag, Baden, Switzerland 2013
- Reto **NUSSBAUMER** et al.: *Villa Stadlin* (brochure on the current seat of the Foundation), Ernst Göhner Stiftung (self-published), Zug, Switzerland, 2009
- **ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE ERNST GÖHNER FOUNDATION**: 2006–2014, self-published, Zug
- 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

