

# ERNST GÖHNER FOUNDATION

## 2013 REPORT

# CONTENTS

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Zug, Switzerland, in April 2014

For more information on the Foundation, please consult [www.ernst-goehner-stiftung.ch](http://www.ernst-goehner-stiftung.ch).

## PREFACE AND A FEW FACTS & FIGURES

4

## OUR INVESTMENTS

6

Strategy and Organization

6

EGS Beteiligungen Ltd.

8

The Globus Stores Ltd.

11

Seewarte Holding Ltd.

12

Ernst Göhner and “The City of Tomorrow”

15

Financial Investments

19

## OUR CHARITABLE WORK

20

Over 1,400 Projects

20

Diversity and Breadth

22

The Most Significant Projects

24

1 Man, 7,500 Letters

26

Karaoke with Ella Fitzgerald

30

Digital Zoom into the Past

33

## FROM ARTISAN GLASS SHOP TO FOUNDATION

36

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 traditionally liberal foundation laws 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.

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. In 2013, there were approximately 13,000 charitable foundations in Switzerland. Most of them 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 of foundations.

The total amount of capital invested in charitable foundations in Switzerland is estimated at ca. CHF 70 billion, with annual funding disbursements estimated at between CHF 1 and 2 billion. According to the EU Commission, the approx. 110,000 charitable foundations in the EU member states have combined capital assets of at least EUR 350 billion. Germany, which in Europe along with Spain, Sweden, Romania and Hungary has the largest number of foundations, is estimated to have as many foundations as Switzerland, with assets totaling CHF 80 billion and disbursed funding of almost CHF 4 billion. The U.S. has over 60,000 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 of CHF 38 million, the Foundation supported more than 1,400 charitable projects in 2013. In so doing, it has disbursed almost CHF 400 million for approximately 22,000 projects since its founding. According to its charter, one of the Foundation’s further purposes is that of a family foundation. As of the end of 2013 the Foundation’s family beneficiaries numbered 29.

## ERNST GÖHNER FOUNDATION

**FOUNDER** Ernst Göhner (1900–1971)

**PROFILE** Foundation with a corporate and charitable as well as a family foundation purpose

**CORPORATE HOLDINGS** Sectors: construction supply industry, energy, foodstuffs, logistics, financial services, manufacturing, fashion clothing retailing, and real estate

**AREAS OF FUNDING & SUPPORT** Culture, Environment, Social, and Education & Science (“Social” including former employees of Göhner companies)

**COMBINED CHARITABLE FUNDING & SUPPORT** CHF 400 million for 22,000 projects since the Foundation’s establishment

**REGISTERED OFFICE / ADDRESS** Artherstrasse 19, 6301 Zug, Switzerland

**WEBSITE**  
www.ernst-goehner-stiftung.ch

## FOUNDATION BODIES

### FOUNDATION BOARD

Dr. Beat Walti (chairman)  
Kristian Hallström (vice-chairman)  
Mark Furger (member)  
Prof. Dr. Thomas Gutzwiller (member)  
Dr. Rudolf W. Hug (member)  
Fritz Jörg (member)  
Isabel Kühnlein Specker (member/  
representative of the family beneficiaries)  
Dr. Roger Schmid (member)  
Dr. Franziska Widmer Müller (member)

### 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

### STAFF

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

### AUDITORS

Ernst & Young

### REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Regulatory Board for Occupational Pension Plans and Foundations of Central Switzerland

## SWISSFOUNDATIONS

SwissFoundations ([www.swissfoundations.ch](http://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 over 100 members. The Ernst Göhner Foundation is represented on the 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. The most recent revised and supplemented edition, *Swiss Foundation Code 2009*, published in 2008, contains a commentary section. In its Foundation Governance series SwissFoundations has published various 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) at 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.

# OUR INVESTMENTS

## STRATEGY AND ORGANIZATION

Pursuant to its charter, the Ernst Göhner Foundation is tasked with managing its assets in an entrepreneurial manner. Accordingly, 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 exercises 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 tasks.

The Foundation's overall strategy is regularly subjected to a review in terms of financial management and the use of financial resources, the last review taking place in 2012. It showed that the Foundation's present strategy could be confirmed in principle. Only the Foundation's financial investments were restructured due to uncertainty pertaining to general economic trends and the performance of financial markets.

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 stake in Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd. and the financial investments are held directly by the Foundation and managed by it.

The members of the board of directors of both affiliates are foundation board members for the most part, and are presided over by a board member. Both bodies are augmented by external independent board members possessing the requisite expertise, professional experience and network of connections.



At 46% the stake in Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd. continues to be the Foundation's most significant corporate holding. The Panalpina Group with its international services in air and ocean freight and contract logistics and ca. 16,000-strong workforce is one of the world's largest logistics companies.

Air freight of Panalpina (Boeing 747-8F)

Today 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.

## 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 frequently engage in charitable work. One example of this is when Panalpina flew a Boeing 747-8 jet airliner containing urgently needed relief supplies to Bangui, the capital of the crisis-ridden Central African Republic, shortly before Christmas. The idea for this came about while planning the traditional Christmas gifts for customers and staff and led to the conclusion that making a donation in the form of a relief effort would be a more valuable contribution. The cargo containing approx. 100 tons of UNICEF relief included hospital supplies and equipment, medicine, clothing, tents, mattresses, mosquito nets, blankets, water containers, cooking equipment and soap.

In view of the many Swiss companies operating at the international level, part of the Foundation's work also involves the provision of support to Swiss and German schools abroad in infrastructure projects or the payment of Swiss teachers and instructors. The management members of such companies and their families depend on these schools during their assignments abroad. There are currently 17 Swiss schools located in various regions throughout the world. They are supported by CHF 20 million in federal funding annually, which covers ca. 25–30% of their total expenses. In 2013 funding went to the Swiss school in Rome for refurbishing its science lab.

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 highly successful at these international events, including WorldSkills in Leipzig in 2013, at which 39 young Swiss professionals took home a total of 17 medals. With this decisive showing Switzerland came in second place after South Korea in the nations ranking, underscoring once again the excellence of Switzerland's vocational education system. In 2014 the Ernst Göhner Foundation will be supporting the WorldSkills competition in Bern.

## EGS BETEILIGUNGEN LTD. THE FOUNDATION'S COMPANIES

A significant part of the Foundation's assets is invested in stakes in private and listed companies domiciled 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.

The Foundation's corporate holdings generally extend to qualified minority stakes, although majority stakes are not discounted out of hand. 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 by the Foundation's representatives.

The management of the existing portfolio and its continued enhancement are the task of EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. 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 goals.

Founded in 2009 and domiciled in Zurich, EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Ernst Göhner Foundation. Through a capital increase — subscribed fully by the Foundation — it acquired the Foundation's corporate holdings as contributions in kind, with the exception of Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd. and the 5.8% stake in Wasserwerke Zug AG.

EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. invests in established Swiss medium-sized companies with sales revenues in excess of CHF 50 million and a proven business model and track record, and strong, persuasive management. This enables growth and buyout projects to be financed. Other investment criteria include the companies' favorable prospects for the future, strong market position and international markets. EGS Beteiligungen Ltd.'s objective is to build a portfolio of holdings in ten to fifteen companies.

### ORGANIZATION

#### FOUNDED

2009

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Prof. Dr. Thomas A. 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)

#### REGISTERED OFFICE / ADDRESS

Dufourstrasse 31, 8008 Zurich, Switzerland

#### AUDITORS

Ernst & Young

#### WEBSITE

[www.egs-beteiligungen.ch](http://www.egs-beteiligungen.ch)

EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. acquired its first corporate holdings in 2009, including Bauwerk Parkett AG. Founded 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, and in 2012 in e-bike pioneer Biketec AG (40%) and Orior Holding Ltd. (10%). Other acquisitions since 2012 include a minor stake (3%) 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 to become the leading provider of parquet flooring in the premium segment. Since this time the combined Bauwerk-Boen Group has risen to become the second largest player in the parquet flooring market. EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. now holds a 32% stake in the company. During the period under review acquisition of a controlling interest in Biketec AG was initiated and fashion clothing retail chain Schild AG was sold to The Globus Stores Ltd., which operates a chain of department stores in Switzerland and is a member of the Federation of Migros Cooperatives. Both transactions will be completed at the beginning of 2014.

To promote networking among the corporate holdings an event was organized in 2013 for the third time to which the members of the board of directors and the executive management boards of these companies were invited. This year's event was hosted by Schild AG and was appropriately tagged "Dress for Success".



Sale of fashion clothing retail chain Schild, 2013/2014

As of the end of 2013, EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. and the Ernst Göhner Foundation held the following significant stakes:

COMPANY	SECTOR	ACQUIRED	STAKE
Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd.	Global logistics corporation	1969	46
Wasserwerke Zug AG	Utility company supplying the Zug area	1988	10
FAES Finanz AG	Module construction, development and production of slitting and rewinding machinery for film products	2005	49
Polygena Ltd.	Investment company with a portfolio of Swiss industrial SMEs	2007	46
CEDES Holding AG	Optoelectronic sensors for elevator and escalator systems and door and gate facilities	2007	40
BioMedInvest AG II	Investment company with a portfolio of Swiss startups (life sciences)	2007	23
ESPROS Holding AG	Optoelectronic microprocessors	2009	25
Bauwerk Holding AG	Parquet wood flooring	2009	32
Biella-Neher Holding Ltd.	Development and manufacture of office supplies	2010	24
Pontius Ltd. (Schild AG)	Fashion clothing retail chain	2010	40
Biketec AG	Development and manufacture of electric bicycles (The Flyer)	2012	40
Orior Holding Ltd.	Premium food group, specializing in fresh convenience food and refined meat products, including the Rapelli and Ticinella brands	2012	10
Huber+Suhner Ltd.	Electronic and fiber optic components and system solutions	2012	3

## THE GLOBUS STORES LTD. A FORMER HOLDING

Back in 1984, when the Ernst Göhner Foundation acquired a 5% stake in The Globe Stores Ltd. (Magazine zum Globus AG), this listed company with sales of CHF 1 billion and over 5,000 employees was already one of Switzerland's leading department stores. Apart from department store chain Globus and discount chain ABM (Au Bon Marché), launched in 1956, fashion clothing retailer Herren Globus and furnishing retail chain Interio were also members. At that time the group of majority stockholders consisted of the founder families Mahler and Bitterli, Weidmann Holding AG and Swiss Bank Corporation. Hansa AG, founded by Hans von Opel, and Anova AG, owned by Stephan Schmidheiny, subsequently joined the stockholder group.

During the second half of the 1980s Globus entered the mail order business, and the specialty office supplies market under the name of Globus Office World. Come the 1990s, the entire industry had to contend with a deteriorating economic climate and its negative impact on consumer confidence. In the Globus Group, ABM was most hard-hit by this development. The mail order business also didn't fare as expected and was disposed of by way of a management buyout. In 1996/1997 Globus recorded the first ever significant loss in its history, the lion's share of this being attributable to ABM.

In 1994 negotiations were initiated to find a buyer for ABM. Although the talks with department store chain EPA proved unsuccessful, the negotiations with the Federation of Migros Cooperatives pertaining to the sale of the entire Globus Group took on concrete form. In 1997 Migros acquired 54% of the stock from the Globus majority shareholders, of which 8% was accounted for by the Ernst Göhner Foundation. After this acquisition was approved by the Swiss Competition Commission, the Federation of Migros Cooperatives submitted a public buyback offer to the shareholders for all the shares in their possession, corresponding to a corporate value in excess of CHF 700 million.

In 2013 The Globus Stores Ltd. also acquired fashion clothing retail chain Schild AG, in which EGS Beteiligungen Ltd. had held a 40% stake since 2010. Schild AG operates 31 fashion clothing stores, 21 brand stores and 2 outlets, all located throughout Switzerland, with a staff of approx. 730. In so doing, The Globus Stores Ltd. has established itself as Switzerland's largest retailer by far in the mid-range and premium fashion and clothing segment.

**SEEWARTE HOLDING LTD.**  
**THE FOUNDATION'S REAL ESTATE PROPERTY**

The second pillar of the Foundation's asset investments is formed by the real estate pooled in the Seewarte Group. The Group's diversified portfolio includes approximately 70 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, manner of utilization, size and age of the properties. Investment is made directly in residential and commercial properties in cities (and their catchment area) providing for favorable economic prospects and a good infrastructure.

**ORGANIZATION**

**FOUNDED**  
2008

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Fritz Jörg (chairman)
- Mark Furger (member)
- Reinhard Giger (member)
- Kristian Hallström (member)
- Dr. Roger Schmid (member)

**STAFF**

- Thomas Regli (CEO)
- Mirko Käppeli (CFO)
- Carla Veser (portfolio / construction management)
- Daniel Hübscher (controlling)
- Claudia Uster (accounting)

**REGISTERED OFFICE / ADDRESS**

Artherstrasse 19, 6301 Zug, Switzerland

**AUDITORS**

Ernst & Young

**WEBSITE**

www.seewarte.ch



Last property to be sold in Canada (Ontario Street)

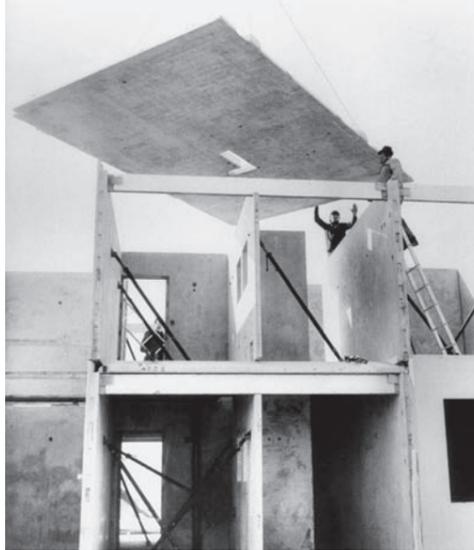
The emphasis of real estate investment lies in residential properties located in the economic areas of Zurich and Zug. Investment is also done in logistics properties located in southern Germany. Seewarte is withdrawing from North America via staggered sales of individual properties in keeping with the respective market situation. 2013 saw the disposal of the last property in Canada. The withdrawal process is still on-going in the U.S.

The diversification of the real estate portfolio in terms of retail trade properties is done by way of two partnership arrangements. 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.

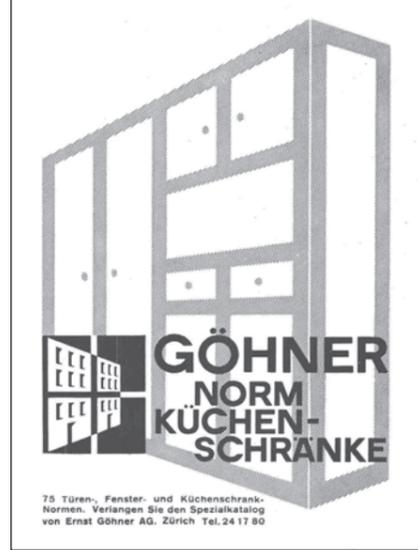
A close cooperative arrangement exists with the Allreal Group for the management, project development and execution of new construction and refurbishment projects, the Group acquiring the service business of former subsidiary Hammer Retex AG in 2012. This enables Seewarte to focus fully on its core business as a real estate investment company.

During 2013, Seewarte moved forward with the expansion of its real estate property portfolio. It added two new items, a business property in Zurich and a residential property in Thalwil, and completed five new builds. Two other new build projects are still in the planning stage. The refurbishment of the two housing developments located in Regensdorf and in Spreitenbach was completed in 2013, providing for over 100 apartment units. The refurbishment of the office building at Nüscherstrasse in Zurich and the Regensdorf shopping center, both commenced in 2013, will be completed in 2014. Plans have been made to refurbish various other residential properties. Apart from the sale of a number of properties in North America, 26 single-family row houses in Niederuster and a business property located in Cham were divested in 2013 in the course of a move to streamline Seewarte's portfolio.

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 — and the two logistics buildings in Germany are heated and cooled using geothermal heat.



Göhner building constructed using prefab elements in Volketswil, 1966



Advertisement for modular kitchens in *Schweizerische Bauzeitung* (a trade journal of the Swiss construction industry), 1945

## 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 contingencies 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, this providing for relief in the overheated market created by the housing scarcity of the 1960s and 1970s.

## ERNST GÖHNER AND “THE CITY OF TOMORROW” THE REGENSDORF CENTER TURNS 40

by Fabian Furter (historian)

### RISK-DIVERSE PARTNER FOUND

Ernst Göhner AG daringly took on a special project at the end of the 1960s: it stepped up to the plate and offered its services to the municipality of Regensdorf as an investor and general contractor for building the proposed village center. What had remained pure utopia in the form of a plaster mockup in many places became reality in the Furt Valley, thanks to Ernst Göhner. He was the only bidder who promised to complete the entire complex in a single construction phase. Witnesses of those days remember how Ernst Göhner invested large amounts of his own private assets in the project.

In 1973 the grand opening took place with a big village festival. Regensdorf had its high-rises, a conference hotel with an indoor pool, and one of the first shopping centers in Switzerland, and trade journal *Schweizerische Bauzeitung* euphorically gushed about the “city of tomorrow”. For the Ernst Göhner Foundation this marked the beginning of its commitment as an investor in the Regensdorf Center, a commitment that has endured to the present day.

### A CHILD OF HIS TIMES

The budding ideas for this mammoth undertaking go back to the 1950s. In 1962 the village council earmarked funding for an economic feasibility study. One year later 90% of those surveyed in an opinion poll indicated that they were generally in favor of the project to develop the village center. Regensdorf was to get a center that world had never seen. This village community was in the midst of a massive growth phase. Between 1950 and 1960 its population grew from 2,100 to 5,000, and the trend remained unabated. By 1970 another 3,500 had moved to Regensdorf. Within the space of a generation this rural village was transformed into a town.

The time for creating a town center seemed right. This idea was also spurred by regional development studies. The master plan for the Furt Valley published in 1965 projected a population of 40,000 for Regensdorf come 2000, when the final expansion phase was scheduled to be completed (to be sure, the current population is slightly less than 17,000). A site was to be created in the then disparate community that was not

only to serve living and value creation needs but, first and foremost, function as a place where people meet.

Historical town and village centers generally need decades to develop. In Regensdorf a planning team was to solve this challenge within the space of a couple of months. The belief that a center like this would work was in keeping with the spirit of the times. Anything seemed possible, the rebuilt cities of post-war Germany were proof positive: in Hamburg, Frankfurt or Kassel new city centers were designed from scratch on the drawing board, and urban centers that had survived the war unscathed were overhauled. So why not in the metropolitan area of Zurich?

### PRIVATE SECTOR CONTRACTOR MAKES PUBLIC BUILDINGS A REALITY

In 1968 the village council more or less unanimously approved the contract with Ernst Göhner AG to construct the new center. Göhner purchased most of the site measuring slightly over 22 acres, or ca. 968,800 sq.ft., from the local authority and committed to implementing the proposed regional planning program developed for the village. This also included public facilities like the indoor pool and the municipal hall. The municipality bought into the project in fixed amounts and in so doing secured its use of these facilities free of charge by way of easements. This project appeared to be a win-win for both sides.

Göhner now commissioned the Zurich architect firm of Klemenz & Flubacher with executing the project. Execution was based on the reference model approved by the village council. This architect firm, which has since faded into obscurity, specialized in the new shopping center projects of the 1960s and was also involved in the construction of the center in Volketswil (also on behalf of Ernst Göhner AG) and the city center in Dübendorf.

### AMERICANIZATION AND CRISIS

Innovative restaurant entrepreneur Ueli Prager soon became involved in the project and with his Mövenpick Group took on the Holiday Inn hotel under an American franchise model. Apart from 250 beds the hotel complex also included a bowling alley, a pub, restaurants, event facilities and the aforementioned indoor pool. Prager found in Ernst Göhner a promoter of his business endeavors right from the beginning, Göhner supporting him already in 1948 in the construction of his first Mövenpick no-wait restaurant in Zurich-based Claridenhof (constructed by Ernst Göhner AG). It stood to reason that Prager, now long since a major business player, also became involved in Göhner's project.



Regensdorf Center, expansion and facelift, 2013/2014

The grand opening of the Regensdorf Center in the fall of 1973 unluckily coincided with the oil shock and the economic crisis that followed. One knock-on effect of this was that the center was never built as envisioned in the cantonal structure plan and ultimately remained uncompleted. A town hall and a church parish center were to have been constructed during a subsequent construction phase, yet these buildings were never realized.

### CONTINUED BUILDING

Of the various urban functions of the Regensdorf Center, shopping gradually gained the upper hand. The retail space of the shopping mall was expanded by ca. 97,000 sq.ft. in two phases in 1999 and 2013/2014, causing it to double in size, whereas the public facilities originally planned were constructed elsewhere or not at all. Nevertheless the center functions well and is equipped to meet the next lifecycle head on.

### EXPANSION OF THE REGENSDORF CENTER

In the modernization that took place in 2013/2014, the retail space was expanded by 41,000 sq.ft., corresponding to an increase of over 20% to ca. 222,800 sq.ft., making the center one of the largest shopping malls in Switzerland. For the sake of comparison: the Glatt Center, Switzerland's largest shopping center in terms of sales, has a retail space of ca. 474,000 sq.ft. With its 45 specialty stores, the Regensdorf Center's shopping facilities — including Migros, Coop and Denner — is comprehensive. A large portion of the new retail space is being used by Migros to expand its existing leased premises and for opening a new Alnatura Bio-Supermarkt, a superstore for organic foods, the second store of its kind in Switzerland.

Apart from being extended the center is also undergoing a facelift. Thanks to a new design the indoor space is to become quieter, lighter and more pleasant and structured, and the showcasing of the individual stores improved. On the outside the entrances are to be made more distinct. To mark the occasion of the re-opening planned for the end of 2014, a brochure on the history of this shopping center penned by Fabian Furter and Patrick Schoeck is being published by hier+jetzt Verlag. With the financial support of the Ernst Göhner Foundation in 2012/2013, the two authors developed the traveling exhibition "Göhner Living. The Prefabricated Concrete Slab Housing Developments of Ernst Göhner AG between Boom and Oil Crisis" and also published "Growth Mania and Industrialized Building. The Göhner Housing Developments of the 1960s and 1970s".

### FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS

The proceeds from the IPO in 2005 of Panalpina World Transport (Holding) Ltd. have gradually been channeled into financial investments. The growth target of the two other investment categories — corporate holdings and real estate — is financed from free cash flow and financial investments. In so doing, the financial investment strategy has been brought in line with the overall allocation of the Foundation's assets.

During 2013, the investment strategy was adapted in concert with external specialists on the basis of the proposed continued growth of Foundation's two affiliates and the uncertainty abounding with regard to general economic trends and financial markets.

Since the preservation of value takes front and center stage in the Foundation's investment strategy, risk has been further minimized by way of further diversification within the existing asset classes and by including other asset classes, hedging foreign currencies, and increasing the share of liquid assets by reducing the proportion of stock held. Investment is made only in liquid securities and with counterparties with an excellent credit rating.

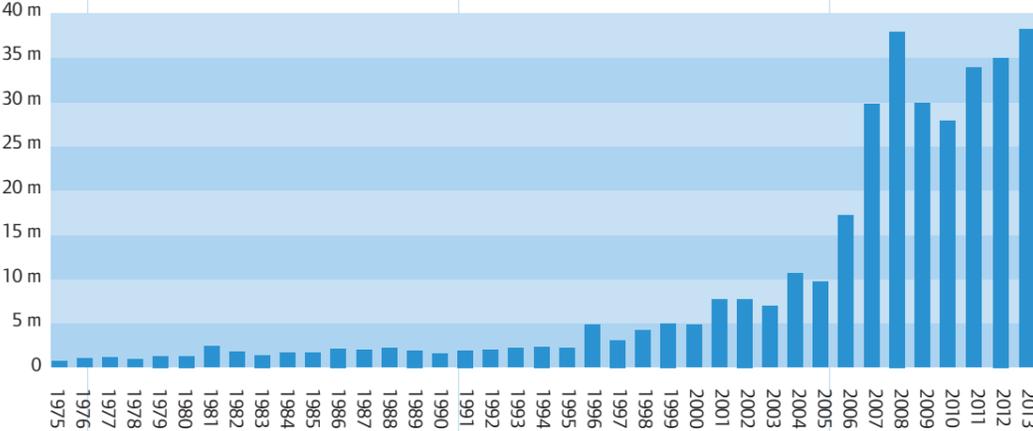
The management of financial investments is done by external, specialist asset managers who are monitored by the Foundation's committee charged with this task. In administering its financial investments, the Foundation attaches particular importance to transparency and appropriateness of the cost structure.

# OUR CHARITABLE WORK

## OVER 1,400 PROJECTS

In 2013 the Ernst Göhner Foundation approved funding totaling CHF 38.6 million for 1,422 charitable projects. The minimum amount of disbursed funding established in the Foundation's charter has thus been exceeded by more than a factor of five. Since its founding, the Ernst Göhner Foundation has supported approximately 22,000 projects with almost CHF 400 million in assistance. For 2014, the foundation board has appropriated the same budget as in previous years.

Amounts of approved funding 1975–2013 (in CHF)



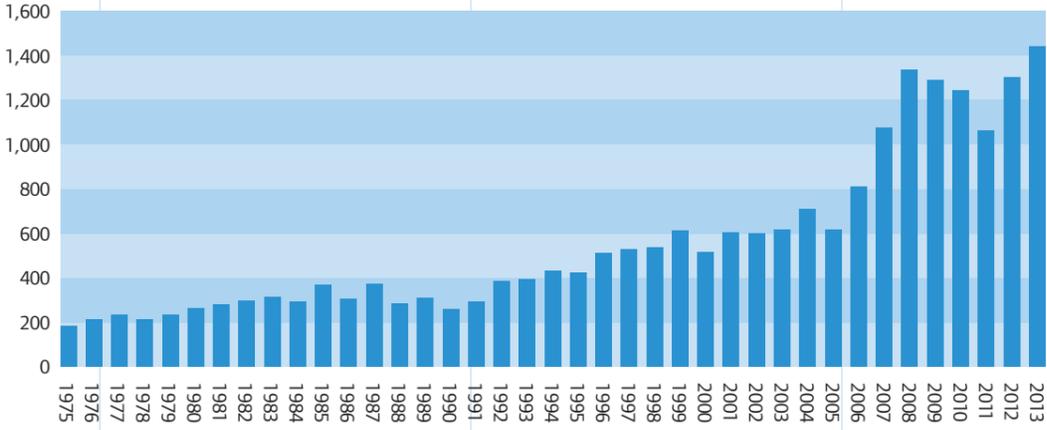
The number of projects for which funding requests are received has almost doubled over the past ten years; at 2,806 the number of requests in 2013 was the highest number ever received, the number of project proposals exceeding the previous figure by 9%.

The highest annual growth rates recorded during the past ten years were 20% and 15% in 2006 and 2007 respectively. This development was the desirable result of the more active award 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 2013, 2,477 were reviewed, with funding being approved for 1,422 of them, the approval rate thus amounting to 54%. 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 quality of the applications received — also as 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 rendered 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 1975–2013

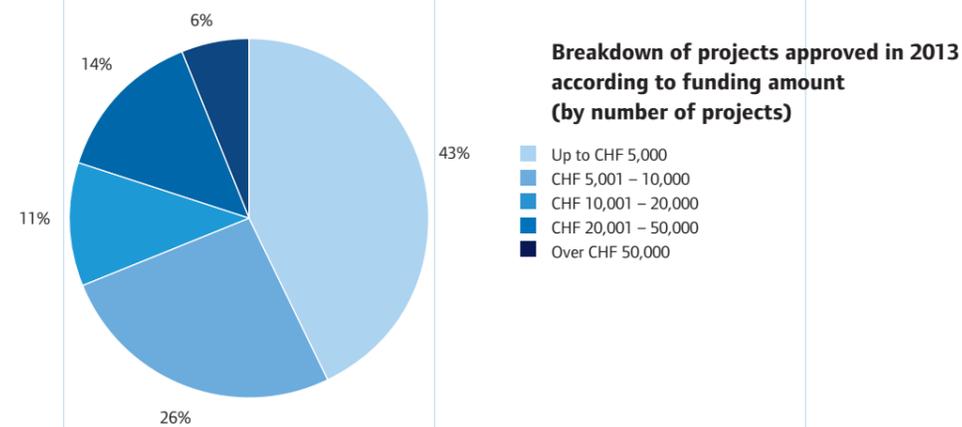


## DIVERSITY AND BREADTH

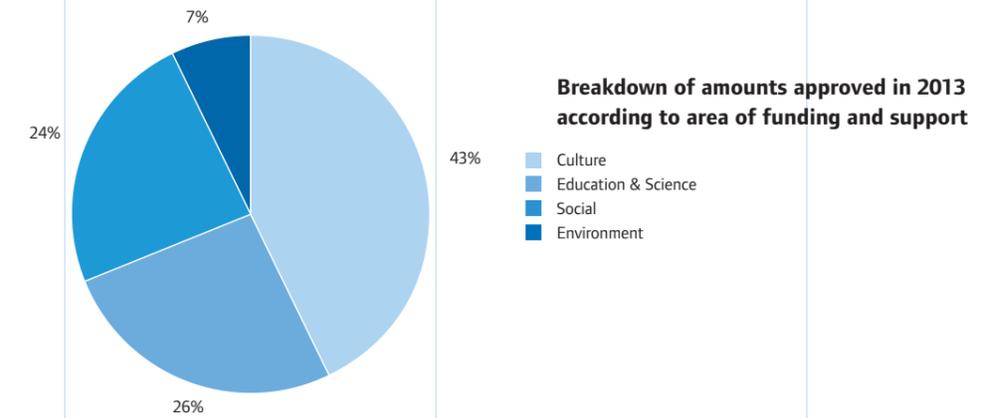
According to the precepts of its charter, the Foundation fosters diversity and breadth as a matter of principle. This is reflected not only in the broad range of various areas supported but also in the varying size of the funding amounts disbursed.

As a consequence, in the year under review 43% of all approved projects received funding of up to CHF 5,000, with another 37% 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.

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. 58% 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.

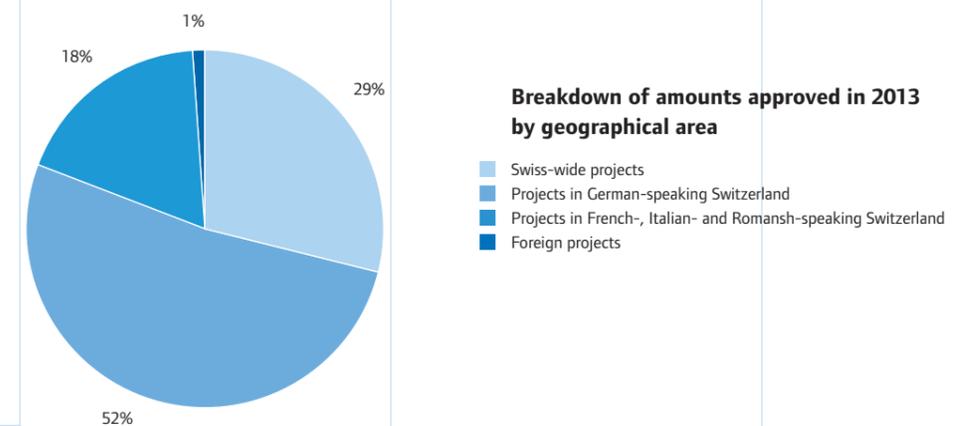


In 2013, 43% of the total funding disbursed went to Culture projects, with 26% going to Education & Science projects, 24% to Social projects, and 7% to Environment projects. The most significant change as compared to the previous year, amounting to 4%, occurred with regard to Education & Science projects, whose share accounted for 22% in 2013.



The 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 (52%). 29% 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 (12% 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 French- and Italian-speaking Switzerland.



## THE 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 its launch six years ago the project has met with remarkable success. 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, 161 such events have been organized.

Of the almost 1,400 applications received to date from over 20 institutions of higher learning, 578 business ideas have been admitted to a presentation pitch before a qualified jury consisting of a pool of over 100 experts. Of this number, 298 projects have received funding totaling CHF 11.5 million. This has resulted in the founding of 224 new companies that have succeeded in attracting additional financing of CHF 464 million and creating over 2,400 new jobs (FTEs). Of the companies placing among the 100 Top Startups in Switzerland competition, 60 were fostered by Venture Kick, of which nine startups figured among the Top Ten.

More than half of the startups receiving funding were born at the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology of Zurich (ETHZ) and Lausanne (EPFL). However, the share of those from universities of applied sciences (ca. 20%) is also notable. Most of the business ideas that are promoted are ICT, or Information & Communications Technology, concepts.

The following projects figure among the most significant initiatives promoted by the Ernst Göhner Foundation during the past few years:

### 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
- 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

### SOCIAL

- “Swiss Food Bank” and “Tischlein deck dich” (two organizations that collect and distribute food that has passed its sell-by date but is still safe to consume)
- Creation of student accommodation by the Bureau Central d’Aide Sociale (Central Social Assistance Office) in Geneva in the Le Nouveau Prieuré (The New Priory) project



## 1 MAN, 7,500 LETTERS

by Christian Schmidt (journalist and book author)

**What makes someone tick who brings about the Gotthard Tunnel while establishing Credit Suisse and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, a person who is a member of 200 parliamentary commissions and is also a National Councilor? Alfred Escher's spirit and greatness are reflected by his letters. His correspondence is now going on line.**

Historians are treasure hunters. Treasures that haven't seen the light of day for hundreds of years reduce them to a state of ecstasy, for they may contain secrets. Historians are the first ones who are able to bring light into the darkness. That is how Joseph Jung must have felt when he received notification at the beginning of 2013 that another 3,000 letters from and to Alfred Escher had been discovered in the archives of the Swiss Federal Railways (SBB): letters and telegrams, written 150 years ago, then filed away and never read again. Did he jump for joy?

Joseph Jung was understandably hesitant. Jung is the general manager of the Alfred Escher Foundation of Zurich, professor of history at the University of Freiburg and chief historian at Credit Suisse. Now he is located in the birth house of Alfred Escher, "Neuberg" on Hirschengraben, which also serves as the documentation center of the Alfred Escher Foundation. "Of course the find was great, terrific even. But not only," says Jung. "For us the 3,000 letters also mean an inestimable amount of additional work — with the attending consequences."

Together with a team of historians, linguists and other researchers, and assisted by a large body of students, Jung has been in the process of digitizing the collected correspondence of Alfred Escher since 2007. This has been proving easier said than done. When Jung started on the project, Escher's correspondence was scattered in all directions. At the beginning Jung assumed there to be approx. 3,000 letters, yet since making the find in the SBB's archives this figure has now risen to over 7,000. An enormous undertaking to say the least.

But where do all these letters come from?

Alfred Escher, born in 1819, is known throughout Switzerland as the genius behind the Gotthard Tunnel. That is why his statue stands in front of the main train station in Zurich. The planning and execution of this work alone required untold amounts of correspondence since letters and telegrams were the fastest means of communication before the advent of the telephone. Meaning that Escher penned page after page for hours on end, almost every day. But he was more than just the initiator of the Gotthard project. At the age of 29 he was already a member of the Zurich cantonal government and was also one of the youngest members of the National Council. Later Escher founded Schweizerische Kreditanstalt (now Credit Suisse), Schweizerische Rentenanstalt (Swiss Life) and the Federal Polytechnic Institute (now the Swiss Federal Institute

Prof. Dr. Joseph Jung in the birth house of Alfred Escher in Zurich

of Technology in Zurich). In the course of his long political life he also sat on more than 200 parliamentary commissions, of which he chaired a large number.

Escher was a man of action. He was the one who gave Switzerland a contemporary face, positioning it anew among the nations of Europe, and enabled it to undergo a profound economic and scientific awakening. "The amount Escher was able to tackle in his day-to-day work would keep a half dozen CEOs busy today," says Jung. "The man was simply unbelievable." Escher's correspondence is like a course in how to succeed at management. It shows in no uncertain terms that without Escher Switzerland wouldn't be what it is today.

When Jung began processing the letters it quickly became clear to him that publishing them as a book wouldn't really do justice to Escher's spirit: for one thing he would be forced to make a selection on account of the sheer volume of correspondence, for another the published volumes would be too unwieldy for the public at large, not to mention expensive. Another solution was needed, and it was practically inescapable: an online platform, a website that would enable the letters to be searched, whether for specific persons, dates or topics.

Together with software specialists Jung began to put this idea into action and develop the right research tool for the job. The website was not only to enable chronological searching but also provide answers to questions such as: why Lukmanier was more suited than the Gotthard for the railroad route through the Alps? The website is designed to shed light on Escher's views with regard to the political issues of his times, for here, too, this progressive thinker took a decisive stand on all of them. In July of 1849, for example, he opined on the controversial question of how refugees should be dealt with. Escher believed that Switzerland should be generous toward the victims of the revolutions in Germany and France, yet the "slightest abuse of asylum" had to result in deportation.

These research tools are now available, and they provide an intriguing window into those times. In order to enable a direct comparison of the originals written in Suetterlin, an old German hand, with the transcripts appearing on screen, when positioning the cursor on a text passage being searched the text not only magically appears in Latin script but also in Escher's unmistakable hand. This parallel view is enabled by a technical innovation developed by the Alfred Escher Foundation.

Jung and his team have published the first 500 letters on line as a pilot project; Escher's entire collection of letters is to be made accessible by 2015.

"The advantage of publishing on line is that we can continuously enhance the published material by improving its layout, indexing it and adding hyperlinks. We want to make Escher's body of work as attractive as possible so as to maximize its accessibility."

By pushing Escher's letters on line, Jung is catering to a personal goal: "Escher's correspondence reveals the culture associated with his letters. What a difference as compared to our modern times! A quality and intensity is contained in these letters, not achievable with our state-of-the-art communication. This is also something these letters have to teach us."

Due to his numerous political posts and the financial difficulties of the Northeast Railway founded by him and the Gotthard project, Escher was also exposed to criticism and personal attacks that had a very adverse effect on his health. Seriously ill, burned out and almost blind at the age of 63, Escher died in 1882.

The Alfred Escher Foundation, established in 2006, has set itself the task of keeping Escher's work and his significance for Switzerland's development alive and to make it accessible to the public at large and researchers. One way of achieving this goal is to publish Escher's correspondence. The Ernst Göhner Foundation provided funding for this undertaking in 2010, and again for digitizing the newly identified 3,000 letters on the construction of the Gotthard Railway.



Eric Merk, Thierry Amsallem and Alexandre Delidais in the Claude Nobs Archives in Montreux

## KARAOKE WITH ELLA FITZGERALD

by Christian Schmidt (journalist and book author)

**What do you do when 40,000 live performances of world-renowned artists risk being lost forever? The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology of Lausanne (EPFL) found a solution.**

This is it, the archives of the Montreux Jazz Festival, stored in a long row of cabinets housed in a former stable high above Lake Geneva. 10,000 audio and video tapes. 5,000 hours of live music. 47 years of music history. With performances by Ray Charles, Nina Simone and Sheryl Crow, to name only a few. The last, sensational concert by Miles Davis is also immortalized here. Claude Nobs (1936–2013), the initiator of the festival, created a unique music collection unparalleled throughout the world.

“Yes, it really is unbelievable,” says Thierry Amsallem, as if he were seeing this amassed collection of sounds and emotions for the first time. Amsallem, Claude Nobs’ civil union partner, works in the archives every day. He has just threaded a Led Zeppelin concert dating back to March 7, 1970 on the reel-to-reel tape deck. Although the sound quality is good, jutting black marks distort the guitarist’s face on the monitor. “Just a speck of dirt,” says Amsallem.

Unfortunately distortions are not always simply the result of a speck of dirt. The tapes are several decades old. The metal oxide coating is beginning to deteriorate and lose its magnetic properties. Sometimes the reels smell like vinegar, an unmistakable sign of mold.

Patrick Aebischer, the director of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology of Lausanne, was one of the first to discover that the archives were endangered, and this more or less by chance when he awarded Charles Nobs an honorary doctorate in 2006. In exchanges with Nobs, Aebischer found that the valuable and irreplaceable live performances were stored in Nobs’ chalet — without any protection, and without even any backup copies. And not only that: the oldest tapes featured formats for which there would soon no longer be any playback devices.

Aebischer recognized what had to be done. But he was soon to learn that no funding would be forthcoming from the Swiss federal government, the canton or the city of Montreux to save the tapes. That meant that private donors had to be found, a task that he delegated to his research assistant Eric Merk.

Almost eight years have since passed and some of the voluminous cabinets behind Thierry Amsallem are empty: the tapes are gone, for the time being at least. They are being digitalized in a special laboratory in Paris. A tedious and costly task: since the data is read in real time and is not compressed, only 200 hours a month can be processed. Almost two thirds of the collection has been recorded onto hard disks; this process is scheduled to be concluded by 2015.

What has been digitalized is piling up in a room at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology of Lausanne (EPFL), in tall racks containing a total of two petabytes, equivalent to the storage capacity of 4,000

desktop computers. In an adjoining room students are in the process of analyzing the quality of the digital recordings and removing the errors and defects of the original tapes; they are also indexing the individual tracks to enable searching of the 40,000 songs and other recordings.

Thus, the primary goal is being achieved: the recordings of the Montreux Jazz Festival from its beginnings to the present day are being secured, including backup — and they will be also be secured in the future. “Claude Nobs selected the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology for archiving this material because we will continue to exist as a state institution for the foreseeable future,” says project head Alexandre Delidais.

Yet Nobs wanted to do more than just secure the past. He wanted to make this music available to the general public. His pet idea of putting the concerts on line currently can’t be realized for copyright reasons. As an alternative the idea of the Montreux Jazz Cafés evolved, public venues at which people can listen to the concerts to their heart’s content, free of charge. The first of these cafés was opened at the Geneva Airport in 2008; others followed shortly thereafter at Zurich Airport, Harrods in London and the Gare de Lyon in Paris. The largest of these is to be opened in 2015, on the campus of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL).

To really make the cafés attractive so that they draw the right people, the music of the jazz festival isn’t simply diffused via speakers in the ceiling. Alexandre Delidais’ team developed cutting-edge technologies that are specifically tailored to tablets and smartphones, technologies that enable an individual selection to be made from the wealth of recordings available. These technologies include Genezik, a unique playlist generator. After a visitor has selected his or her first track, Genezik automatically searches for similar tracks according to the visitor’s personal mood and taste. Genezik notes the selection and uses it to generate a “DNA” of the user’s music taste. A novel directive sound concept by the name of SoundDDots was also developed. This technology enables different music to be listened to at every table, without disturbing those at neighboring tables. The visitors sit underneath an umbrella-shaped sound-diffusing unit and only listen to what they want to hear. A third technology developed at the EPFL by the name of Anubis permits the lead singer or instrument to be blocked out so that the listener can substitute their own voice or instrument, enabling karaoke with Ella Fitzgerald, for example. “An absolute novelty,” says Delidais.

With this the EPFL has done a lot more than just save the archives of Claude Nobs from wrack and ruin. It has done justice to its reputation as an innovative institution of higher learning by developing possibilities for making copyrighted recordings available in the public domain. “The archive is not only a sensation for the general public and musicians, it is also a source of inspiration for us researchers, too,” says Delidais.

In 2013 UNESCO included the archives of the Montreux Jazz Festival in its World Document Heritage list, thereby underscoring its unique significance throughout the world. With its commitment on behalf of the urgently needed digitalization of the Montreux performances, the Ernst Göhner Foundation is supporting UNESCO’s high regard in including them as a world cultural heritage, in addition to securing this musical legacy and enabling access to the music history of the last 50 years for generations to come.

## DIGITAL ZOOM INTO THE PAST

by Christian Schmidt (journalist and book author)

**Stained glass art works from Switzerland are scattered throughout the world. Now the Vitrocentre of Romont is reuniting this cultural heritage — with the help of the Internet.**

Now that really *is* a problem: church windows have a habit of being located high above the heads of those wishing to examine them. Simply craning your neck does no good when the paintings on them are difficult to make out. You have to be inventive if you want to see them. “Of course, you could always erect scaffolding,” says art historian Sarah Keller. “Or use a giant telescoping monopod with a camera perched on top,” adds colleague Rolf Hasler. “Or you could use a small helicopter,” chimes in Stefan Trümpler, causing all three to giggle.

Yet that won’t do the trick. Which is why the staff of the Vitrocentre of Romont is working on a much better solution so that the stained glass windows have the audience they deserve in view of their significance. For the true art they embody isn’t apparent until they can be examined up close and personal: the fineness of the brush strokes, the changing colors, the subtle use of light-catching contours, the damask patterns and engravings.

The new solution is to be subjected to pilot testing in 2014. It is called “the Web”, and it causes the team of the Vitrocentre of Romont to go into raptures: “You will be able to zoom deep into the individual pictures.” — “The luminosity of computer screens optimally reproduces the natural transparency of the paintings.” — “Even better than plates in a book.”

The Vitrocentre in Romont has dedicated itself to tracking down all stained glass windows originating between the 15th and 18th centuries in Switzerland, cataloguing this material and publishing it canton by canton. And for a very good reason: the painted panes are considered to be the most important artistic expression of that era and reflect the creativity of those times. Stained glass panes were a common means of self-expression in Switzerland. Anyone with any self-respect and who could afford it donated a window to adorn churches, guildhalls and other secular buildings. The result: small stained glass pictures were to be found throughout the country.

Yet wars and hail storms have destroyed many works; sadly only a fraction of the once rich collections remains. Their decline was also precipitated by a reawakened fascination for the Middle Ages in recent times, particularly outside of Switzerland, prompting many stained glass windows to be sold off. One example of this is the approx. 180 stained glass windows of Swiss provenance in the collection of the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. “What once distinguished Swiss stained glass art has been scattered to the four winds,” says Stefan Trümpler, the director of the Vitrocentre.



Dr. Sarah Keller and Dr. Stefan Trümpler at the Vitrocentre of Romont

Consequently, Trümpler and his team want to catalogue what there is left to catalogue, while making it available to the general public. Whereas the knowledge concerning stained glass windows used to primarily be disseminated through books, the Vitrocentre is seeking to promote increased online access in the future. The foundation for this was laid by the team at a time when hardly anyone thought of pursuing digitalization. Already in 1988 the stained glass windows were being catalogued and entered in a database at Romont Castle. Stefan Trümpler: "We soon came to realize the potential of this undertaking. Thanks to all the information that was being collected, cross-links could now be established, an invaluable benefit." The database became a central research tool. However, until recently the capacity was lacking to systematically unite the information, expand it and put it on the Web.

Now that is going to change. The Vitrocentre is looking forward to being able to reach a larger audience, while requiring much less funding in the process. Since the cost of book publications is constantly on the rise and print runs are becoming increasingly smaller, publishing on line theoretically enables the entire world to be reached at a fraction of the cost.

Another reason speaks in favor of a Web variant: digitizing the stained glass windows enables the works scattered throughout the world to be brought together again, at least virtually.

Currently the Vitrocentre team is cataloguing the works located in the Canton of Bern. That means that project head Rolf Hasler and his team are canvassing each and every building slated to contain a stained glass window. There will be no exceptions: every work, regardless of its quality and significance, will be catalogued. The only condition is that the work originated during the period covered by the Vitrocentre.

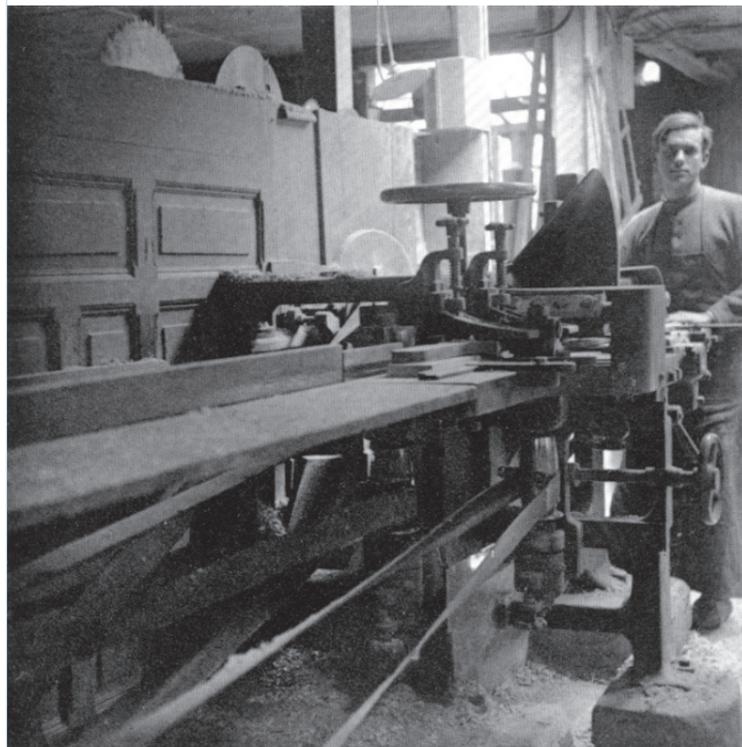
The current plan is to reach a stage approximately three years from now at which the works that have been catalogued can be published on line, but not simply as a simple picture library. "People sitting at their computer screens will be able to conduct searches according to a variety of criteria, depending on their personal interests," explains Trümpler. This will enable experts to focus on cross-links, while laypeople may be more interested in the Highlights, a category planned for cherry-picking the best items. Yet regardless of who delves into the world of these pictures, the objective is the same: "We want a growing number of people to discover the fascination of stained glass windows."

Together with art historians from thirteen other countries — united in an organization called "Corpus Vitrearum" — the goal of the Vitrocentre of Romont is to systematically catalogue historical stained glass windows. The Ernst Göhner Foundation is supporting the collection and digitalization of this art genre, once widespread and inherently "Swiss". The forthcoming publication of the collected material on the Web will provide or facilitate access by the general public and researchers to the stained glass windows of Switzerland's past.

## FROM ARTISAN GLASS SHOP TO FOUNDATION

*"... All of us build the future. Building something is constructive in the broadest sense of the term. 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".



Ernst Göhner in the artisan glass shop, 1920s

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 and expanded later on by the Foundation and the comprehensive real estate portfolio are the essential sources of the grants made by the Ernst Göhner Foundation.



Stadlin Villa, in Zug

In 2008 the Foundation moved to its new quarters in Zug in the almost 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". The "Haus der Farbe" 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 tour of the villa include the original stenciled ceiling paintings and the reconstructed silkscreen wallpapers.



Ernst Göhner at the signing of the foundation charter of the Alberto Giacometti Foundation (from left to right: National Councilor Rudolf Suter [Migros], notary Bühler (standing), Ernst Göhner, Karl Kirmess), 1965

## THE ALBERTO GIACOMETTI FOUNDATION

The most significant private collection of the works of Swiss sculptor, painter and illustrator Alberto Giacometti (1901–1966) was assembled in the mid-1950s by Pittsburgh industrialist David Thompson. When his intention to sell the collection became known, the then director of Kunsthaus Zürich (Zurich Museum of Modern Art), René Wehrli, joined forces with collectors Hans and Walter Bechtler in securing and preserving the collection in Switzerland.

The funding for the purchase price of CHF 3 million by the Swiss federal government and the Canton and City of Zurich fell through on account of vociferous criticism in the press. A group of private individuals, including Ernst Göhner, stepped into the breach. The Alberto Giacometti Foundation received the funding for its establishment from the Ernst Göhner Foundation, establishment taking place at the end of 1965, shortly before Alberto Giacometti died in the canton hospital of Chur on January 11, 1966. Being one of the key patrons, Ernst Göhner sat on the first foundation board, chaired by Hans Bechtler.

Since the foundation's founding, the collection has been expanded by way of substantial donations and purchases. Today the Alberto Giacometti Foundation represents the most significant museum collection of Giacometti's work, stored for the most part in Kunsthaus Zürich.

In 2013 the Ernst Göhner Foundation also provided assistance to the Centro Giacometti Foundation, which is planning a national Giacometti culture center in the Bergell town of Stampa. The new center is dedicated to the life and work of the entire Giacometti family of artists.



Invoice issued by Gottlieb Göhner, 1890s

## 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 glass 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 — already established three major employee welfare foundations 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 AG and associate of the Ernst Göhner Foundation).

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. The last excursion led to the UNESCO-certified Entlebuch Biosphere, a nature reserve at the foot of the Alps.

Grants 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 circumstances. 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.

At their annual get-together in the summer of 2013 the family beneficiaries followed in the tracks of Gottlieb Göhner (1863–1920), Ernst Göhner's father. Their trip led to Untergruppenbach in the vicinity of Heilbronn, Germany, the birth place of Gottlieb Göhner, from where this carpenter and glazer embarked on his journeyman's path that ultimately led him to Zurich. In 1890, he set down roots in Zurich, founding the sole proprietorship "Gottlieb Göhner, Mech. Glaserei" ("Gottlieb Göhner, Glazing Fabrication") at Dufourstrasse 141.



Advertisement for the carpenter's shop, 1925

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

1890	Founding of the artisan glass shop in Zurich-Seefeld by Gottlieb Göhner (1863–1920), the father of Ernst Göhner.
1900/20	1900: Ernst Göhner born as the second youngest of six children. 1920: assumption of shop after his father's death. Subsequently, transformation of sole proprietorship 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 Car Union GmbH in Germany. From 1950/51: significant holding in Car Union GmbH, which was sold to Daimler AG, of Stuttgart, Germany, in 1958.
1944	Founding of Bauwerk AG in St. Margrethen (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 Bührle & 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.

42

43

## 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:

- 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 the Life in the Community and Preservation of Quality of Life”), Heimatkundliche Vereinigung Furttal (publisher), *Mitteilungsheft* no. 43, self-published, Regensdorf, Switzerland, 2013
- Fabian **FURTER** / Patrick **SCHOECK-RITSCHARD**: *Göhner wohnen. Wachstumseuphorie und Plattenbau*, (“Göhner Living. Growth Mania and Industrialized Building. The Göhner Housing Developments of the 1960s and 1970s”), hier+jetzt Verlag, Baden, Switzerland 2013
- Andres **HERZOG**: “Wohnen zwischen gebauter und gelebter Norm” (“Residing between Built and Lived Standards”), in: *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, issue no. 113, May 5, 2012, p. 21
- Adi **KÄLIN**: “Vorfabrikation mit fast unglaublicher Konsequenz. Der Städtebau-Historiker Angelus Eisinger relativiert das Negativimage der Ernst Göhner AG aus den siebziger Jahren” (“Virtually uncompromising prefabrication. Urban development historian Angelus Eisinger puts into perspective the negative image of Ernst Göhner AG of the 1970s.”), in: *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, issue no. 262, November 10, 2010, p. 8
- Stefan **HOTZ**: “Das schiefe Bild von Göhnerswil. Ernst Göhner hat nicht nur den Wohnungsbau revolutioniert, sondern auch die Raumplanung unterlaufen” (“The skewed image of Göhnerswil. Ernst Göhner not only revolutionized residential building but also circumvented regional planning”), in: *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, issue no. 257, November 4, 2010, p. 19
- Florian **SORG**: “Anonym? – Ganz und gar nicht. Fast schon ländlicher Alltag in der Volketswiler ‘Göhner-Siedlung’ Sunnebüel” (“Anonymous? — Not at all! Almost typical country life in Göhner housing development Sunnebüel in Volketswil”), in: *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, issue no. 249, October 26, 2010, p. 19
- Ümit **YOKER**: “Facelifting für Greifensees ersten Plattenbau. Die mehr als 40-jährige Göhner-Siedlung Langacher wird einer Gesamtanierung unterzogen” (“Facelift for Greifensee’s first prefabricated concrete slab building. The over 40-year-old Göhner housing development Langacher undergoes complete refurbishment”), in: *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, issue no. 245, October 21, 2010, p. 19
- 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**: 2006–2012 (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 of Ernst Göhner’s father (self-published), Zurich, Switzerland, 1960

