EUROPEAN NEWS

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› Bossard Increases Sales and Profitability

BOSSARD
Proven Productivity

Bossard Group has reported a positive first half of 2026, with sales and profitability increasing across its three market regions. **Europe returned to growth, America recorded accelerated growth momentum, while Asia continued its robust growth trajectory.** Group sales increased by 5.3% to CHF 575.7 million (€612.1 million) in the first half of 2026 (prior year: CHF 546.7 million). In local currency, sales growth amounted to 9.7%. Group net income also increased to CHF 54.7 million (prior year: CHF 38.7 million). **The improvement was supported by a more favourable economic environment, continued momentum in growth sectors and the targeted exploitation of market opportunities.**

In Europe, Bossard achieved sales growth of 4% (in local currency: +5.8%) to CHF 349.7 million (prior year: CHF 336.3 million). The company was able to gain market share and achieve encouraging growth rates in the aerospace, rail, electronics and mechanical engineering industries. In Switzerland, however, demand remained subdued.

Bossard recorded sales growth of 7.9% in America to CHF 123 million (prior year: CHF 114 million) in the first half of 2026. In local currency, sales increased by 17.3%, with the growth momentum seen since the third quarter of the previous year continuing to accelerate. The passing on of import duties provided further support to sales growth, while additional growth impulses came from mechanical engineering, energy and electromobility. Demand in agriculture also developed positively following the acquisition of a new customer. The appreciation of the Swiss franc against the US dollar had a negative impact on sales.

In Asia, Bossard achieved sales growth of 6.8% (in local currency: +15%) to CHF 103 million (prior year: CHF 96.4 million). In India, the company continued to benefit from the 'Make in India' initiative, while capacity expansions by global manufacturers in Malaysia, particularly in the semiconductor and electronics industries, had a positive impact. Organic growth also continued in China, especially in electronics and mechanical engineering. However, the appreciation of the Swiss franc against Asian currencies weighed on sales performance in the region.

Looking ahead, Bossard said current market developments point towards a continued normalisation of demand, albeit at a moderate level. The economic environment remains challenging due to geopolitical uncertainties and trade policy developments. **Against the backdrop of its first half performance, Bossard expects organic growth of more than 5% for the full year 2026, alongside improved profitability compared with the previous year.**

› Roussel Group Sells Connecton Fasteners

Roussel Group, a manufacturer of building materials for niche markets within the construction industry, has sold its anchoring specialist division Connecton Fasteners to pgb Holding. The decision is part of a broader reorientation of the Group. **Until today, Roussel Group was active in three different segments within the construction sector: Anchoring, facing bricks and cement. According to the shareholders, these activities require increasingly specialised investments and their own growth strategies, which are no longer compatible under a single management.**

"As a family group, we strongly believe in growth from our own strength. To realise that ambition, we have chosen to pool our resources and investments. The results of our own extensive research and development are promising and are currently being scaled up at a new site in Menen, Belgium," reports Mark Roussel, CEO, Roussel Group. **With this transaction, Roussel Group is opting for a strategic focus on production in these areas, while Connecton Fasteners receives the resources to grow further under pgb.**

Connecton, specialising in anchoring solutions for the construction sector, will have the opportunity within pgb Holding to further strengthen its market position and actively focus on scaling up. The acquisition is intended to better position the company in a market where consolidation and specialised expertise are becoming increasingly important.

GroepRoussel

CONNECTON
fasteners for builders

› Keller & Kalmbach Acquires Dresselhaus Site

Effective from 1st August the newly established Münchner Schraubenhandel MSH GmbH & Co KG (MSH), part of the Keller & Kalmbach Group, has taken control of key business activities at the former Dresselhaus operation in Maisach, Germany. **The transaction preserves valuable expertise, retains experienced employees and maintains long-standing customer relationships. At the same time, integration into the Keller & Kalmbach Group provides a strong foundation for the site's long-term development and continued operational excellence.**

Following the economic challenges of recent months, the Dresselhaus insolvency administrator selected Keller & Kalmbach as a financially strong and long-term partner to continue the site's core business activities, with the transaction completed as an asset deal through the newly established MSH. A key element of the transaction is the transfer of the majority of the former workforce, integrating more than 60 former Dresselhaus employees. For customers, this means continuity and an even stronger supply capability, with many familiar contacts remaining in place, thus continuing to provide their extensive expertise and industry experience. Customers will also benefit from the comprehensive resources and infrastructure of the Keller & Kalmbach Group. Additional capabilities in procurement, sales, supply chain management, logistics, and IT, will further optimise processes and strengthen the site's performance.

MSH will be led by Managing Directors Axel Türke and Yalcin Karaca. Together with their teams, they will shape the company's new beginning while ensuring continuity for customers, suppliers and employees alike. Overall responsibility for the integration into the Keller & Kalmbach Group lies with Gerhard Hemmer, managing director of both the Keller & Kalmbach Group and MSH.

Supported by experienced specialists, senior managers, a cross-functional integration team, and the extensive resources of the Keller & Kalmbach Group, the team is committed to further developing the Maisach site into a strong and reliable partner for industry and trade. "The combination of familiar contacts and the additional expertise, and resources of the Keller & Kalmbach Group, creates the ideal foundation for a successful new beginning. Our goal is to establish MSH as a high performing and trusted partner for industry and trade," states Dr. Florian Seidl, owner and chairman of the advisory board of the Keller & Kalmbach Group.

› OBO Bettermann Strengthens Presence in Türkiye

OBO Bettermann Beteiligungs GmbH has acquired a majority stake in Turkish fastener manufacturer Ezel Civata, as it strengthens its presence in Türkiye and expands its international operations. The acquisition was announced on 24th July 2026, with financial details not disclosed.

Based in Torbalı, near Izmir, Ezel Civata manufactures screws, nuts, bolts and specialised fasteners, supplying customers across almost every continent, including the automotive and mechanical engineering sectors and trading companies. The company operates a 30,000m² production site and has more than 200 employees, with an annual production capacity of approximately 15,000 tonnes. Its manufacturing capabilities include cold forming, automated electroplating, hardening and other production technologies.

OBO Bettermann, headquartered in Menden, Germany, already operates a factory in Türkiye near Istanbul. The company sees Türkiye as both an important market and a strategic gateway to supply regions nearby and the Middle East. Ezel Civata will continue to operate under its existing management. The Kohen family, which owns the business, will retain a stake and remain responsible for its day-to-day operations. Existing contacts for customers, suppliers and employees will also remain unchanged.

Christoph Palausch, managing director at OBO Bettermann, explains: "Ezel Civata's values and quality are an excellent fit for OBO. From the very beginning, both companies recognised the opportunities and benefits of our collaboration. The negotiations were conducted fairly, professionally and effectively. These are the best possible conditions for a bright future together."

› Klimas Opens UAE Subsidiary

As part of the implementation of its GO GLOBAL strategy, Klimas has opened a new subsidiary in the United Arab Emirates – further strengthening the company's presence in international markets. Joining operations in India, France, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Italy, Hungary, and Canada, among other countries, the new UAE subsidiary follows the availability of Klimas products in the market for a number of years.

"The United Arab Emirates is a market that has been attracting the attention of the construction industry for years," comments Klimas. "Dynamic growth, ambitious projects, and large-scale investments, mean that this region is now setting the direction for many segments of modern construction."

The company continues: "For years, we have been guided by the principle of 'think globally, act locally'. In practice, this means being mindful of the differences between markets, being open to local needs, as well as continuously learning how the construction industry operates in different parts of the world. This allows us to better tailor our offerings and provide meaningful support to our partners in their daily work."

"For us, each new market represents not only sales growth but, above all, an opportunity to be closer to the people who use our solutions every day – designers, contractors and distributors," concludes Klimas. ■