



PRESS RELEASE

Highlight Group well on track

- Consolidated sales rose to CHF 85.5 million
- EBIT improved by 37.5% to CHF 3,3 million
- Forecast confirmed for fiscal year 2018

Pratteln, May 24, 2018 – The Highlight Group starts fiscal year 2018 with very sound results.

Group development in the first quarter of 2018

- Compared with the first quarter of 2017, consolidated sales rose by CHF 5.5 million to CHF 85.5 million, whereby both segments contributed to this growth. The increase in the Film segment is largely based on the start of home-entertainment exploitation of the hit comedy “Fack Ju Göhte 3”. The rise in the Sports- and Event-Marketing segment stems from higher agency commission that the TEAM Group generated as a result of successful marketing of the UEFA club competitions.
- Consolidated operating expenses were down by CHF 10.9 million at CHF 107.6 million, particularly due to a production-related decrease in the cost of materials and licenses.
- EBIT thus improved by 37.5% from CHF 2.4 million to CHF 3.3 million.
- At CHF -0.3 million, the consolidated net profit for the period was down on the previous year’s period (CHF 0.8 million) due to significantly higher financing costs. This was also true for earnings attributable to Highlight shareholders, which fell from CHF 0.7 million to CHF -0.7 million.
- Net debt amounted to CHF 89.4 million at the end of the first quarter of 2018 (December 31, 2017: net liquidity of CHF 109.5 million). This is mainly attributable to an increase in financial liabilities due to the necessary financing of the acquisition of additional shares (29.99%) of Constantin Medien AG.

Targets for fiscal year 2018

The Highlight Group is confirming its annual forecast for consolidated sales, which are expected to amount to between CHF 520 million and CHF 540 million, and for consolidated net profit attributable to shareholders of between CHF 18 million and CHF 20 million.

The quarterly statement as of March 31, 2018 will be available for download at www.highlight-communications.ch starting from today.



Highlight Group at a glance

Group figures according to IFRS

in CHF million	1Q2018	1Q2017	Change in %
Sales	85.5	80.0	6.9
EBIT	3.3	2.4	37.5
Net profit for the period (after taxes)	-0.3	0.8	-137.5
Net profit attributable to shareholders	-0.7	0.7	-200.0
Earnings per share (CHF)	-0.01	0.02	-150.0
Segment sales			
Film	70.1	65.5	7.0
Sports- and Event-Marketing	15.4	14.5	6.2
Segment earnings			
Film	-2.6	-2.7	3.7
Sports- and Event-Marketing	8.4	6.8	23.5
in CHF million	March 31, 2018	December 31, 2017	Change in %
Balance sheet total	663.7	512.8	29.4
Equity	203.8	236.4	-13.8
Equity ratio (%)	30.7	46.1	-15.4 points
Current financial liabilities	226.9	77.2	193.9
Cash and cash equivalents	137.4	186.6	-26.4

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