



## Media release

### COMET's CEO leaves the company

Flamatt, 2 February 2010. - The Board of Directors of Comet Holding Ltd., based in Flamatt (Switzerland) and Dr. Roland Zarske, the company's CEO, have decided to separate due to fundamental differences on issues relating to people management. At the same time, the Board of Directors and the company's Head of Human Resources, Pascal Weyermann, have agreed to separate.

Hans Hess, Chairman of the Board of Directors, will head the Executive Board as Managing Director with immediate effect until a new CEO has been appointed. The search for a new CEO has already been initiated.

The Board of Directors acknowledges the contribution that Roland Zarske has made during his tenure as CEO of COMET and would like to thank him for this. Roland Zarske also led the COMET Group successfully through the difficult economic year of 2009.

The COMET Group performed better and according to expectations in the second half of 2009. Earnings at the EBITDA level were significantly better than in the first half of the year. The company continues to implement its established strategy. The 2009 financial statements will be published on 1 April 2010.

#### For further information:

Hans Hess

Chairman of the Board of Directors and Managing Director

COMET Holding Ltd

T +41 31 744 9909

[hans.hess@hanesco.ch](mailto:hans.hess@hanesco.ch)

---

The COMET Group is one of the world's leading manufacturers of systems and components for the growth markets of non-destructive testing, security and semiconductor fabrication. Since acquiring the YXLON group, COMET has been the global market leader in X-ray-based non-destructive testing and examination. Drawing on its core competencies of vacuum technology, high voltage engineering and materials science, as well as the core products of X-ray tubes and vacuum capacitors, COMET supplies a complete and highly flexible range of components, modules, systems and services.

COMET was founded in 1948 and is based in Flamatt near Berne, Switzerland. The COMET Group today has a presence in all major markets worldwide. The company manufactures in Switzerland, Germany and Denmark and maintains subsidiaries in the USA, China and Japan. Its business segments are reflected in divisions for OEM and end-customer business. COMET's stock (COTN) is traded on the SIX Swiss Exchange.

**COMET – Technology with passion.**