

## Media release

### Orders 2009

## Market share gains despite demand downturn

- Decrease in order intake (-45%) and sales revenue (-18%)
- Strengthening of innovation and distribution
- Strong cash flow further strengthens financial position
- Profit distribution in the form of a par value repayment

Due to the global economic crises, StarragHeckert's sales revenue declined to 253 million CHF in 2009, currency adjusted -15.3% (2008: 307 million). Order intake decreased to CHF 188 million currency adjusted 43.5% below prior year. Thus, StarragHeckert arises from the present industry crises with significant market share gains, after the global machine tool industry has dropped by 70%.

Order backlog amounts to CHF 124 million, one third under the record CHF 188 million from prior year. In spite of the difficult market situation in 2009, StarragHeckert has invested systematically in product development as well as in the further expansion of the worldwide sales and customer service organisation. Consequently, StarragHeckert is emerging with significant market share gains from the current economic recession.

Due to the declining production volume, StarragHeckert has introduced drastic measures to adapt the cost structure and to reduce capital employed. These measures have been implemented as planned and resulted in a clearly better result compared with the industry as well as a further increased financial position. The profit distribution for business year 2009 will be made in form of a par value repayment.

The detailed key figures of the business year 2009 will be published on 12 March 2010.

The prospects for the year 2010 remain uncertain. In general, it may be assumed that the StarragHeckert target markets aerospace, energy, transportation and precision machinery will remain attractive. Nevertheless, it is not foreseeable, when and how fast an economic upturn will begin, leading eventually to a sustainable recovery in investment activity.

*StarragHeckert globally provides a comprehensive range of technologically advanced precision milling machines, as well as productivity enhancing software and engineering solutions, engineering and process optimisation projects and a wide range of special tools for customers in the aerospace, energy, transport and precision machine industry. The company brings to bear a nearly 150 years old heritage of technological innovation to help its customers to be more productive, efficient, precise and innovative.*

*StarragHeckert includes production plants in Rorschacherberg/Switzerland (Starrag), Chemnitz/Germany (Heckert), Geneva/Switzerland (SIP) and Haddenham/UK (TTL), as well as sales and service companies in China (Beijing and Shanghai), the USA (Cincinnati, Dallas and Los Angeles), France, the UK, Russia, Spain and Turkey. The shares of StarragHeckert are quoted on the SIX Swiss Exchange (symbol: STGN).*

Rorschacherberg, 29 January 2010

StarragHeckert Holding AG

## **Key figures 2009 (provisional, unaudited)**

<b>in million CHF</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>Change</b>
Order Intake	187.7	341.2	-45.0%
Order Backlog	124.3	187.8	-33.8%
Sales Revenue	252.5	306.9	-17.7%

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### **Forthcoming events**

- Key figures 2009 / Annual report 2009 12 March 2010
- Media and analysts conference 12 March 2010
- Annual general meeting 16 April 2010
- Interim information first quarter 2010 10 May 2010
- Half-year report 2009 6 August 2010
- Interim information third quarter 2010 19 October 2010

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*This news release includes “forward-looking statements” that involve risks, uncertainties and changes in circumstances, which may cause actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from anticipated results, performance or achievements. Political, economic, climatic, currency, tax, regulatory, technological, competitive and other factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in the forward looking statements. Additional information regarding these risk factors and uncertainties is published from time-to-time, including in but not limited to its annual report.*