



Press release

New CEO for Sympany

The new CEO at Sympany is called Michael Willer. He will start in his new role on 1 April 2017. Until then, Suzanne Blaser, member of the Sympany Executive Board, will take over the position of CEO for the interim.

Basel, 24 November 2016 – The Sympany Foundation Board is pleased to announce the new Sympany CEO: Michael Willer (49) is coming to Sympany from the Helsana Group, where he is currently a member of the Executive Board and responsible for the Client Services & Benefits department, which has 1,400 employees. He will step into his role as CEO at Sympany on 1 April 2017.

An expert with sound knowledge of the Swiss health insurance market

Michael Willer has many years of leadership experience and a sound knowledge of the Swiss health insurance market. He has been working at Helsana since 2006, starting as head of Private Client Services, and has been a member of the Executive Board since 2010. He previously held various positions at Accenture, Zurich, where he dealt with Swiss and international clients in the insurance, health and pharmaceuticals departments.

Michael Willer studied chemistry at Zurich Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) and was awarded the title Dr. sc. nat. (Doctor of Natural Sciences). He also holds a degree in business administration from the BWI industrial management institute of the ETH and received further education at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management in Evanston (USA). Michael Willer is married and has three children.

Michael Willer said: "I am really excited about this new responsibility and developing Sympany further in a challenging market with the help of my new colleagues on the Executive Board as well as all of my other colleagues."

Siegfried Walser, president of the Foundation Board, commented: "Michael Willer stands out with his wide-ranging list of accomplishments. We put an especially high value on his experience and knowledge gained over years of working in different areas of health insurance. We are really looking forward to working with Michael Willer and would like to take this opportunity to welcome him to Sympany."

Thanks to Ruedi Bodenmann

Ruedi Bodenmann will leave his role as CEO of Sympany on 31 December 2016 and take up his new position as CEO of Assura from 1 January 2017. Until Michael Willer starts on 1 April 2017, Suzanne Blaser, member of the Executive Board, will take over the CEO's role at Sympany in the interim.

Siegfried Walser said: "I'm really pleased that we have managed to find the ideal solution with Suzanne Blaser as interim CEO until Michael Willer starts. At this point, I would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to Ruedi Bodenmann for his dedication and successful time working at our company. Over the past five years, he has guided Sympany resolutely towards becoming the financially strong and innovative company that it is today as one of Switzerland's ten largest health insurance companies. I wish him all the best for the future."

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About Sympany

Sympany is the "refreshingly different" insurance company that provides made-to-measure protection and assistance, with no red tape. Sympany offers health and accident insurance for individuals and companies as well as property and liability insurances. Its head office is in Basel.

Sympany offers the first surplus model in the Swiss health insurance sector which provides repayments under their basic and supplementary policies if the cost of medical treatment ends up being lower than had been anticipated when setting premiums.

It made a profit of CHF 37.2 million in 2015. Its total premium volume for 2015 was CHF 950 million. The company has 466 employees and around 216,000 private customers, some 163,000 of whom have basic insurance cover in accordance with the Federal Law on Sickness Insurance (KVG). Sympany has around 6,700 companies in its corporate customer portfolio.