

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **STRATEC reports its preliminary results for 2016**

- Sales of € 184.9 million (+25.9%; previous year: € 146.9 million)
- EBIT of € 32.2 million\* (+19.7%; previous year: € 26.9 million)
- EBIT margin at 17.4%\* (previous year: 18.3%)
- Dividend proposal planned to be increased to € 0.77 per share (previous year: € 0.75)

\* figures adjusted for one-off items resulting from transaction activities and related reorganization expenses

Birkenfeld, March 14, 2017

STRATEC Biomedical AG (Frankfurt: SBS; Prime Standard) today announces preliminary unaudited figures for the 2016 financial year for the STRATEC Group.

STRATEC Biomedical AG concluded the 2016 financial year on a successful note. The company generated sales of € 184.9 million, exceeding its previously announced sales forecast for 2016 of between € 175 million and € 182 million. The EBIT margin of 17.4% achieved by the company was at the upper end of the forecast corridor of 16.0% to 17.5%. EBIT came to € 32.2 million, compared to € 26.9 million in the previous year. These earnings figures have been adjusted to exclude one-off items of € 8.0 million (9M/2016: € 6.7 million) for transaction and integration activities in connection with the two company takeovers executed in 2016. Despite the substantial benefits of scale recently achieved and the associated positive impact on the company's margin performance, STRATEC nevertheless sees opportunities for a further slight improvement in its operating margin.

In the 2017 financial year, the two companies acquired in 2016 will both be consolidated in the STRATEC Group for the first full reporting period. In this context, STRATEC will continue with its reorganization measures across the whole Group for which further investments (in particular IT) of a total amount of around € 4 million have been planned over the three coming years. This process has also involved and will continue to involve restructuring sections of previously existing business units.

Comments Marcus Wolfinger, CEO of STRATEC: "We are very satisfied with our operating performance, which was driven by the pleasing performance of our new subsidiaries and slight organic growth. The initial integration phase is now complete and the first signs of joint success and synergies are already apparent. As was often the case in STRATEC's past, notwithstanding the long-term nature of our customer relationships the seasonal variations in our business performance were often very marked. This means that our performance within a given financial year often does not follow a linear trajectory. We witnessed this once again in the past financial year, with its very strong fourth quarter. We expect a similar development in the quarters ahead. Given pending market approvals and synergy effects from the acquisitions, we are very optimistic about the company's further growth."

An update of the financial guidance figures is expected to be released upon the publication of the Half-Year Financial Report on July 25, 2017. Until then, the existing guidance remains valid.

At the meeting due to be held to approve the financial statements, the Board of Management and Supervisory Board will discuss what could be the 13<sup>th</sup> consecutive increase in the dividend proposal to the Annual General Meeting. For the 2016 financial year, the dividend rise to € 0.77 per share will be discussed (previous year: € 0.75).

STRATEC will publish its definitive, audited figures for the 2016 financial year on April 20, 2017.

#### **Conference call and audio webcast**

To comment on the preliminary results STRATEC will hold a short conference call in English today, Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 3.00 p.m. (CET).

The access information (telephone number, passcode + individual PIN) will be provided once the participant has registered at this link: [www.stratec.com/registration](http://www.stratec.com/registration)

The conference call may also be followed as an audio webcast at [www.stratec.com/audiowebcast20170314](http://www.stratec.com/audiowebcast20170314) (brief registration required). Please note that it is not possible to submit any questions via the audio webcast. You can also follow and/or download the slide presentation via this link.

#### **About STRATEC**

STRATEC Biomedical AG ([www.stratec.com](http://www.stratec.com)) designs and manufactures fully automated analyzer systems for its partners in the fields of clinical diagnostics and biotechnology. Furthermore, the company offers sample preparation solutions, integrated laboratory software, and complex consumables for diagnostic and medical applications. STRATEC covers the entire value chain – from development to design and production through to quality assurance.

The partners market the systems, software and consumables in general together with their own reagents, as system solutions to laboratories, blood banks and research institutes around the world. STRATEC develops its products on the basis of its own patented technologies.

Shares in the company (ISIN: DE000STRA555) are traded in the Prime Standard segment of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange.

#### **Further information can be obtained from:**

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