

THE SSE GROUP PROUDLY ANNOUNCES RECORD RESULTS

The SSE Group delivered record results for the fiscal year 2022, driven by ambitious strategic choices implemented over the last 10 years. *"This achievement represents a strong improvement in profitability and a stable situation to pursue the Group's development at a sustained rhythm,"* says Raymond Loretan, Chairman of SSE Board of Directors.

The strategic vision keeps its promises in both Group's business units.

The civil explosives unit, which accounts for some 90% of the Group's business, has experienced pleasing growth in the "drilling and blasting" service business, especially in continental Europe, accounting for over 60% of business volume. The main challenge in 2022 was to pass on to customers the rising costs of raw materials, linked mainly to energy prices. This was kept under control and transparently communicated.

The Group's chemicals unit, Valsynthese, celebrating its 40th Anniversary, has recorded the best financial results of the past 10 years, with sales growth of 35% and Ebit back in the black. The production of an innovative feed additive that reduces methane emissions from cows by 30% contributes to the very positive inflection in sales and profitability that Valsynthese will continue to enjoy over the next few years. On the market, Valsynthese is positioned as the reference partner for chemical reactions with "high energetic potential".

"We are delighted with the results of the 2022 capital increase of CHF 4.27 million, which has strengthened our equity base and supported the Group's development strategy in its two business units," says Dany Antille, Executive Delegate of the SSE Board.

2022 Historical financial results:

- Group sales growth of 21% to CHF 168 million
- Valsynthese chemistry unit achieves its best results, with sales up 35%.
- Ebit increase of 123% to CHF 7.2 million
- Exceptional dividends increase of CHF 5 per share

"In 2023, despite economic uncertainties, we assume to keep relevant indicators at the same level as in 2022. Particularly, we expect to maintain our Ebitda and Ebit profitability ratios" says Gilles de Preux, CEO of the SSE Group.

The Board of Directors and Executive Managers are confident of sustained development of the Group over the next few years.