

Press release

(Ad-hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53 SIX Listing Rules)

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Robert Itschner to be the new CEO of BKW

Head of ABB Switzerland will succeed Suzanne Thoma

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The BKW AG Board of Directors has named Robert Itschner (55) as its next CEO. The qualified electrical engineer and internationally experienced industry manager will continue BKW's successful strategy and further strengthen the company as a sustainable energy and infrastructure service provider with outstanding technological expertise and customer focus. He will assume the post by 1 October 2022 at the latest.



Long-time ABB executive Robert Itschner will succeed Suzanne Thoma as the Group CEO of BKW. The BKW Board of Directors is convinced that Robert Itschner is the right person to lead the implementation of its growth strategy in the energy and services business. "With his technological expertise and exceptional service and customer focus, he will be a great boon to the BKW Group as it pursues its strategic objectives," says Roger Baillod, Chairman of the BKW Board of Directors.

Robert Itschner currently serves as chairman of the executive board of ABB Switzerland, with some 4,000 employees. He previously held a number of different

international leadership positions with the industrial firm. Among other posts, he was the director of the Power Conversion global business unit and director of marketing & sales for the Robotics & Motion division. Itschner, with his advanced degrees in electrical engineering and computer science, is looking forward to taking on the new challenge: "What BKW has managed to build in recent years is extremely impressive. I'm delighted to be joining BKW as a sustainable company with an exceptional technology and customer focus as it operates in a dynamic market environment," he says.

The 55-year-old Swiss native has a broad network of contacts in the Swiss industrial community. As a representative of Swissmem, he is also a member of the board of Economiesuisse and president of its Energy and Environment commission. Robert Itschner lives in the Zurich Oberland region, is married and has three grown children. He will take up his post with BKW by 1 October 2022 at the latest. The current CEO, Suzanne Thoma, will step down as of 30 June 2022. Roger Baillod, as Chairman of the Board of Directors, will lead the company on an interim basis until Robert Itschner takes over.

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The BKW Group is a Bern-based international energy and infrastructure company. It employs approximately 11,000 people. Its company network and innovative technologies allow it to offer its customers a full range of skills in the areas of infrastructure, buildings and energy. The Group plans, builds and operates infrastructure to produce and supply energy to businesses, households and the public sector, and offers digital business models for renewable energies. Today, the BKW Group portfolio comprises everything from engineering consultancy and planning for energy, infrastructure and environmental projects to integrated offers in the field of building technology and the construction, servicing and maintenance of energy, telecommunications, transport and water networks.

The registered shares of BKW AG are listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.