

## Requested change to Articles of Association

### **Board of Directors requests abolition of „opting out“ clause for Oerlikon**

***Pfäffikon SZ, April 18, 2008 – At the General Meeting on May 13, 2008, the Board of Directors of OC Oerlikon will submit a proposal to abolish the opting out clause included in the company's Articles of Association. A relevant agenda item is enclosed in the invitation to the General Meeting to be published shortly.***

According to the currently applicable Oerlikon Articles of Association, a shareholder who purchases more than 33 1/3 per cent of the company's shares is not obliged to make a public takeover offer to all other shareholders of the company in compliance with the regulations of the Swiss Stock Exchange Act (opting out clause). The Board of Directors is of the opinion that an opting out no longer corresponds to the modern standards of Corporate Governance and therefore proposes the abolition of this statutory regulation. If this proposal by the Board of Directors is accepted, any shareholder acquiring more than 33 1/3 per cent of the shares of the company after this change in the statutes comes into force, must make a public takeover offer to the other shareholders. In this way, equal treatment of all shareholders is ensured, in particular including retail investors.

For further information, please contact:

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### **About Oerlikon**

*Oerlikon (SWX: OERL) is one of the world's most successful high-tech industrial groups specializing in machine and plant engineering. The company is a leader in the field of industrial solutions and innovative technologies for textile manufacture, thin-film solar and thin-film coating, drive, precision and vacuum systems. With roots in Switzerland and a long tradition stretching back 100 years, Oerlikon is a global player with a workforce of more than 19,000 at 170 locations in 35 different countries. The company's sales amounted to CHF 5.6 billion and it ranks either first or second in the respective global markets. In 2007, approx. 5 per cent of the turnover was invested in research and development (CHF 274 million).*