

Aitor Galdos named new CEO of Tecan

Männedorf, 19 September 2003 – **The Tecan Group, a leading player in laboratory automation, has a new CEO. Four months after the departure of Emile Sutcliffe, the Board of Directors has named Aitor Galdos, born in 1955, as the Group's new CEO. He will take over the management of Tecan on 1 November 2003. Galdos is a Spanish citizen and has broad industry experience in research, marketing, production and operation, as well as in the management of M&A projects and strategic planning.**

Aitor Galdos studied mechanical engineering at the Simon Bolivar University in Caracas, Venezuela, and received two master's degrees at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, USA, in both mechanical engineering and metallurgy. He subsequently took his doctor's degree at the University of Tokyo, Japan, in the Department of Nuclear Engineering, and worked for two years in teaching and research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston. He also earned a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree at the University of Syracuse, NY.

Aitor Galdos began his career in 1980 with Exxon in the Amazon region, where he worked in oil production for three years. During his postgraduate studies in Japan, he worked as a consultant on various projects from 1985 through 1989. Starting in 1989, he built up one of the Japanese branches for Balzers AG (today's Unaxis Corporation). In 1991 he moved within the group to work as a product manager in Liechtenstein. In 1996 he took over the development and management of the TFT Display Division, which builds production facilities for liquid crystal displays. From 1999 through 2001 Galdos was in charge of corporate development at Unaxis. He is currently with VP Bank in Vaduz, where he works as a Head Group Marketing and Business Development and is in charge of analyzing all corporate activities and implementing new processes.

"Aitor Galdos has extensive experience in business management and possesses a very solid technical background. He is dynamic and ambitious, and his references are impressive," says Mike Baronian, the Chairman of Tecan's Board of Directors. "We are convinced that he will continue to lead our company during the current concentration on our core competencies – the production of high-precision platforms for medical laboratory instruments – with enthusiasm and determination."

"Tecan has highly qualified specialists, superior products and an excellent competitive position," Galdos explains his taking the helm of the Männedorf-based technology group. "It is therefore not only my goal to further develop our platforms and to improve cost effectiveness. I will also be committed to showing investors just how interesting the market for laboratory automation is for them in the long term."

Aitor Galdos fluently speaks German, Spanish, Italian, English, and Japanese. He is married and has two children. His hobbies include sailing, skiing, tennis, travelling, and reading.



Innovation Day: Presentation of new platform Freedom EVO

Announcing the new CEO today Tecan demonstrated parallel on its innovation day the very latest developments in its solutions for the Life Sciences. On display at this year's event were Tecan's platform strategy and more specifically Tecan's new platform – the Freedom EVO series. By offering increased flexibility and regulatory compliance for both existing and future customer needs, Tecan's Freedom EVO automation platforms are extending the company's leadership position in liquid handling for the Life Science industry.

Demonstrations and presentations showed how Tecan's new platforms, which are founded on over 20 years of experience, were transforming laboratory automation for the many different application needs of its customers. From delivering the highest possible flexibility through its modular open design up to compliance with the very latest regulatory requirements, the Freedom EVO platform enables applications across all of Tecan's business areas of Genomics, Proteomics, Drug Discovery and Diagnostics.

For the media:

Aitor Galdos will be present at Tecan's Innovation Day in Männedorf today. Photos are available at alexandra.rothenfluh@tecan.com. Presentations of today's Innovation day are available on www.tecan.com (Investor Relations).

For more information please contact:

TECAN Group
Mike Baronian
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Phone: +41 (0) 1 922 88 88
Fax: +41 (0) 1 922 88 89
E-mail: mike.baronian@tecan.com