

Orell Füssli Holding AG acquires a minority stake in Landqart AG

Zurich, 21 December 2017. Orell Füssli Holding AG (OFH) has signed a contract for the purchase of 10 percent of the shares in Landqart AG, Landquart (LQ) from the former owner, a subsidiary of Fortress Paper Ltd., which is listed on the Toronto stock exchange. At the same time, OFH will acquire 10 percent of the shares in Landqart Management and Services, which holds the relevant patents for the activities of Landqart AG. OFH is to pay a price of 2.15 million francs to acquire the shares in the two companies. The deal was transacted together with the Swiss National Bank, which now holds 90 percent of the shares in the two companies.

Landqart AG is the manufacturer of the banknote substrate Durasafe® which is being used for the new series of banknotes from the Swiss National Bank. By acquiring the shares, Orell Füssli is, firstly, ensuring the supply capacity of the substrate, which was acutely jeopardised by the short-term financial problems at Landqart AG. Secondly, Orell Füssli Holding expects strategic cooperation in the recruitment of new customers for high quality, innovative banknotes to create wider opportunities in the medium term.

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Orell Füssli is a diversified industrial and trading group engaged in the core businesses of banknote and security printing, industrial systems used in the individualisation of security documents and branded products, and book retailing. Orell Füssli generates sales of some CHF 300 million with about 900 employees at locations in eight countries and is listed on the Swiss stock exchange.