

Press release

CSEM Annual General Meeting

CSEM marks its 35th anniversary with an exceptional year

Neuchâtel and Zurich, 30 June 2020 – CSEM celebrated its 35th anniversary in 2019, chalking up a record increase in the volume of research projects carried out by its scientists, while maintaining a high level of joint R&D projects with industry. These encouraging figures leave the Center well-positioned to face the challenges of the COVID-19 era. Going forward, CSEM plans to support businesses in their digitalization initiatives and step-up its research efforts in Deep Tech, including Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Manufacturing.

In 2019, CSEM's scientists made notable advancements in several fields: Artificial Intelligence-based systems that can detect potential train incidents; systems for continually monitoring epileptic patients' brain activity to help doctors develop better treatment protocols; and more effective methods for detecting breast cancer. The year ended with record growth on several fronts, enabling the Center to face the future with confidence.

Growth in revenues and headcount

CSEM's revenues rose 6.6% in 2019, bringing it to a record level. Much of this increase can be attributed to a 30% climb in competitive public research funds (e.g. Innosuisse, the Swiss National Science Foundation, and EU projects). The level of public contributions remained largely unchanged, and industrial projects stayed close to the record level reached in 2018. These figures reflect the confidence that businesses and public-sector organizations have in CSEM's research capabilities – as well as CSEM's capacity to transform research funds into value-added technology that is transferred to industry. Thanks to the Center's solid finances, it was able to create 27 new jobs in 2019, expanding its headcount by 5.7%.

Supporting the digital transformation

CSEM also made progress in its efforts to help Swiss businesses implement their digitalization strategies. Through a series of projects completed in 2019, the Center showed that even small and medium-sized companies can digitalize their key processes, including companies operating in traditional industries. For instance, Schmid Federnfabrik – winner of the 2019 CSEM Digital Journey competition – is using the award to develop a smart spring system that can detect potential mechanical failures and pinpoint areas where maintenance is needed to prevent costly plant shutdown. This year CSEM will select not one but two winners, enabling two Swiss firms to take concrete steps towards digitalization.

In the coming years, the Center will focus its research efforts on Deep Tech, which is disruptive technology arising from advancements in Digitalization, Artificial Intelligence, Renewable Energy, and Advanced Manufacturing. Progress in all these fields will be crucial for Swiss manufacturers to retain their competitive advantage on the global stage.

Learn more about our 2019 highlights in our [annual report](#).
[CSEM Digital Journey](#)

Key figures (CHF)	2018	2019
Total revenues	82,109,550	87,549,302
– State contributions	37,295,600	37,367,000
– Competitive public research funds	17,450,558	23,042,896
– Private technologies	27,363,392	27,139,406
Total costs	82,287,832	87,513,904
– Directly linked to projects	9,594,837	11,166,400
– Personnel	54,642,306	58,608,757
– General Administration	18,050,689	17,738,747
Operating result	-178,282	35,398
Result of other activities and non-operating earnings	232,622	69,222
Financial year result	54,340	104,620

For more information and to set up interviews

CSEM

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About CSEM

CSEM—technologies that make the difference

CSEM, founded in 1984, is a Swiss research and development center (public-private partnership) specializing in microtechnology, nanotechnology, microelectronics, system engineering, photovoltaics and communications technologies. Around 500 highly qualified specialists from various scientific and technical disciplines work for CSEM in Neuchâtel, Zurich, MuttENZ, Alpnach, and Landquart.

Further information is available at www.csem.ch

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