

Press release

CSEM Research Center, Landquart

The Canton of Grisons commits to an eight-year contract with the CSEM regional center in Landquart

Neuchâtel/Landquart, 13 September 2013 – Since opening in 2007, the CSEM Research Center in Landquart has built successful business partnerships and created qualified jobs throughout the canton. “Over the next few years, we aim to forge even closer links with the industries present in the region”, said CSEM Chairman of the Board Claude Nicollier on the occasion of his meeting with Hansjörg Trachsel, president of Grisons’ cantonal government.

Research and development is often a closed book to outsiders. During his meeting with Claude Nicollier, chairman of CSEM’s board, Hansjörg Trachsel, president of Grisons’ cantonal government, became convinced that it doesn’t have to be this way. The two met in CSEM’s regional headquarters in Landquart. “The objective we set ourselves at the opening of the center in Landquart,” says Nicollier, “of creating a center for innovation and knowledge with a strong regional focus, has now been achieved.” Today, CSEM Landquart employs over 20 people and has launched three spin-offs since 2007. The center is already generating a turnover of over 4 million Swiss francs.

Nicollier confirmed to Trachsel that “CSEM is striving to broaden ties with industries active in the region”. To achieve this goal, the structure of CSEM Landquart has been refined and partly adapted to suit the region itself. Two regional persons with strong industrial backgrounds have been appointed as section leaders. The fact that the CSEM regional center’s new strategy of “moving closer to industry” is on the right track is proven by the increasing number of projects being carried out in partnership with regional companies.

Trachsel is convinced that regional technology companies are benefiting from CSEM’s increased proximity and hopes that more companies will take advantage of the range of technologies offered by the center. “This will further strengthen the Alpenrheintal region as an economic location and add to its appeal in the eyes of top world specialists.” The president of the governing council of Grisons is convinced that companies in the region can benefit in a multitude of ways from the close proximity of, and rapid and direct communication with, technology experts. On this basis, and as previously in close collaboration with the Economy and Tourism Office of the Canton of Grisons, a new contract for a period of eight years extending from 2014 until 2021 has been concluded. As was the case for previous contracts between the canton and the center, this agreement guarantees knowledge and technology transfer to support the capacity of regional industry to innovate and develop, and thus to create qualified jobs.

Nicollier assured his guest that a focused and systematic commitment was being made to expand contacts with regional companies, with the objective of raising awareness and consolidating the trust of regional industries in the research institute. CSEM is currently analyzing the target- versus actual- technology portfolio of regional industry. The outcome of this analysis will pave the way for market-driven research activities at the research center in Landquart. The region will also benefit from CSEM’s global network. CSEM, a private research and technology organisation founded in 1984, has earned an outstanding worldwide reputation as a reliable and competent technology partner. “Our partners know that when they collaborate with CSEM they can rely on internationally consolidated expertise in consulting, research, and development”, says Nicollier. One major advantage of CSEM is that it grants its industry partners direct access to technology platforms already matured in its centers thanks to its skilled and

knowledgeable engineers, so that these partners can then incorporate those technologies rapidly into their own products.



Claude Nicollier, Chairman of the Board and Hansjörg Trachsel, president of Grisons's cantonal government
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Additional information

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About CSEM

CSEM – an innovation center

CSEM SA, founded in 1984, is a private research and development center specializing in microtechnology, nanotechnology, microelectronics, systems engineering, and communications technologies. Approximately 400 highly qualified and specialized employees from various scientific and technical disciplines work for CSEM in Neuchâtel, Zurich, Muttenz, Alpnach, and Landquart. They represent more than 30 nationalities and constitute the basis of the company's creativity, dynamism, and innovative potential.

Further information is available at www.csem.ch

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