

Media Release

Sonova appoints Arnd Kaldowski as new CEO and successor of Lukas Braunschweiler

Stäfa (Switzerland), September 1, 2017 – Sonova Holding AG, the world’s leading provider of hearing solutions, announces the retirement of CEO Lukas Braunschweiler after six years with the company and a total of fifteen years as a public company CEO. Arnd Kaldowski will initially join the Group as COO on October 1, 2017 and assume the CEO role after a transition phase on April 1, 2018. Arnd Kaldowski, a 50 year old German citizen, joins Sonova from Danaher Corporation, where he has served in various leadership capacities since 2008, most recently as Group Executive Diagnostics Platform and President Beckman Coulter Diagnostics.

In his initial role as COO, Arnd Kaldowski will have direct responsibility for all three businesses hearing instruments, retail and cochlear implants, as well as for research & development, supply chain and IT. Lukas Braunschweiler will continue to oversee finance, investor relations, human resources and communications. Arnd Kaldowski will assume responsibility for all functions and take over as CEO of Sonova on April 1, 2018. To further support the long-term continuity in the leadership of the company and to secure his extensive industry knowhow, the Board of Directors will propose Lukas Braunschweiler for election as a member of the Board of Directors of Sonova at the Annual General Shareholders’ Meeting in June 2018.

“With Arnd Kaldowski we have gained a proven and successful leader with a strong track record in the healthcare industry. Throughout his entire career, technology and innovation, digitalization and proximity to the customer were key,” says Robert Spoerry, Chairman of Sonova’s Board of Directors. “Arnd Kaldowski has led significant sales and productivity growth initiatives reflected in an impressive track record of M&A, commercial excellence and new product introduction,” adds Lukas Braunschweiler, CEO of Sonova.

In his most recent role as Group Executive Diagnostics Platform and President Beckman Coulter Diagnostics at Danaher Corporation, Arnd Kaldowski had overall revenue responsibility of USD 5.5 billion globally, including direct reporting of the operating companies Radiometer, Leica Biosystems and Cepheid, and including the Heads HR, legal, finance, business development (M&A), clinical affairs, regulatory and quality. Before joining Danaher, Arnd Kaldowski was SVP Point-of-Care Solutions at Siemens Medical, following his previous assignments as Investment Director of Atila Ventures and as Manager with the Boston Consulting Group.

Arnd Kaldowski holds a Master of Science in Physics from the Technical University Darmstadt, Germany, and an MBA from INSEAD in Fontainebleau, France. “Sonova is an exceptional high-tech company with strong Swiss roots in a very attractive growth market,” says Arnd Kaldowski. “I am excited about joining

the very experienced Sonova management team and to contribute to the continuation of the Sonova success story.”

“Today, Sonova is in an excellent position,” concludes Robert Spoerry. “During his tenure Lukas Braunschweiler has helped to overcome various challenges quickly and subsequently grew the company together with his team by around 50% even in periods of substantial strengthening of the Swiss franc. This success was very much driven by a focused global growth and expansion strategy, a strong and unmatched technology pipeline and a second-to-none product portfolio. The well-proven and broad global leadership team of Sonova is poised to lead and expand the Group to the next level in terms of both size and market leadership.”

Conference call and webcast

Sonova will host a conference call and webcast for media and investors, today, September 1, 2017, at 1:30 PM CEST to discuss today’s announcement.

Dial-in details:

[Link to the webcast](#)

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About Sonova

Sonova, headquartered in Stäfa, Switzerland, is the leading provider of innovative hearing care solutions. The Group operates through its core business brands Phonak, Unitron, Hansaton, Advanced Bionics and AudioNova. Sonova offers its customers one of the most comprehensive product portfolios in the industry – from hearing instruments to cochlear implants to wireless communication solutions. Founded in 1947, the Group is currently present in over 100 countries across the globe and has a workforce of over 14,000 dedicated employees. Sonova generated sales of CHF 2.4 billion in the financial year 2016/17 and a net profit of CHF 356 million. Across all businesses, and by supporting the Hear the World Foundation, Sonova pursues its vision of a world where everyone enjoys the delight of hearing and therefore lives a life without limitations.

For more information please visit www.sonova.com and www.hear-the-world.com.

Sonova shares (ticker symbol: SOON, Security no: 1254978, ISIN: CH0012549785) have been listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange since 1994. **The securities of Sonova have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “U.S. Securities Act”), or under the applicable securities laws of any state of the United States of America, and may not be offered or sold in the United States of America except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements under the U.S. Securities Act and in compliance with applicable state securities laws, or outside the United States of America to non-U.S. Persons in reliance on Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act.**