



Family-run company Ricola sets the course for the future

Ricola, a traditional company based in Laufen (Switzerland), has performed very successfully in recent years and has impressed worldwide with its specialties made from Swiss mountain herbs. The complexity of the management of the Ricola group has increased with the company's growth, its intensified internationalization and the advancing digitalization. In order to meet these challenges, the owner family and the Board of Directors have implemented measures to drive this positive development of Ricola forward in future too.

Felix Richterich to focus on his role as Chairman of the Board of Directors

Having managed the family-run company successfully for 27 years and after holding a dual role for the last seven years as CEO and Chairman of the Board, Felix Richterich (aged 60) has now decided to concentrate on the role of Chairman of the Board of Directors as of 1 May 2019 and to manage the Group strategically.

Thomas P. Meier the new CEO at Ricola

Thomas P. Meier will take over the operational management of Ricola as the new CEO on 1 May 2019. He is 48 years old, comes from Bülach, Canton Zurich, is married and has three daughters. He is very well prepared for his new task, having previously been CEO of Franke Coffee Systems, a globally active division of the Franke Group, and a member of the Executive Board of Franke. Before this, he held a number of key positions in the branded goods industry in the food sector for two decades and was latterly Managing Director Asia Pacific at Lindt & Sprüngli. Thomas P. Meier holds a degree in business administration from the University of St Gallen. With his professional experience, his international background and his Swiss virtues, Thomas P. Meier is well prepared to lead Ricola into the future together with the long-standing and experienced management team.

Owner family will remain involved

The Richterich family will remain involved in the company's strategy and operation with several members of the family. While Felix Richterich serves as Chairman, 34-year-old Raphael Richterich took over as the new Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors. He replaces 45-year-old Eva Richterich, the new Chief Marketing Officer (CMO). She has been in charge of the Global Marketing and Innovation department since 1 January 2019. As the Vice-Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of Ricola Eva Richterich has helped shape the company and the brand. In addition, she has set standards in innovation and digitalization as founder and head of the Ricolab innovation laboratory. In order to concentrate fully on her new role, Eva Richterich stepped down from the Board of Directors of Ricola on 1 January 2019.

With these measures, succession both on the Board of Directors and in the management team has been carefully clarified in good time to ensure that the traditional family-run company can be steered successfully into the future.



About Ricola

Ricola is one of the world's most modern and innovative manufacturers of herb drops. Ricola herb specialties are exported to more than 50 countries and are famous for their fine Swiss quality. Founded in 1930, with company headquarters in Laufen and subsidiaries in Europe, Asia and the USA, Ricola now produces around 60 different herb drops and tea specialties. Group sales amounted to CHF 324.9 million at the end of 2017. In Switzerland, this family-owned company is a pioneer in herb cultivation and places great value on using carefully selected locations and controlled environmentally friendly cultivation methods. Ricola has concluded fixed long-term purchase agreements with more than 100 farmers in Swiss mountain regions. Ricola is a responsible employer of more than 400 employees and is committed to sustainable corporate management: economically, socially and ecologically. The traditional values of a family-run enterprise coupled with Swiss quality and a passion for innovation are crucial factors in the success of the Ricola global brand.

People



Felix Richterich (60), Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ricola Group Ltd

Felix Richterich is a member of the third generation of the family-run company Ricola and has been in charge of it for 27 years, the last seven in a dual role as CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors. In 2011, Felix Richterich won the Swiss Award in the Business category, and in 2015, he was awarded the industry-specific international ISM Award in recognition of his outstanding performance. An economist with a degree from the University of Basel (with a specialization in marketing), he will focus on his role as Chairman of the Board of Directors at Ricola as of 1 May 2019. Felix Richterich is married and a father of two adult children.



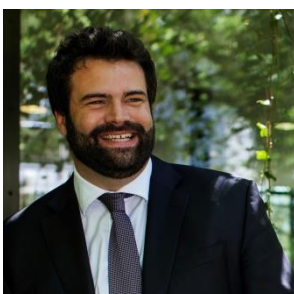
Thomas P. Meier (48), Chief Executive Officer of Ricola Group Ltd (as of 1 May 2019)

Thomas P. Meier will take over as CEO of Ricola Group Ltd on 1 May 2019. He was previously CEO at Franke Coffee Systems, a globally active division of the Franke Group, and a member of the Franke Executive Board. Prior to this, for two decades he held a number of key positions in the branded goods industry in the food sector and was latterly Managing Director Asia Pacific at Lindt & Sprüngli. He holds a degree in business administration from the University of St Gallen. Thomas P. Meier comes from Bülach (Canton Zurich), and is married and father of three daughters.



Eva Richterich (45), Chief Marketing Officer and a member of the Executive Board of Ricola Group Ltd

Eva Richterich took up her post as Chief Marketing Officer and head of the Global Marketing and Innovation department at Ricola on 1 January 2019. As the Vice-Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of Ricola Eva Richterich has helped shape company and brand. In addition, she has set standards in innovation and digitalization as founder and head of the Ricolab innovation laboratory. Previously she founded several successful companies, managed major national projects, and was active both in foundations and start-ups. In 2018 Eva Richterich was named one of the Top 100 Digital Shapers of Switzerland for her engagement at Ricolab. Together with Raphael Richterich she will remain on the Board of Directors of Ricolab. Eva Richterich is mother of two daughters.



Raphael Richterich (34), Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ricola Group Ltd

Raphael Richterich is the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ricola Group Ltd. Before being appointed a board member, the 34-year-old economist held a number of management positions at Ricola over a six-year period, latterly as Chief Marketing Officer and a member of the Executive Board. In addition to his commitment as a member of the Board of Directors at Ricola, he is Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Ricolab innovation laboratory and a member of the Sustainability Committee at Basler Kantonalbank and Bank Cler. Raphael Richterich is married and father of three daughters.



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