

**MEDIA RELEASE****Franke elects new Chairman of the Board**

**Aarburg, Switzerland, 30 June 2005 – Franke nominated Thomas A. Erb who was elected on May 18, 2005 to the Franke Board of Directors as new Chairman of the Board.**

Following the sudden death of the Franke Board Chairman, Fritz Maurhofer, the Franke Group now has a new Chairman: Thomas A. Erb, former CEO and Board of Directors Delegate, was responsible for a globally leading company in the building chemicals industry. Thomas A. Erb has the benefit of about 30 years of professional and management experience in international groups and worked for 18 years in top management positions abroad.

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*The **Franke** Group is a global provider of products, services and custom solutions for a wide range of applications in the household food preparation and catering sectors. Franke, whose holding company is domiciled in Aarburg, Switzerland, has after acquiring the Faber Group some 7'200 employees around the world, and is firmly established with 85 subsidiaries in 38 countries. The two divisions **Franke Kitchen Systems** (sinks, taps, cooking hobs, ovens, hoods, etc. and washroom and sanitary systems) and **Franke Foodservice Systems** (products and services for quick service restaurants) are the global market leaders in their business sectors, exporting to over 100 countries. The activities of Franke also include **Franke Coffee Systems** with a broad product programme of fully automatic, professional and semi-professional coffee machines as well as the technology field and beverage containers. In the financial year 2004, Franke generated consolidated sales of CHF 1,628.0 million (without Faber).*



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