



Press release

The new Pierhor-Gasser company obtains ISO 9001 certification

Following legal formalisation of the merger between Pierhor SA and Gasser-Ravussin SA in December 2019, the new Pierhor-Gasser SA entity, based in Ecublens (VD), has just received ISO 9001 certification. This marks the first step in even more ambitious objectives for this company, which specialises in the processing of synthetic single crystals, such as rubies and sapphires.

Ecublens, 30 January 2020 Founded in 1899 and 1927 respectively, Pierhor SA and Gasser-Ravussin SA became part of the Acrotec Group in 2017 before merging in 2018 on the original site of Pierhor SA in Ecublens (VD) and becoming Pierhor-Gasser SA. This new entity specialises in the high-precision machining of synthetic single crystals, such as rubies, sapphires, spinels and technical ceramics.

The manufacturing processes ensure precision in microns (or even down to a few nanometres) for applications in the watch-making, electronics, medical, aeronautics and machine tool sectors.

Riding the momentum created by this new skills set, Pierhor-Gasser has applied for ISO 9001 certification to facilitate the integration and harmonisation of its manufacturing procedures and product ranges, the consolidation of its methods and more effective structuring of its teams to increase its productivity and add to quality.

Jean-Michel Uhl, CEO of Pierhor-Gasser: *“This project has allowed us to unite the staff of both merged companies around a new and common objective to provide our clients with an ever-better service. We are very satisfied with first certification, but it is just one step towards further and even more ambitious certification requirements.”*

Pierhor-Gasser has indeed already launched the process for ISO 13485 certification, which should be completed by the end of 2020. This certification should make it possible to consolidate the company’s international positioning in the medtech sector.

Jean-Michel Uhl: *“These certifications give us a much higher level of quality control, traceability, precision, supplier auditing and process monitoring that is entirely in line with what is currently expected by our most demanding of customers, whether they are in watch-making or the medical sector.”*

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About Pierhor-Gasser SA: Based in Ecublens (VD), Pierhor-Gasser SA has unique know-how created by Pierhor SA and Gasser-Ravussin SA combining their skills under the umbrella of the Acrotec Group in 2018. This new independent entity brings together more than 200 years of expertise in the watch-making sector while opening itself up to international industrial markets well beyond watch making. This also guarantees a 100% Swiss-made product. The principal materials machined are synthetic single crystals, such as rubies, sapphires and spinels, as well as technical ceramics. These materials have the distinction of having a hardness ranging from 1,200 to 2,000 Vickers. The skilled manufacturing processes developed ensure a precision of just a few microns. The company is therefore able to machine holes of 0.05mm in diameter or to undertake external cylindrical adjustments of 5mm parts. These same processes make it possible to achieve the surface qualities in nanometres required by the systems that incorporate these parts. www.pierhor-gasser.ch

About the Acrotec Group:

Acrotec is an independent group created by micromechanics professionals. Its main objective is to be a leading subcontractor, offering a wide range of precision component manufacturing processes. Its strategy is to provide Swiss Made quality products both to the entire watch-making industry and to the automotive, electronics, medical, jewellery and aerospace sectors. Acrotec stands out with its range of know-how exercised under one roof, in precision machining (CNC turning, CNC multi-spindle turning, cam cutting, 3 & 5-axis milling, micro-cutting, transfer and machining of precious metals), with its support processes (surface treatment, cutting, assembly, heat treatment, decoration and laser engraving) and its specific processes (UV-Liga component production, wire/sinking erosion, synthetic stone machining, rolling, spring shaping, production of machines and tools and DRIE etching on silicon). The Group currently has more than eight hundred employees. www.acrotec.ch/en/