

## Press release

### **Pierre-Alain Urech proposed for BCV's Board of Directors**

**At the next Shareholders' Meeting, on 29 April 2021, BCV's Board of Directors will recommend that Pierre-Alain Urech, former CEO of Romande Energie and current Vice Chairman of the Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) Board of Directors, be elected to succeed Eftychia Fischer, who will take up her new position as BCV's Board Chair on 1 January 2022.**

**Lausanne, Switzerland, 4 February 2021** - The Board of Directors will recommend that Pierre-Alain Urech be elected to the Board at the next Shareholders' Meeting, on 29 April 2021, in accordance with Article 12a (1(c)) of the cantonal act governing BCV (LBCV). Mr. Urech would be one of the three members of BCV's Board elected by shareholders and would succeed Eftychia Fischer who – as announced on 27 January – will take up her new position as Chair of the Board on 1 January 2022, replacing Jacques de Watteville. Mr. Urech would likewise take up his new position on 1 January 2022.

#### **Vast network and extensive experience in strategy and management**

BCV's Board of Directors is convinced that Pierre-Alain Urech has the necessary professional and personal skills and qualities to take on this role. He has extensive experience in business management, developing and implementing strategies, risk management, and serving on boards of directors. That skillset, combined with his deep roots in Vaud Canton and vast network at the local, regional, and federal levels, will be major assets to the Board following Jacques de Watteville's departure.

Mr. Urech's professional accomplishments include leading and reorganizing the SBB's Rail 2000 project, managing the SBB's first district, in Lausanne (comprising 5,000 employees), and serving as the company's head of infrastructure. As the CEO of the utility Romande Energie, he developed and implemented a business strategy that aligned with Switzerland's broad electricity market deregulation, driving the changes that ensured that Romande Energie Group could carry out its mission despite significant changes in the company's operating environment.

Mr. Urech holds a degree in civil engineering from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH Zurich) and a postgraduate degree in railways business management from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL). He has also completed courses in management, marketing, finance, and human resources in Switzerland, London, and New York. Mr. Urech, who is from La Tour-de-Peilz in Vaud, speaks French, German, Swiss German, and English.

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**Note to editors:**

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