

## Media release

### **Sonova's corporate responsibility engagement recognized by 2019 Dow Jones Sustainability Index**

***Stäfa, Switzerland, September 17, 2019*** – Sonova Holding AG, a leading provider of hearing solutions, today announced that it has been named to the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI), due to its continuous improvement in economic, environmental, and social performance. Sonova has been listed for the sixth consecutive year on this prestigious list. Among company peers, Sonova was especially recognized in the categories innovation management, health outcome contribution, corporate citizenship & philanthropy, codes of business conduct, materiality, as well as environmental policy & management systems.

The DJSI is internationally regarded as an important reference for sustainable corporate management and honors the best players in each industry. The DJSI World comprises the leading ten percent of the world's 2,500 largest listed companies. It serves as a benchmark for investors who factor in sustainability criteria when assembling their investment portfolios.

Analysts evaluate companies from 60 industries on a range of sustainability criteria to determine the annual global Dow Jones Sustainability Index and Europe Index rating. In 2019, Sonova scored 74 out of 100 points overall amongst all 24 assessed economic, environmental and social dimensions. This places Sonova in the top 5 of all 44 evaluated companies from the «Health Care Equipment & Supplies» sector worldwide. Sonova obtained the highest scores in the environmental dimension and achieved top industry scores in the categories health outcome contribution, codes of business conduct, materiality, and environmental policy & management systems.

«As a leading hearing care company, creating a positive impact on society is at the core of Sonova's activities. With our technology, we help people hear the world. We are proud of the recognition of our corporate responsibility efforts through the DJSI inclusion and are encouraged to seek further improvement on these dimensions», says Arnd Kaldowski, CEO of Sonova.

Sonova's efforts have also been recognized by the inclusion in the FTSE4Good Global Indices for 2019 and also as new entry to the Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index, which shows that its commitment to equality based on a comprehensive diversity and inclusion strategy is acknowledged.

Sonova has been a signatory of the UN Global Compact since 2016, fully endorsing its ten principles in the areas of human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption and supports the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, which define the global sustainable development agenda through 2030.



Highest investment in R&D across the industry: Testing of hearing instrument technology at a Sonova research facility



The gift of hearing: One of the Vietnamese children who has been donated the latest cochlear implants, cost of surgery and long-term follow-up care thanks to the Hear the World Foundation, a Sonova Group initiative

### **About the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI)**

This global ranking is published annually by the S&P Dow Jones Indices and RobecoSAM and measures the performance of the world's sustainability leaders. RobecoSAM invites over 4,700 publicly traded companies to participate. Companies are selected for the indices according to a systematic Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) performed by RobecoSAM. Only firms that lead their industries based on this assessment are included in the indices. This is determined by a comprehensive assessment of long-term economic, environmental and social criteria that take account of general as well as industry-specific sustainability trends.

To learn more about Sonova's corporate responsibility initiatives and reporting, please visit <https://www.sonova.com/en/csr>

– End –

### **Contacts:**

#### **Media Relations**

Mirko Meier-Rentrop

Phone +41 58 928 33 24

Mobile +41 79 506 19 11

E-Mail [mirko.meier-rentrop@sonova.com](mailto:mirko.meier-rentrop@sonova.com)

Patrick Lehn

Phone +41 58 928 33 23

Mobile +41 79 410 82 84

E-Mail [patrick.lehn@sonova.com](mailto:patrick.lehn@sonova.com)

#### **Disclaimer**

This Media Release contains forward-looking statements, which offer no guarantee with regard to future performance. These statements are made on the basis of management's views and assumptions regarding future events and business performance at the time the statements are made. They are subject to risks and uncertainties including, but not confined to, future global economic conditions, exchange rates, legal provisions, market conditions, activities by competitors and other factors outside Sonova's control. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual outcomes may vary materially from those forecasted or expected. Each forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of the particular statement, and Sonova undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, except as required by law.

#### **About Sonova**

Sonova, headquartered in Stäfa, Switzerland, is a 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.

Pursuing a unique vertically integrated business strategy, the Group operates through three core businesses – hearing instruments, audiological care and cochlear implants – along the entire value chain of the hearing care market. The Group's sales and distribution network, the widest in the industry, comprises over 50 own wholesale companies and more than 100 independent distributors. This is complemented by Sonova's audiological care business, which offers professional audiological services through a network of around 3,500 locations in 18 key markets.

Founded in 1947, the Group has a workforce of over 14,000 dedicated employees and generated sales of CHF 2.76 billion in the financial year 2018/19 as well as a net profit of CHF 460 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](http://www.sonova.com) and [www.hear-the-world.com](http://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.**