

## PRESS RELEASE

### Preliminary key figures for first half of 2019 and adjustment of expectations for full year 2019

---

*Mex, 18 July, 2019* – Bobst Group SA expects to achieve sales of CHF 737 million in the first half-year of 2019 compared to CHF 763 million in the same period in 2018. The Group expects to reach an operating result (EBIT) of around CHF 15 million (CHF 35 million in 2018) and a net result of around CHF 7 million (CHF 25 million in 2018) for the first six months of the year 2019.

The main reasons for the reduction in operating result (EBIT) are slightly lower sales, a quite unfavorable product mix, the increased pressure on prices in order to defend market shares, a lower utilization of the industrial capacities due to lower orders, as well as foreseen increased costs associated with the digital initiatives launched by the Group.

The decrease in net result comes from lower operating result (EBIT) and from losses, on which no deferred tax assets are recognized since year end 2018.

Uncertainty has increased in our relevant markets due to the geopolitical instabilities and the trade war between the US and China. In addition to these negative factors our industry is also impacted by the increased awareness of consumers and brand owners, that more sustainable packaging solutions must be found. This will bring new opportunities for Bobst Group in the mid to long term, but it slows down the current investments of our customers. Accelerated consolidation in our industry and new entrants are leading to more severe competition and price pressure that affects both machine Business Units.

At current exchange rates the Group expects 2019 full year sales on a similar level as in the previous year (2018 CHF 1 635 million). The guidance for the 2019 full year operating result (EBIT) margin, which was in the range of 6% to 7%, is lowered to less than 5%. The reduction in operating result (EBIT) margin is mainly due to increased price pressure in order to defend market share, a lower utilization of the industrial capacities due to lower orders, and the planned reduction of inventories.

The Group will communicate the detailed half-year financial results on 24 July, 2019.



### **About BOBST**

We are one of the world's leading suppliers of substrate processing, printing and converting equipment and services for the label, flexible packaging, folding carton and corrugated industries.

Founded in 1890 by Joseph Bobst in Lausanne, Switzerland, BOBST has a presence in more than 50 countries, runs 14 production facilities in 8 countries and employs more than 5 600 people around the world. The firm recorded a consolidated turnover of CHF 1 635 million for the year ended December 31, 2018.

### **Inquiries**

Media and Investor Relations  
Stefano Bianchi  
Tel. +41 21 621 27 57  
E-mail: [investors@bobst.com](mailto:investors@bobst.com)

### **Forthcoming Releases**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 24 July 2019    | Publication of the half-year report as of 30 June 2019<br>Teleconference for financial analysts and the media |
| 8 November 2019 | Conference for financial analysts and the media in Zurich   |
| 2 March 2020    | Publication of the 2019 financial statements<br>Conference for financial analysts and the media in Mex        |
| 7 April 2020    | Annual General Meeting at 5.00 p.m. in Mex  |

### **Security symbols**

SIX SWISS EXCHANGE: BOBNN or 1268465  
ISIN: CH0012684657  
SIX Telekurs: BOBNN,4 or 1268465,4  
Bloomberg: BOBNN SW  
Reuters: BOBNN.S

### **Disclaimer**

Forward looking statements are subject to uncertainties and risk. Actual future results may differ materially from those expressed in or implied by the statements. Some of these uncertainties and risks relate to factors that are beyond BOBST's ability to control or estimate precisely, such as, in particular, future market conditions, currency fluctuations, or behavior of other market participants. Readers are cautioned not to put undue reliance on forward looking statements, which speak only of the date of this communication. BOBST disclaims any intention or obligation to update and revise any forward looking statements constantly, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.