

For immediate release

SELFRAG increases funding and expands its shareholder base

Kerzers, January 9th, 2012. SELFRAG, a technology leader in the production of fragmentation systems using high voltage pulse power technology has increased its Series C Financing to CHF 9.1 Million. This brings the total funding to CHF 25.8 Million. The additional capital was subscribed by the Swiss Helvetia Fund (NYSE: SWZ).

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With a CHF 1.4 Million Second Closing, SELFRAG has now increased its Series C Financing Round lead by affentranger associates to CHF 9.1 Million. The Swiss Helvetia Fund joined affentranger associates sa, SVC Ltd. (a wholly owned subsidiary of Credit Suisse), the Ammann Group and several private investors at the company's shareholder base.

The vision of SELFRAG is to become a main agent of change to more sustainable and respectful use and reuse of valuable materials. SELFRAG faces high demand and interests from various industries. The additional capital will enable SELFRAG to further industrialize its technology and to tackle very promising market opportunities in particular in manufacturing, mining and recycling.

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"We are very pleased that the Swiss Helvetia Fund, an additional institutional investor, has decided to join the company. It reflects the important progress made in the development of our company." says Frédéric von der Weid, CEO. "The company has developed from a technology team to a promising industrial player with the potential to reshape industries. A strong shareholder base is the basis for the success the company." adds Anton Affentranger, Chairman of the Board of SELFRAG AG.

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About SELFRAG

SELFRAG, a Kerzers/FR (Switzerland) based company, is specialized in the development, engineering and production of high voltage pulse power products, plants and systems for the selective fragmentation of various materials. Selective fragmentation allows for the sharp and efficient separation of complex materials delivering higher yield than traditional crushing techniques while reducing energy consumption and contamination. It is particularly suited for processing high purity materials as well as for mining and recycling applications. SELFRAG is the only company mastering this technology at an industrial level worldwide. SELFRAG has been spun-off from the Ammann Group in 2007 and grown to a company of 30 employees.



About The Swiss Helvetia Fund, Inc.

The Fund is a Delaware corporation that is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company registered under the U.S. Investment Company Act of 1940. The Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation through investment primarily in equity and equity-linked securities of Swiss companies. Its shares of common stock are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "SWZ". The Fund is managed by Hottinger Capital Corp.

About Affentranger Associates SA

Incorporated in 2002, Affentranger Associates SA (aasa) is a business platform focused on the theme of value creation. As principal investor, aasa has the ambition to achieve sustainable long-term returns by investing a combination of labor and capital in companies which are in a transition phase.