



**Press Release, 21 January 2019**

## **MED-EL becomes member of EHIMA**

The European Hearing Instrument Manufacturers Association (EHIMA) advocates high-quality hearing care and treatment through innovative hearing technology – now with an even stronger voice. On 1 January 2019, MED-EL Medical Electronics joined the association. With MED-EL, a leading manufacturer of innovative hearing implants, EHIMA has now seven members that are among the world's largest and most advanced hearing instrument manufacturers. They offer a wide range of hearing solutions from hearing aids to implantable and non-implantable hearing technology. In the members' assembly, MED-EL will be represented by its CEO Dr. Ingeborg Hochmair.

*"MED-EL, the leading European manufacturer of hearing implants, is delighted to join EHIMA. Together we will be able to tackle the silent burden of severe hearing loss and to prioritize hearing loss as a public health issue, to raise awareness of the condition and its innovative solutions such as cochlear implants. It is by joining forces that we can create a momentum and make a difference in the lives of so many people",* says MED-EL CEO Dr. Ingeborg Hochmair.

*"I have the great pleasure to welcome a new member to our EHIMA organisation: MED-EL, a technology leader with whom we share the vision that every hearing-impaired person has the right to hear well. The innovative hearing solutions manufactured by EHIMA's member companies deliver solutions that help people hard of hearing not only to treat their hearing problems, but also to stay active and to participate in society at their best",* says EHIMA President Søren Nielsen.

### **MED-EL Medical Electronics**

MED-EL Medical Electronics, a leader in implantable hearing solutions, is driven by a mission to overcome hearing loss as a barrier to communication. The Austrian-based, privately owned business was co-founded by industry pioneers Ingeborg and Erwin Hochmair, whose ground-breaking research led to the development of the world's first micro-electronic multi-channel cochlear implant (CI), which was successfully implanted in 1977 and was the basis for what is known as the modern CI today. This laid the foundation for the successful growth of the company in 1990, when they hired their first employees. To date, MED-EL has grown to more than 2,000 employees and 33 offices worldwide.

The company offers the widest range of implantable and non-implantable solutions to treat all types of hearing loss, enabling people in 123 countries enjoy the gift of hearing with the help of a MED-EL device. MED-EL's hearing solutions include cochlear and middle ear implant systems, a combined Electric Acoustic Stimulation hearing implant system, auditory brainstem implants as well as surgical and non-surgical bone conduction devices. [www.medel.com](http://www.medel.com)

### **The European Hearing Instrument Manufacturers Association (EHIMA)**

The European Hearing Instrument Manufacturers Association (EHIMA) represents the seven major European hearing instrument manufacturers, offering smart hearing aid and implant solutions for people hard of hearing. EHIMA was founded in 1985 and its members are among the world's largest and most advanced hearing instrument manufacturers, producing up to 90% of the hearing instruments manufactured in Europe. Members of EHIMA develop, manufacture and market hearing instruments on a large scale in one or more countries in Europe as well as exporting their products worldwide. [www.ehima.com](http://www.ehima.com)



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