

## MEDIA RELEASE

Bank Julius Baer & Co. Ltd.

### Switzerland ready to race electric

**The Swiss Council of States today took a historic decision, enabling a Formula E Grand Prix in Switzerland in the near future. Bank Julius Baer, exclusive Global Partner of the FIA Formula E Championship, highly welcomes this decision, as Switzerland with its very innovative economy is an ideal host for an electric race.**

Zurich, 16 March 2015 – The objective of the FIA Formula E Championship is to promote sustainable mobility and the use of advanced emission-free electric vehicles, especially in cities. As motorsport Grand Prix have been forbidden in Switzerland for decades, in 2014 the Swiss National Councillor Fathi Derder put forward a motion to exempt electric races from this ban in order to actively support the development of sustainable technologies. The motion was subsequently backed by the Federal Council, the National Council and now by the Council of States. This decision of the parliament paves the way for a possible Swiss ePrix already during the 2016/17 season.

Prior to today's decision, the two Swiss sponsors of the FIA Formula E, Julius Baer, exclusive Global Partner of the FIA Formula E Championship, and TAG Heuer, founding partner and official timekeeper of the world's first fully-electric racing series, had organised an extraordinary drive through downtown Geneva to bring a Formula E car to the streets of Switzerland for the first time. On this occasion, the car was filmed for a video promoting a Swiss ePrix – among others showing former Formula 1 driver and current Formula E driver Nick Heidfeld who has lived in Switzerland for years and supports this initiative.

“As exclusive Global Partner of Formula E and Swiss company, we are excited about the decision of the Council of States and thank the Swiss parliament, the Federal Council and Fathi Derder for this historic move. Julius Baer strongly supports the efforts of Formula E to advance the development of emission-free technologies and mobility to enable a more sustainable future, which is in line with our own Next Generation activities. We are convinced that Switzerland as one of the most innovative economies worldwide is an ideal host for an electric race. A Swiss ePrix would be a fantastic showcase for sustainable technologies,” comments Boris F.J. Collardi, Chief Executive Officer of Julius Baer.

“We are very happy to get the opportunity to bring Formula E to Switzerland and would like to thank our Swiss partners, Bank Julius Baer and TAG Heuer, for their forceful support. Now we will work on the details of the race, including the selection of the city which will host it, with the goal to make it possible during the 2016/17 season,” says Alejandro Agag, CEO of Formula E Holdings.

The popular success of this season's inaugural FIA Formula E Championship with races in Beijing, Putrajaya, Punta del Este, Buenos Aires, Miami and those coming soon in Los Angeles, Monaco, Berlin, Moscow and London, proves the championship's capacity to create a strong vision of emission-free transport. With the additional initiatives of FIA Formula E, the FE School Series and

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the integration of the 'Formula Student', they aim to inspire young people to embrace sustainable mobility and engineering.

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## **About Julius Baer**

Julius Baer is the leading Swiss private banking group, with a focus on servicing and advising sophisticated private clients and a premium brand in global wealth management. Julius Baer's total client assets amounted to CHF 396 billion at the end of December 2014, including CHF 291 billion of assets under management. Bank Julius Baer & Co. Ltd., the renowned Swiss private bank which celebrates its 125th anniversary in 2015, is the principal operating company of Julius Baer Group Ltd., whose shares are listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (ticker symbol: BAER) and are included in the Swiss Market Index (SMI), comprising the 20 largest and most liquid Swiss stocks.

Julius Baer employs a staff of over 5,000, including more than 1,000 relationship managers, and is present in over 25 countries and some 50 locations. Headquartered in Zurich, we have offices in key locations including Dubai, Frankfurt, Geneva, Hong Kong, London, Lugano, Monaco, Montevideo, Moscow, Singapore and Tokyo. Our client-centric approach, our objective advice based on a unique open product platform, our very strong financial base and our entrepreneurial management culture make us the international reference in private banking.

For more information visit our website at [www.juliusbaer.com](http://www.juliusbaer.com)

## **About FIA Formula E Championship**

Formula E is a new FIA championship featuring Formula cars powered exclusively by electric energy. It represents a vision for the future of the motor industry over the coming decades, serving as a framework for research and development around the electric vehicle, accelerating general interest in these cars and promoting sustainability. Commencing in September 2014, the championship competes in the heart of world's leading cities – including London, Beijing and Miami – racing around their iconic landmarks. For the inaugural season of 11 ePrix, 10 teams, each with two drivers, will go head-to-head creating a unique and exciting racing series designed to appeal to a new generation of motorsport fans. Operating as an 'open championship', the series gives car manufacturers and constructors the opportunity to showcase their electrical energy innovations in a racing environment, designing cars to the technical specifications set out by the FIA.

For more information visit the FIA Formula E website at [www.fiaformulae.com](http://www.fiaformulae.com)