Hansgrohe Group



»The best way to predict the future is to invent it.«

Alan Curtis Kay

Computer Sciences Pioneer (*1940)

Hansgrohe Group

Annual Report 2018

Schiltach, Black Forest Germany

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innovating Into the Future



Dear Readers,

With new record sales and continued profitable growth, 2018 was a yet another year of success for Hansgrohe. On behalf of the entire Executive Board, I thank all our employees for their extraordinary dedication and commitment. The key to our success is a quality that has long been our trademark: the ability to innovate — the focus of this year's annual report.

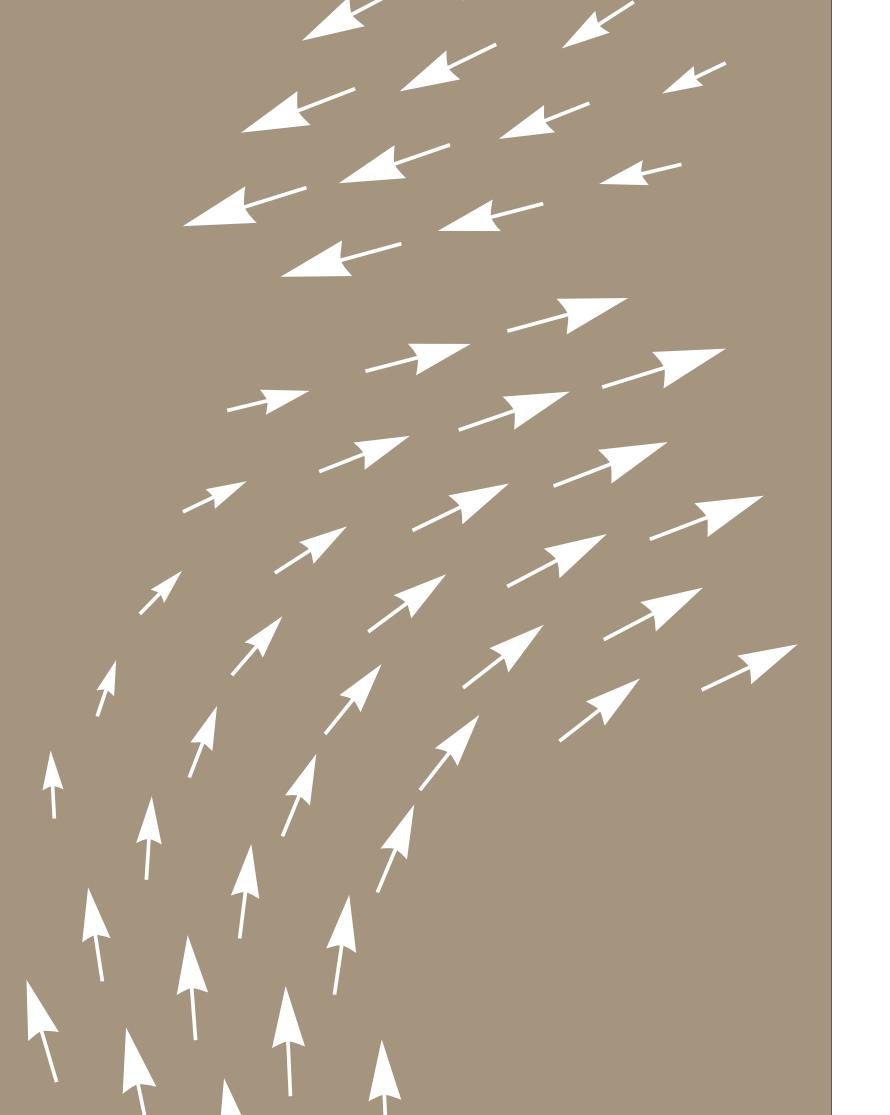
When our company founder Hans Grohe started working on his first handheld showers in the early twentieth century there was no market for them — for most households, having a bathroom was unheard of. With his ground-breaking products, Hans Grohe created this market, in fact, we can even claim that he created the industry in which we have maintained our position to this day as one its

leading companies. The award from the Top 100 competition distinguishing us as one of the most innovative small and medium-sized German companies in 2018 is a testament to our innovative strength.

As Chairman of the Executive Board, it is a pleasure and an honor for me to have the opportunity of working together with my colleagues on the board in shaping the future of this company. The focus on our customers and their needs has defined my time at Hansgrohe over the past 20 years and made the successes of our company possible — we will continue to develop and intensify this focus.

The challenges won't get any easier — but if we all continue to work closely together, in a spirit of mutual trust and respect, and approach our work with passion and enthusiasm, we will continue to innovate and set standards in the future.

Yours, Hans Jürgen Kalmbach Chairman of the Executive Board



A Tradition of Innovation

Our company was founded in 1901.

Since then, ideas have been bubbling up here in the Black Forest. And since then, we have traditionally been a step ahead of our time. Be it the shower wall bar, the first handheld and adjustable shower, or pull-out kitchen faucets with spray function — many of Hansgrohe's ideas have become classics of international bathroom and kitchen culture. And others are well on their way to joining their ranks as icons of bathroom and kitchen design.

► A Tradition of Innovation

Innovation Runs in the Family

The courage to innovate marked the beginning of the company's history. Hans Grohe, who was originally a trained clothier, started out by reinventing himself. In 1901, he founded a small manufacturing business for metal-spun goods in Schiltach, a small town in Germany's Black Forest. He soon specialized in producing bathroom fixtures. Water became his elixir of life and showerheads his calling. He was a pioneer whose designs and ideas shaped modern shower technology — for example, the legendary hand shower featuring a white porcelain handle launched in 1928. Even in later years, at the age of 82, he came up with another groundbreaking product: the wall bar, allowing hand showers to be positioned at the desired height and users to shower hands free.

Hans Grohe's youngest son Klaus brought design to the shower in 1968. In 1970, Hansgrohe developed the colorful Sixty shower set together with an industrial designer. In 1974, the brightly colored, multi-spray TRI-BEL hand shower by Esslinger Design was the first Hansgrohe product to win an iF design award. Klaus Grohe also addressed the issues of environmental protection and sustainability. He advanced the development of energy and water-saving products and paid close attention to environmentally-friendly and resource-efficient production processes...

Hans Grohe with his youngest son Klaus Grohe, born 1937

Richard Grohe and Philippe Grohe, two of Klaus Grohe's sons, continued the family tradition and were actively involved in the company's business operations until 2016.

Today, Richard Grohe represents the founding family on the Supervisory Board of the Hansgrohe Group and ensures that Hansgrohe stays true to its roots and continues to be a powerhouse of innovation. And Klaus Grohe himself continues to be involved in the company as Honorary Chairman of the Supervisory Board.

► A Tradition of Innovation

A Pioneer From the Start

Since 1901, inventions from the Hansgrohe Talent Factory in the Black Forest have defined bathrooms around the world. Much of what we conceive, develop and design has shaped the international sanitation industry. One example is the first affordable handheld showerhead developed by the company's founder Hans Grohe in 1928 — it made the dream of daily a shower in one's own private bathroom at home finally come true.



To Perfection – and Beyond...

The AXOR ShowerHeaven is the new archetype in the shower. With its superlative appeal and majestic dimensions, it offers water a spectacular stage. The flow of water can be orchestrated as desired: revitalizing jets give way to a soothing rain shower or a gentle PowderRain, the latest innovation in water design: precisely distributed, exquisitely light micro-sized droplets create a sensuous cocoon of water. The shower is transformed into a calming retreat where one can immerse oneself, and dream and relax in a quiet oasis of water.

Innovations That Made History



Automatic waste and overflow set for the bathtub. The chromeplated set is the first of its kind.



The Selecta hand **shower.** The world's first hand shower with an adjustable spray — more than 30 million units sold.



The Allegroh single-lever faucet with a loop handle and a swivel spout is an instant



Pre-installed Hansgrohe shower systems and shower panels conquer the bathroom. Electronic controls become available in the 1990s.

2000

The iBox universal

concealed installation set: to basic set for all standard and thermostatic solutions.





2005

AirPower mixes air into the water, making droplets feel plumper and softer, thereby increasing showering pleasure and improving water efficiency.



he **Select**.

Hansgrohe's groundbreaking Select technology brings a simple push of a button to the world of bathrooms. One click is all it takes to overhead showers and hand showers and turn water on and off.









The Unica wall b For the first time,



showers to be pos at the desired hei



Colorful plastic showers. The **SIXTY** shower set and the **Tri-bel** hand shower introduce colorful design aesthetics to the bathroom.



The Mistral Eco watersaving hand shower.

It lowers water consumption by 50 percent and Hansgrohe a pione in the bathroom i





The AXOR Starck Collection. Star designer Philippe Starck develops the first bathroom-living space concept for AXOR.

1994



Large spray discs, flat silhouettes, short handles the all-rounders become



2007

EcoSmart faucets and percent less water than conventional ones. The fight against climate change starts in the bathroom.



The AXOR Starck

2014

Organic bathroom collection by Philippe Starck offers ıble water expe-



The Future Is Now

Innovation begins with curiosity. With the unconditional will to make something that is not just different, but noticeably better. We at Hansgrohe are curious by nature. But the methods have changed since Hans Grohe sketched his ideas on paper and realized them with the help of simple machines. In 2016, we invested EUR 4.5 million in a new research and development lab where we test new spray modes, develop products and subject our innovations to rigorous testing before they are launched on the market. In our on-site spray laboratory, spray researchers study water jets and their effects. The spray lab boasts a unique sound testing chamber where experts also explore and test the acoustics of various kinds of water jets.

These efforts have led to innovations such as the PowderRain spray: its micro-fine droplets not only deliver an entirely new shower experience, but also reduce the sound of the shower to a soothing whisper — a perfect symbiosis of visual, tactile and acoustic aesthetics.

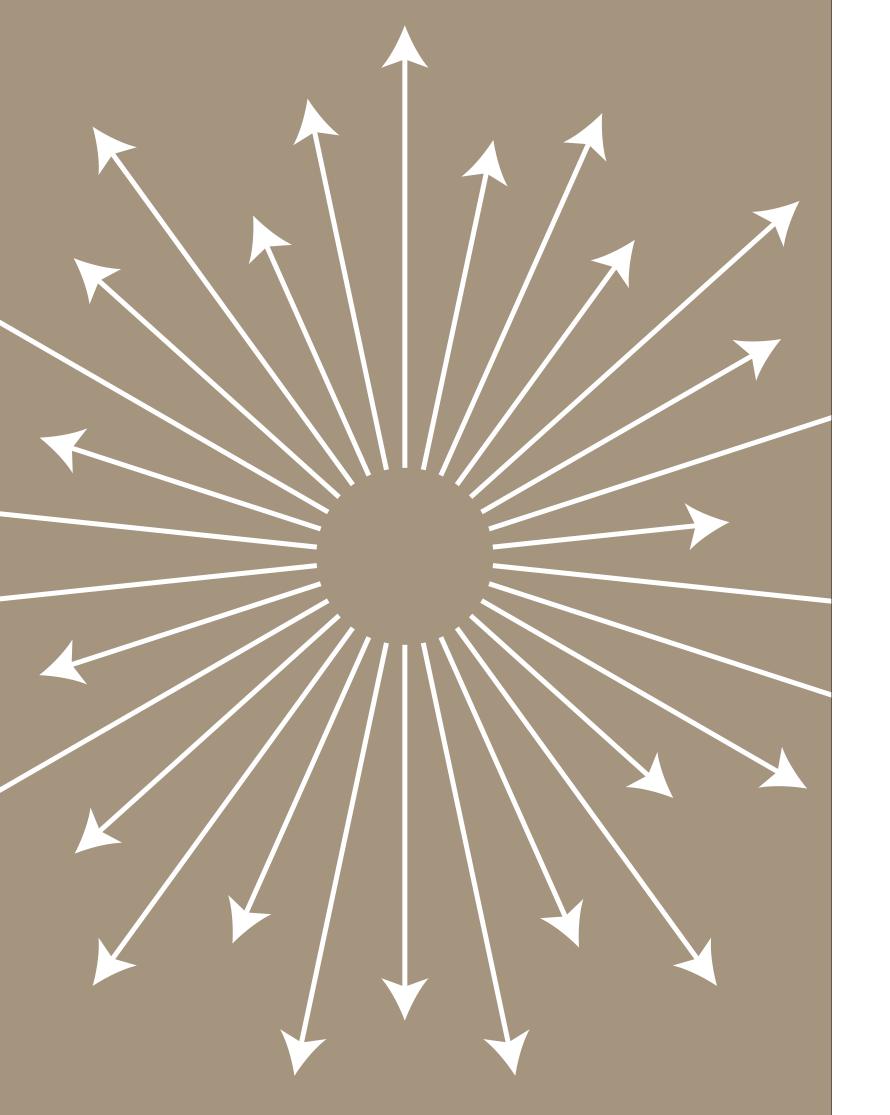
At our InnoLab in Schramberg, we explore new ways of developing innovations. Using novel methods, an interdisciplinary team of experts works on groundbreaking product ideas that have the potential of creating new markets — in the same way that our founder Hans Grohe once did with his handheld shower.

Just how innovative Hansgrohe is today is evidenced by the award from the Top 100 competition distinguishing us as one of the most innovative medium-sized German companies of 2018.

Looking to the future: Hansgrohe invests in innovative technology such as its PVD process



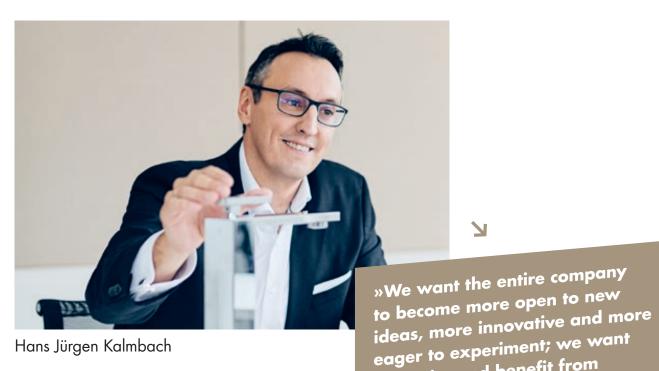
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We Make Change Happen

As we all know, the best way to see into the future is to shape it. But how do we actually come up with innovative ideas that succeed in shaping future markets? What requirements and conditions must be met? Can a large, globally active company like Hansgrohe be as innovative as a young and flexible start up? Members of the Executive Board address these and many other topics that are of concern to Hansgrohe today and in the future for the first time in a joint interview.





Hans Jürgen Kalmbach

Innovation is the central theme of this annual report. In a sense, it's also innovative that for the first time we're talking to the entire Executive Board and not just the Chairman, who is new to this office. Is a new wind blowing at Hansgrohe?

Hans Jürgen Kalmbach Yes and no. Work on the Executive Board has always been very cooperative and trusting, as it is throughout the entire company — this has been my experience over more than twenty years in the many different positions I have held at Hansgrohe. What's new perhaps is that teamwork has become more prominent. Because this sense of community, the values that unite us: these are very special achievements that help us master future challenges. We want to strengthen them as a team.

A new sales record, currency-adjusted growth of X percent: How do you rate the results of the 2018 fiscal year?

7

to inspire and benefit from

each other«

Hans Jürgen Kalmbach All in all, 2018 was another good year of growth. We were able to gain market share in a number of markets and further strengthen our position. We continue to grow and that's important.

But: the uncertainties surrounding Brexit, looming trade wars, currency risks — these of course are all factors that affect our business. After all, we are a global player. Therefore, the results of 2018 are not quite what we aimed for. The fact that we were able to grow profitably again, all things considered, is a wonderful achievement. The performance of our employees in Germany, China, the USA and across the world is truly extraordinary, and for this we thank them very warmly.

What impact have innovations had on the company's performance?

Reinhard Mayer A very large one. For years, new products that are not more than three years old have generated more than one-fourth of our turnover — that's really good. In the Top 100 competition, we were distinguished as one of the most innovative German mediumsized companies. We scored particularly well in the »Successful Innovations« category. The drive to innovate is deeply rooted in our DNA.

When is an innovation successful?

Christophe Gourlan We expect an innovation to deliver a noticeably better experience when customers use our products. Our focus is always on customer benefit. The Powder-Rain spray is a good example: its thousands of micro droplets feel like a soft summer rain. In addition, the spray is so well designed that

it barely splashes, resulting in less limescale, requiring less cleaning. And it opens entirely new possibilities for shower placement — say, for example, in the middle of the bathroom.

How do you go about planning this kind of innovation?

7 Reinhard Mayer Our research and development department definitely plays a major role. More than one hundred members of staff are constantly exploring new ways of shaping the flow of water and improving our customers' experiences in the bathroom and kitchen. We have to distinguish what kind of innovation we're talking about. Many of our innovations are basic innovations and incremental innovations that bolster our company and expand markets — these innovations are very important for our business. If we want to continue to grow over the years ahead, we will also need entirely new ideas and approaches - radical and disruptive innovations that will enable



Reinhard Mayer

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us to conquer new markets and target groups. This is precisely why we founded the InnoLab, which allows us to explore areas far removed from our comfort zone, and we purposely chose a separate location: Schramberg.

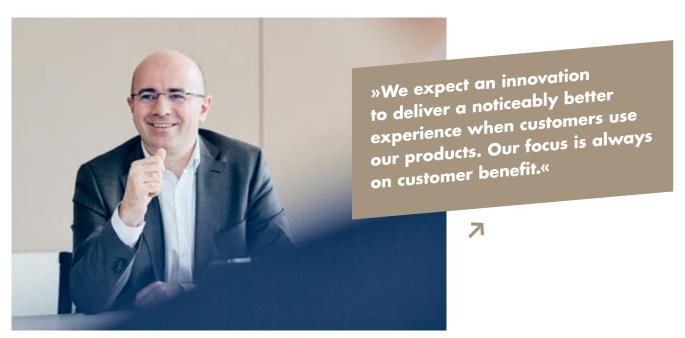
What is the InnoLab exactly?

works there on radical innovations, mentally and physically removed from the company's day-to-day business. It's about fundamentally challenging the status quo — experimenting and developing completely new solutions and products. Thanks to new technologies like 3D printing, prototypes can be produced quickly and tested by customers. Anything that doesn't work is quickly scrapped. The failure, of course, is part of the process because with every failure we learn more about the cause of the customer's problem. At the end of the process, only a few products are actually launched. Of course, aspects such as technical

feasibility, cost-effectiveness, marketing and the business model play a role, because in the end, the product has to be profitable, as well as effective in moving Hansgrohe forward and increasing the company's value.

What does the company hope to achieve?

- Thans Jürgen Kalmbach Firstly, that one or the other innovation will actually emerge and allows us, as a leading innovator, not only create a new product, but also a new product category and a new market. Secondly, we want the entire company to become more open to new ideas, more innovative and more eager to experiment; we want to inspire and benefit from each other the InnoLab experiments with methods that will help us accomplish this.
- → Frank Semling The InnoLab is also an example of how innovative approaches to work can make us more attractive to a future generation



Christophe Gourlan



Frank Semling

of skilled professionals. The high potentials of the future have totally different ideas of how and where they want to work. The InnoLab is an example of a new flexibility and openness that is gradually gaining ground in our company. Of course, merging an agile startup culture with the values of a company rich in tradition poses a challenge — but it's a path we must embark upon if we wish to continue to attract the skilled employees we need in the future.

The Hansgrohe Campus provides room for professional and personal development and is no doubt another argument in the competition for talent. A few months ago, a new Digital Department was added. What was the idea behind that?

→ Frank Semling Considering that innovation is our DNA, digitalization poses a real opportunity for Hansgrohe: to increase customer focus, create intelligent products and services that use data and technologies, and secure a greater competitive edge. But we all need to acquire new skills to keep up because digitalization is an issue that cuts across all these different areas. The new Digital Department explains digitalization, what it means to the company, and conveys the skills required to apply it successfully — and at all levels. So-called digital transformers will spearhead the digital transformation in our departments and help us to implement and live digitalization extensively throughout the organization.

In spite of all digitalization: Hansgrohe still produces very real products, and lots of them — what does innovation in production look like?

Frank Schnatz Our priority in production is to make processes faster and more efficient. The world we live in is moving faster and faster and that's why we need to increase the pace throughout the company's operations. We invested about EUR 30 million in an ultra-modern plastic electroplating facility that we're currently building in Offenburg and that sets new standards in terms of resource and energy efficiency. This means that together with our highly automated logistics center, we have an optimal logistics chain at our Offenburg site, enabling us to respond to changing customer needs with maximum speed — from procurement to production to delivery.

What impact do uncertain conditions and changes on international markets have on Hansgrohe's growth strategy?

christophe Gourlan We reviewed our growth strategy and have decided to focus on five markets. Those are — besides Germany, our most important market — the USA, the United Kingdom, France and China. Of course, every market has its idiosyncrasies. In China and in emerging markets in general, we need to be present in other price segments and develop new products in order to succeed. In China, for example, water filtration is an issue, as drinking water doesn't have the quality we're used to in Europe — so we launched suitable new products in 2018.

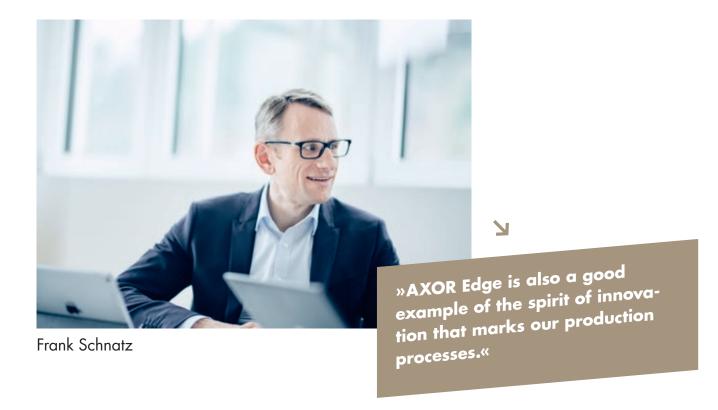
Sometimes, products developed for these markets also become international success stories. For example, the kitchen sink and faucet combination units that we initially introduced in China in 2015 successively opened new

market segments for us in other countries. Before the end of the year, we will also introduce new product categories in the bathroom segment on the Chinese market; with the option that other markets will follow. We are a globally active company and therefore constantly face new challenges in different regions. We're used to managing these volatile and unpredictable situations and Brexit is no doubt one of them. The United Kingdom continues to be a very important market and we will not disinvest.

What else we expect in 2019?

7 Hans Jürgen Kalmbach We bring digitalization to the bathroom with our hansgrohe brand — customers expect this of us. But here in particular: we have to offer added value and real benefit. A voice assistant that turns on the shower is just not enough — we expect more from innovation. With the RainTunes shower system, a mobile app is used to experience seven scenarios that offer a novel shower experience. The settings include spray modes, water pressure, temperature, and even lighting and scents. In the medium term, such comprehensive systems will also lead to a new way of thinking in the sanitation industry. With AXOR, we are pushing boundaries with the new AXOR Edge range, both aesthetically and technically.

➢ Frank Schnatz AXOR Edge is also a good example of the spirit of innovation that marks our production processes. The precise geometry created by French designer Jean-Marie Massaud would not have been possible to produce with conventional grinding and polishing technology. For this architectonic design product our engineers used an ultra-precision machine that allows us to produce brilliant surfaces and perfect



beveling. This type of machine is normally used in space technology and in the production of high-end jewelry and watches.

What are your business goals for 2019?

Hans Jürgen Kalmbach In view of the ongoing level of uncertainty, we're expecting moderate growth in 2019, but our targets remain ambitious. We want to continue to grow faster than the market and further increase profitability. Faucets and showers are still our core business, but we wish to continue to expand our business to include other areas.

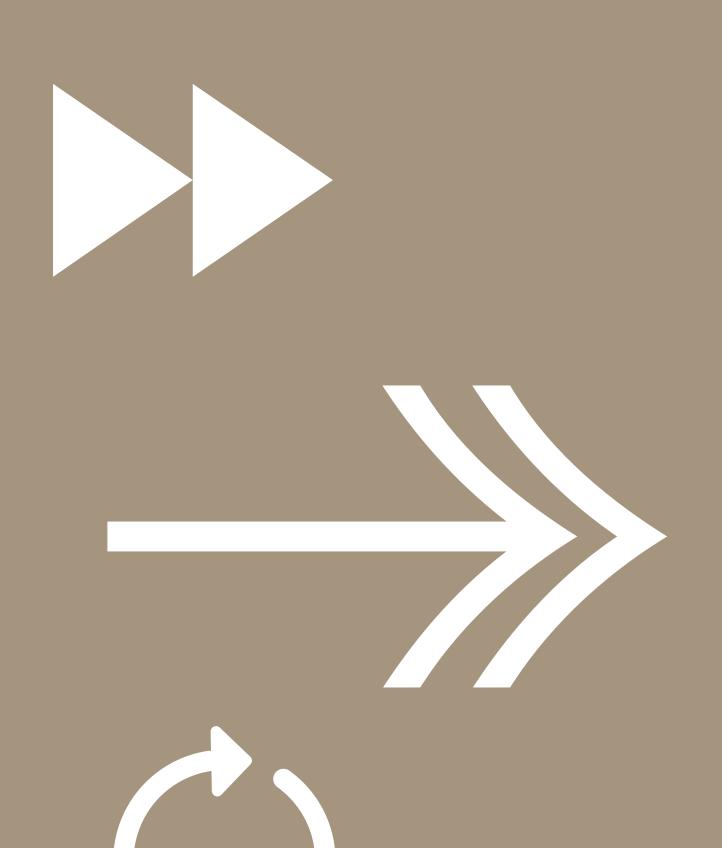
We began with a kitchen range and other product areas will follow. The water filtration mentioned earlier is one example. The prospects for further growth are excellent. In 2018, we not only invested in technology and buildings, but above all in people.

We increased the number of permanent employees and all our trainees were hired; many temporary employees were also given permanent employment. There's one thing I am sure of: The combined skills and expertise, the commitment and innovative strength of our employees will enable us to continue to celebrate new successes in 2019. We, as members of the Executive Board, will work together to do everything possible to ensure that Hansgrohe remains a leader into the future.

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Innovation, design, quality: These are the values that we bring to life every day and that stand behind our continuous and uncompromising goal to offer customers the highest possible benefit. They are the forces that drive us to excel — be it in the development and design of our bathroom and kitchen products, in the manufacturing process, or in sales and marketing. These values are evident in the revolutionary functionality, the highest quality standards and the exceptional design of our products — qualities which make them increasingly appreciated on markets worldwide.



▶ Values 31

Innovation

Innovation at Hansgrohe goes beyond the invention of trendsetting bathroom and kitchen products. We are committed to sustainable processes, technologies and manufacturing methods throughout the entire company. For us, being innovative in product development means thinking from people to products. What do people want? What products make their lives easier? What appeals to them in terms of design?

Every day, dedicated teams of inventors and spray researchers work at developing ideas for the future that make our customers' lives noticeably more pleasant and convenient. Our aim is not to keep up with short-lived trends but to achieve real progress. This mission is reflected in the following company figures: the Hansgrohe Group holds more than 16,000 active property rights, and every year, we register hundreds of new designs, patents and trademarks. Products that are new and less than three years old generate 25 to 30 percent of our overall sales.



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► Values

Design

At Hansgrohe design is about more than the way faucets, shower fixtures and accessories look. With our AXOR and hansgrohe brands, we work with renowned designers to focus on providing the optimum customer value — both aesthetically and functionally. We aim to provide the perfect experience in the bathroom and kitchen — with products whose form

and function have been carefully thought out down to the last detail. Our products provide enjoyment over the long term — and not just because they continue to function perfectly even after many years of use: their sophisticated and timeless aesthetics also outlast every short-lived trend. This gives our customers the satisfying feeling that they have made a worth-while long-term investment.

Elegant finishes: A faucet a with Physical Vapor Deposition surface finish

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▶ Values

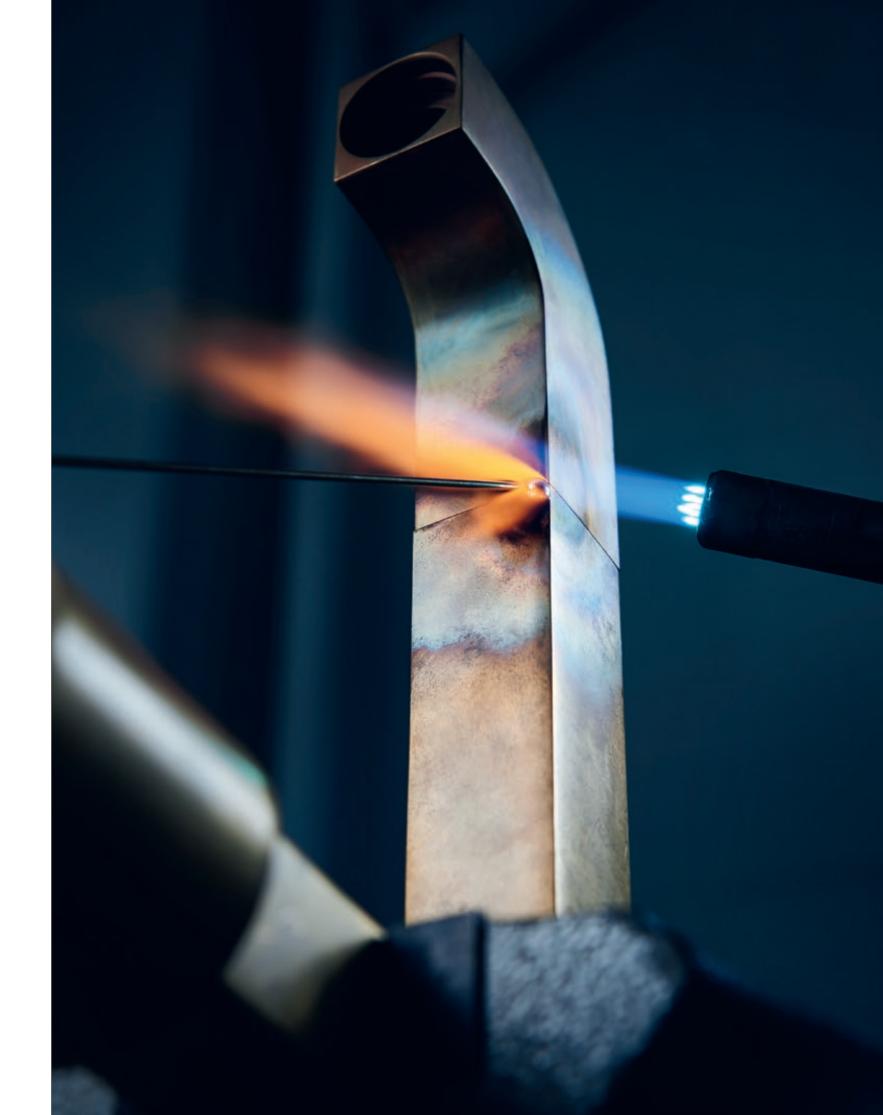
Quality

Customers who are renovating a bathroom or planning a new one want to be sure that the fixtures will last for years to come. Faucets and showers must be durable. We promise our customers: Hansgrohe products are of premium quality — in terms of material, form and function. And we go to great lengths to make sure we keep this promise.

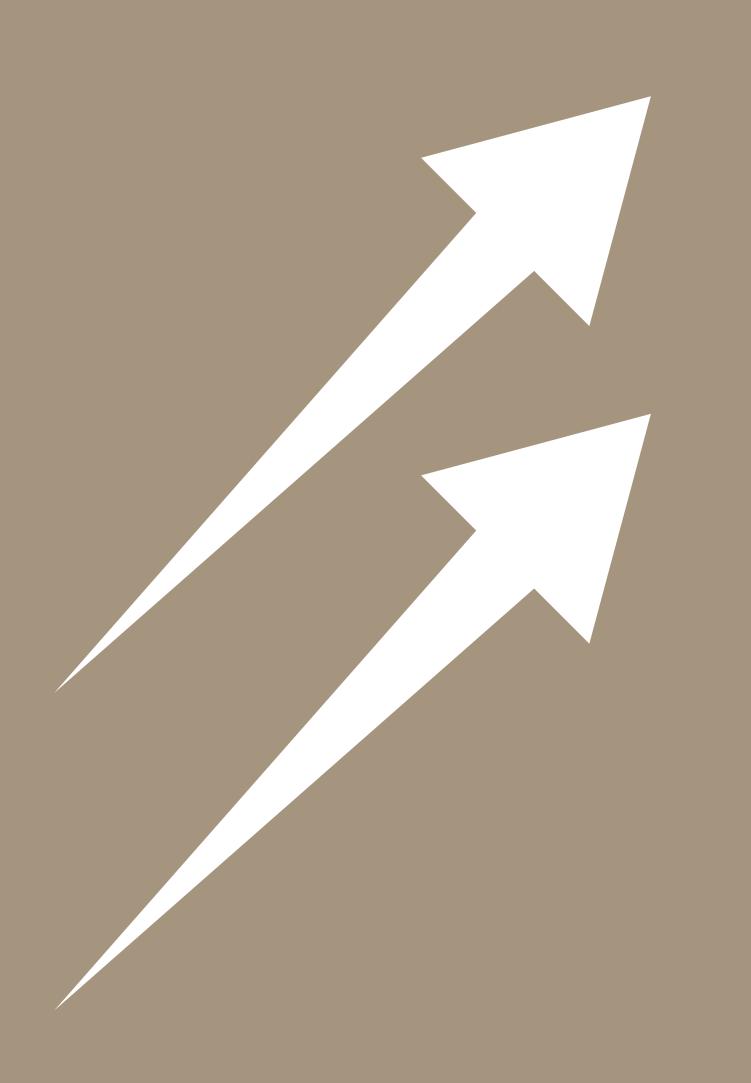
The durability of products is tested in thousands of cycles, and undergo endurance testing and field testing before they are ready for serial production. We operate a rigorous quality management system and trained and experienced staff ensure strict quality control at every point. The many certificates and test results from independent certification authorities and the awards we have won at renowned competitions are testimony to our premium quality, as is the enduring satisfaction of our customers around the world.

Perfect craftsmanship: Hard-wearing faucets of utmost quality and durability

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▶ Values



Brands

Be it AXOR or hansgrohe: the core values of the Hansgrohe Group — innovation, design and quality — are reflected in every single one of our products. However, when it comes to design and communication, each brand has its own distinctive feel. And in this way, they become part of our customers' personal living environments.

► Brands 39



Form Follows Perfection

Our AXOR brand is synonymous with luxury in the bathroom and kitchen. We have been developing visionary design objects together with internationally acclaimed architects and designers for 25 years. »Form Follows Perfection« is our guiding principle: the development process ends only when there is nothing more to add or remove. This is how we create avant-garde, unique products and complete collections of the highest aesthetic and technical quality.

blanche to come up with new concepts that are then developed and realized in close coopera-Antonio Citterio, Patricia Urquiola, Jean-Marie Massaud, Front, Nendo and Edward Barber world's most luxurious bathrooms and kitchens.

AXOR gives architects and designers carte tion with our developers and engineers. International top creatives such as Philippe Starck, & Jay Osgerby are inspired to give their best. Developed and engineered to perfection, these design objects can be found in the



40 ▶ Brands





Expression of Individuality

Every person is unique. AXOR enables people to express their individuality — because AXOR personalizes bathrooms. This is made possible by AXOR's impressively large portfolio, comprising some 2,000 products from various collections and ranges. Unique in their philosophy, their development and their style, AXOR's innovations bear their designer's signature. Aesthetics, water design and functionality are continually being redefined.

Since 2018, AXOR MyEdition has led the avant-garde of bathroom personalization — designed by our partners of the first hour, Phoenix Design. The clean, linear design sets the stage for personal expression and creativity. The faucets can be customized with plates made of materials such as leather, wood, marble and mirrored glass: customized to perfection.



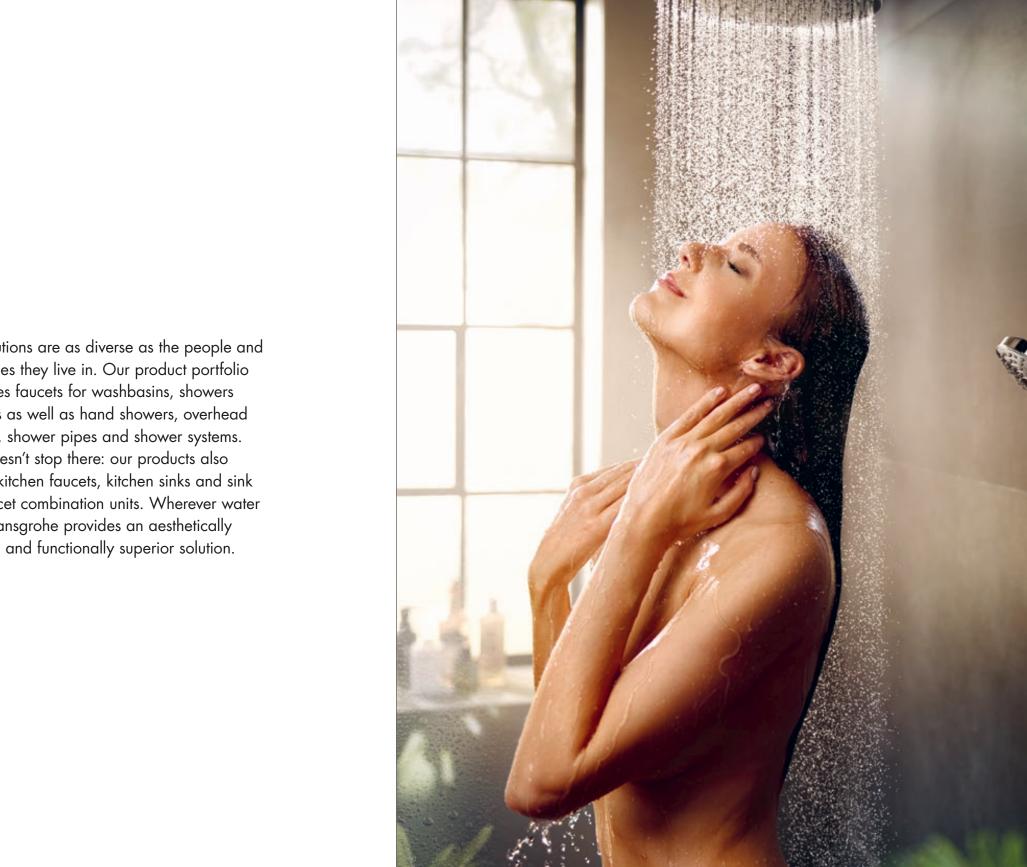
▶ Brands 44

hansgrohe

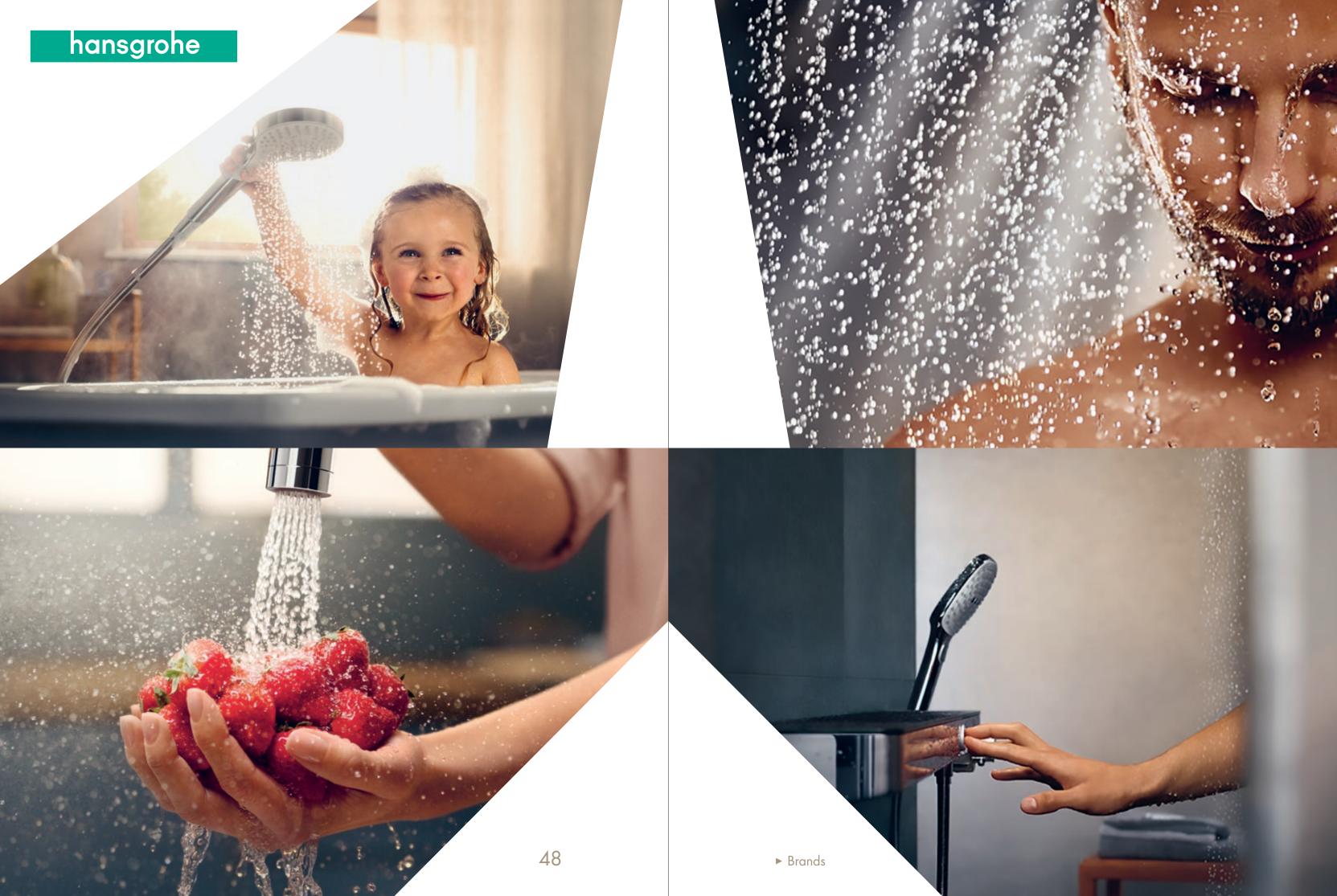
Meet the Beauty of Water

hansgrohe is our premium brand of showerheads, shower systems, bathroom and kitchen faucets, and kitchen sinks. An affinity for design, a pioneering spirit and the German art of engineering result in products whose excellent design appeals to customers around the world. And they offer noticeably more benefits thanks to their outstanding ease of use and intelligent functions. With our numerous award-winning products, we shape the flow of water in the bathroom and kitchen.

Our solutions are as diverse as the people and the spaces they live in. Our product portfolio comprises faucets for washbasins, showers and tubs as well as hand showers, overhead showers, shower pipes and shower systems. But it doesn't stop there: our products also include kitchen faucets, kitchen sinks and sink and faucet combination units. Wherever water flows, hansgrohe provides an aesthetically pleasing and functionally superior solution.



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hansgrohe

Refreshingly Different

Bathrooms and kitchens are evolving: spaces that used to be predominantly functional are becoming places of well-being; retreats where we can leave the world behind and relax and recharge our batteries; places where we experience precious moments of emotional fulfillment. In all this, water plays a central role—and with it, so do products by hansgrohe.

Our aim is to make our encounter with water a new and refreshingly different experience every day. To this end, we create ground-breaking solutions that combine form and function in ways that are always new and inspiring and which fit into a variety of style worlds and come in a wide range of materials, always of superior quality.



▶ Brands 50



Facts & Figures

The following pages offer a brief overview of the most important facts and figures of the past fiscal year. Please refer below to the 2018 Business Report for more detailed information.

► Facts & Figures 53

↑ € 1,081,070,000



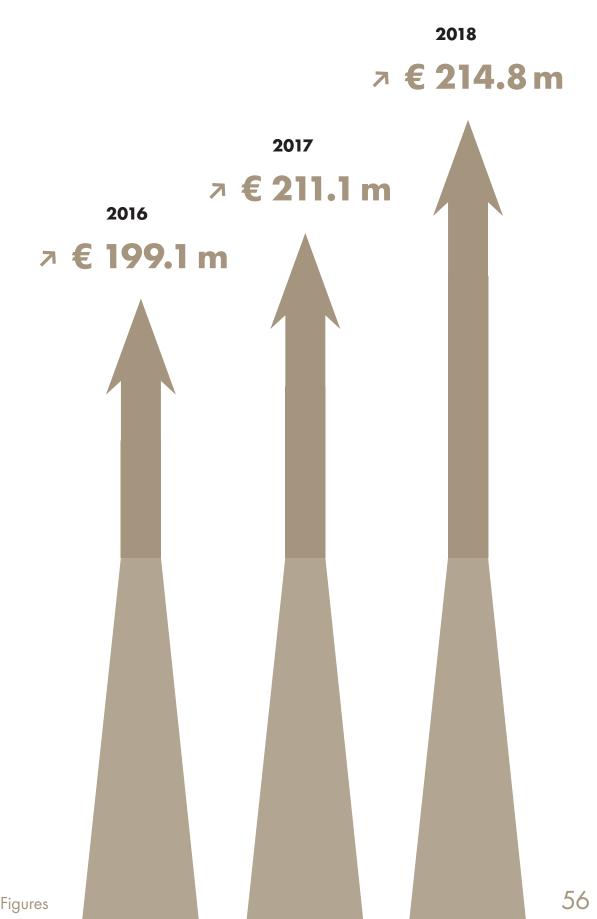
Sales growth

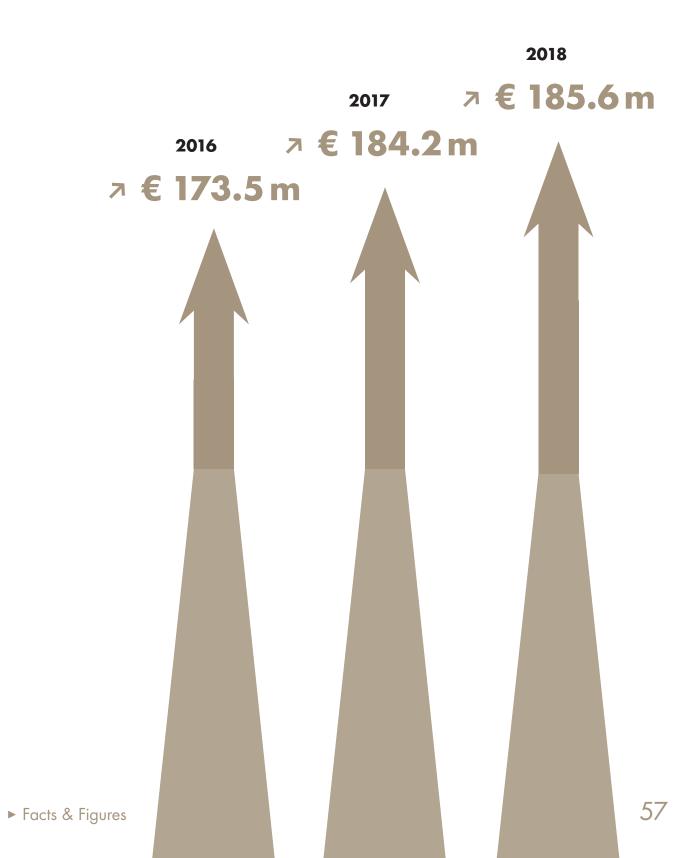
► Facts & Figures





Operating Profit

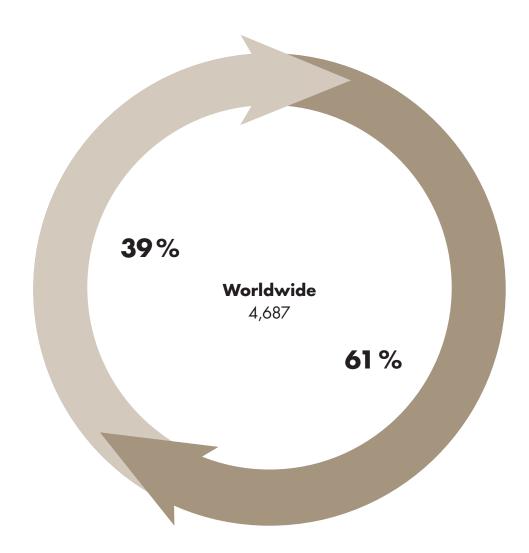




Employees worldwide



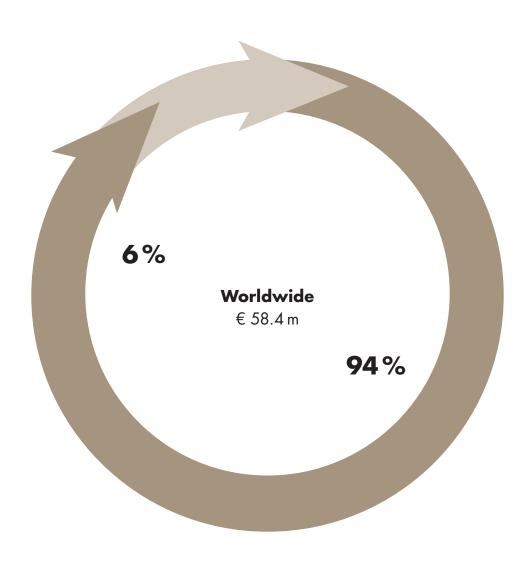
Breakdown of Employees



• **Germany** 2,864

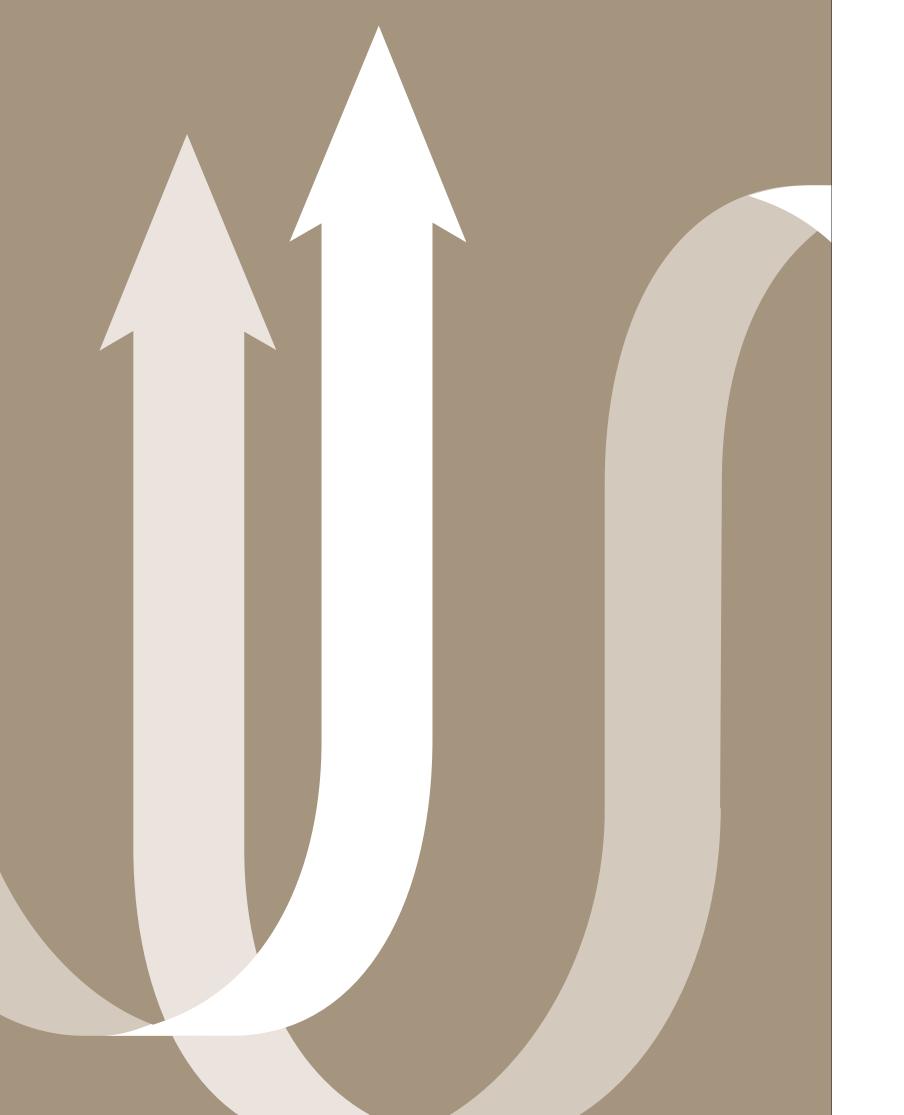
• Rest of world 1,823

Investments



Germany € 55.1 m

Rest of world € 3.3 m



Securing the Future Together

In times of unpredictable conditions and increasingly complex markets, it is even more important for companies to have and live by their values. This is the only way of ensuring that our employees are committed to the same goal with all their strength and conviction: to carry forward Hansgrohe's 118-year story of success. This is why, together with our staff, we have defined the values that unite us and that guide the way we think and act daily.

Passion

»We are proud to be part of Hansgrohe and pursue our work with passion and enthusiasm. Our extraordinary passion for water, innovation and design, helps us to create exceptional products. We inspire our customers, partners and each other.«

hansgrohe products evoke positive emotions
— both when in use and when they are being created. The passion which our employees put into their work, day after day, can be seen in our products. It is a pleasure to create something that brings people positive experiences. And this is the key to our continued and growing success.

Appreciation

»We are respectful and fair to each other and give constructive feedback. We state our opinions and acknowledge the actions and achievements of others. This creates the basis of our teamwork and mutual trust.«

No matter if someone works in production or logistics, is a member of the Executive Board, works in Germany or at one of our international sites, is a permanent employee or temporary staff: every single employee is valuable to the company in their own way — and deserves proper recognition and esteem. At Hansgrohe it goes without saying that we treat each other with respect and fairness at all levels. This is one of the many reasons that satisfaction with Hansgrohe as an employer is so high — and we put a great deal of effort into ensuring that it stays that way, even in an increasingly uncertain market environment. After all, only satisfied employees are highly motivated; and only employees who are highly motivated create exceptional products. And only those who create exceptional products will be able to achieve extraordinary success in the future.

Teamwork

»We approach each other openly and show mutual interest; we give and take. Together we tackle challenges and support each other. In teams, we develop innovative and exceptional solutions that reflect the sum of our ideas. We are proud of our achievements and are ready to actively take on the opportunities and challenges of the future.«

The products that customers buy and use every day in their bathrooms and kitchens are the result of complex processes. The people involved are very different and have very different skills. Every single one of them does their share to inspire customers to buy our products and to ensure that their use creates a positive experience.

In the future, teamwork will become even more important for our success — in increasingly complex markets, challenges will become even more diverse. Only together can we successfully master these new challenges. That's why at Hansgrohe we are committed to teamwork, at the our individual production locations and throughout the entire company.

Trust

in the figurative sense, but increasingly in the literal sense as well. An example of this is the InnoLab in Schramberg. Physically removed from day-to-day business, an interdisciplinary team works here independently, developing the innovations of the future.

Here, thinking has no boundaries. Failure

At Hansgrohe, we do not just provide freedom

Here, thinking has no boundaries. Failure is perceived as a natural part of the experimental process. If it results in one or two innovations that have the potential of creating a totally new market, the experiment as such is considered a success. What is even more important is that this spirit of constant curiosity and open thinking is also reflected in our day-to-day business.

»We do what we say and we carry our decisions together. With our reliable and professional behavior, we establish mutual trust and empowerment, which encourage us to act independently.«

► Securing the Future Together 65 Securing the Future Together



Letter from the Supervisory Board

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, Customers and Partners,

Innovation is the key to success in rapidly changing international markets. People buy products that offer significant added value and enrich their lives. In 2018, the Hansgrohe Group with its AXOR and hansgrohe brands again succeeded in winning over people around the world with products that are an idea more ingenious than others.

This is reflected in the results of the 2018 fiscal year. Despite difficult conditions, we were able to advance our success story, achieving yet another record EUR 1.08 billion in sales. On behalf of my colleagues on the Supervisory Board and myself, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all employees of the Hansgrohe Group whose ideas, dedication and commitment have made this possible.

In 2018, we again put a great deal of effort into ensuring that we continue to be one of the leaders in our industry as we move towards the future. This is exemplified by the addition of the Digitalization Department to the Hansgrohe Campus, the founding of the InnoLab, and the progress we have made in the construction of our new plastic electroplating facility in Offenburg.

We also made further adjustments to our company structure to be optimally prepared to meet the challenges ahead. Effective 1 August 2018, Hans Jürgen Kalmbach was designated the new Chairman of the Executive Board with Reinhard Mayer as Deputy Chairman. Hans Jürgen Kalmbach succeeded Thorsten Klapproth who, following four years of impressive corporate growth, stepped down from his position as CEO. Thorsten Klapproth was a major contributor to the successful expansion of Hansgrohe over the past few years. And for this, on behalf of the entire supervisory board, I would like to thank him wholeheartedly.

Hans Jürgen Kalmbach, who started his career with Hansgrohe in 1998, will continue to develop and implement our successful growth strategy. From early 2018, as an executive board member responsible for international sales, he has played a decisive role in significantly strengthening the group's sales operations in the course of our global expansion. In addition to product and innovation management, his responsibilities now also include product development; as a result, the entire product-related process will focus even more closely on our customers.

There has also been a change in the Supervisory Board: Richard Grohe has taken over the position held on the board by his brother Pierre Nikolas Grohe. On behalf of all the members of the Supervisory Board, I would like to thank Pierre Nikolas Grohe for his many years of dedicated service. With Richard Grohe, also a grandson of the company's founder Hans Grohe, we have acquired a committed, experienced and qualified industry expert on the Supervisory Board.

»In 2019, working together with management and out highly dedicated staff, we will continue adding productive chapters to the Hansgrohe success story. I look forward to our shared future.«

Yours sincerely, Klaus F. Jaenecke Chairman of the Supervisory Board

▶ Letter from the Supervisory Board
▶ Letter from the Supervisory Board
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Hansgrohe Group

Business Review 2018

Hansgrohe Group

Business Review 2018

Balance Sheet

ASSETS IN €K	31 Dec 2018	31 Dec 2017	
Cash and Cash Investments	182,715.8	236,237.9	
Accounts Receivables	120,384.2	98265.8	
Total Inventory	140,532.8	143,962.0	
Prepaid Expenses	9441.3	8,757.2	
Other Current Assets	737.1		
Total Current Assets	453,811.2	487,222.9	
Intangible Assets	128,049.6	129,021.7	
		10.040.1	
Land and Land Improvements	12,351.9	12,340.1	
Buildings and Improvements	104,143.4	103,132.2	
Machine Tools and Equipment	304,410.6	281,576.5	
Office Delivery and Other	57,805.0	47,459.9	
CIP Total	39,090.1	23,307.5	
Total Cost Property and Equipment	517,801.0	467,816.2	
Accumulated Depreciation Property and Equipment		-221,414.3	
Fixed Assets Net	275,394.0	246,401.9	
Total Assets	857,254.8	862,646.5	

LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	31 Dec 2018	31 Dec 2017
Short Term Notes Payable	-	133.1
Accounts Payable	96,859.1	94,557.2
Accrued Liabilities	98,938.9	84,929.6
Current Liabilities	195,798.0	179,619.9
Long Term Debt Total		
Deferred Taxes	-5,466.2	-1,836.8
Deferred Other	67,504.1	60,704.4
Long Term Liabilities	62,037.9	58,867.6
Total Liabilities	257,835.9	238,487.5
Shareholders' Equity	599,418.9	624,159.0
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	857,254.8	862,646.5

Consolidated Statement of Income

IN €K	31 Dec 2018	31 Dec 2017
Germany	246,541	237,169
Subsidiaries	738,056	717,511
Export	96,472	110,236
Net Sales	1,081,070	1,064,916
Gross Profit	400,407	395,447
Selling and Administration Expenses	214,837	211,214
Operating Profit	185,570	184,233
Other Income / Expenses	-3,390	-1,346
Income / Loss before Taxes	182,180	182,887
Taxes	46,480	49,637
Net Income / Loss	135,700	133,250

Key Figures

		2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Net Sales		1,081.1	1,064.9	1,019.4	954.9	869.9
EBITDA	€m	214.8	211.1	199.1	182.9	177.2
in % of Net Sales	<u></u> %	19.9	19.8	19.5	19.2	20.4
Operating Profit	€m	185.6	184.2	173.5	158.6	155.0
in % of Net Sales	<u></u> %	17.2	17.3	17.0	16.6	17.8
Net income	€m	135.7	133.3	120.5	111.7	108.5
in % of Net Sales	<u></u> %	12.6	12.5	11.8	11.7	12.5
Net Cashflow from						
operating activities	€m	157.7	130.5	98.1	130.0	145.8
in % of Net Sales	%	14.6	12.3	9.6	13.6	16.8

The World of Hansgrohe

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