

Serge Zybach

Serge Zybach was born in 1963 in Berne, Switzerland. In 1989 he obtained his degree in Economics and Business Administration (lic.rer.pol.) at the University of Berne. He started his professional career with Nestlé at its headquarters in Vevey as corporate internal auditor fulfilling missions in a number of European countries, the US and Asia. Two major projects were related to the post-acquisition integration of Buitoni in Italy and Rowntree in the UK. In 1992 he joined Digital Equipment Corporation in Berne/Zurich as a financial controller being primarily involved in large customer software projects first on a Swiss and later on a European level.

At Cendres&Metaux (a medium-size business based in CH), which he joined in 1994, he introduced consolidated financial statements and implemented strategic planning processes. In 1995 he joined Ascom as Head of Corporate Finance for the Service Automation Division and was appointed CFO of the latter a year later. During those 2 years in Service Automation he made a number of acquisitions and divestments including the creation of a Joint Venture in China for the manufacturing and marketing of Payphones.

1998 was a turning point in his career as he assumed the general management responsibility for the Cash Handling Division at Ascom. In line with group strategy he sold part of the business to the UK based DeLaRue Group two years later after having turned the business around. In 2000 he moved to France in order to restructure Ascom's Multimedia and Pay Systems Division. He successfully developed one of the business units (Electronic Transaction Terminals) and became market co-leader in France and number 3 in Europe within 5 years. Again in line with Group strategy he sold the Canadian Multimedia business to Italy-based Urmet Group and the Electronic Terminal business to the French Sagem. After having completed the restructuring of the Payphone business, he joined in 2004 the British De La Rue Group in order to become Managing Director of their Cash Systems business (ATMs and teller automation equipment), a 350 Million Euro turnover business employing some 2500 employees worldwide. He assumed that responsibility until 2006.

From 1999 to 2004 he also was a member of the Board of Directors of Alu Menziken Holding AG, a Swiss based medium-size company mainly active in the aluminium extrusion business and predominantly supplying the Airline and Automotive Industry.