

**Corporate Communications**

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## Press Release

### **CeramTec appoints Henri Steinmetz as Group CEO**

#### ***Dr Ulf-D. Zimmermann joins Supervisory Board and becomes Senior Advisor***

***New CEO – Industry expert with more than 20 years of international experience in senior roles and proven track record of long-term value creation***

***Current CEO – Retires from Executive Board in March and will subsequently join Supervisory Board of CeramTec GmbH (Germany) and continue close engagement as Senior Advisor***

*Plochingen, February 17, 2016* – CeramTec, a leading global manufacturer of high performance ceramics, has appointed Henri Steinmetz (58) as Group CEO with effect from March 14, 2016. Mr. Steinmetz joins from Belgium-based Ruetgers NV, a leading European manufacturer of chemical raw materials, where he was President and CEO since 2009. In this role, Mr. Steinmetz significantly improved the growth and profitability of the Group and expanded the business into the United States and Russia. Before joining Ruetgers, Mr. Steinmetz held several senior leadership roles at Sulzer AG, Great Lakes Chemical, and General Electric.

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The current CeramTec CEO Dr Ulf-D. Zimmermann (66) is retiring from his executive role and will step down from the CeramTec Board with effect from March 14, 2016. He will join the Supervisory Board of CeramTec GmbH (Germany) and will also be appointed Senior Advisor to CeramTec and Cinven – in a newly created role – to enable the Company to benefit from his significant industry knowledge going forward.

Dr Günter von Au, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of CeramTec, said:

“On behalf of the Company and its shareholders, I would like to thank Dr Zimmermann for his leadership of CeramTec for 15 highly successful years, during which time the Company has gone from strength to strength. I am delighted that Dr Zimmermann has agreed to join the CeramTec Supervisory Board and become Senior Advisor so we can continue to benefit from his considerable experience across the ceramics sector.”

“We are very pleased that Henri Steinmetz will join CeramTec as the new Group CEO. He is an outstanding industry expert with more than 20 years of international experience in senior executive roles. Mr. Steinmetz has a proven track record of long-term value creation for employees, customers, creditors, and shareholders alike and we believe he will make a valuable contribution to CeramTec as the Company is now looking at its next phase of growth.”

Commenting on his appointment, Henri Steinmetz added:

“Joining CeramTec and heading the management team is an exciting step for me. CeramTec is a highly successful business that has generated significant growth under Dr Zimmermann’s leadership. I am very much looking forward to building on that and developing

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further CeramTec's leading position as a manufacturer of high performance ceramics worldwide.”

Henri Steinmetz holds a Master of Sciences in Metallurgy from University of Clausthal and a MBA from INSEAD (Fontainebleau, France).

## Legal disclaimer

This document contains statements that constitute forward-looking statements. These statements appear in a number of places in this document and include statements regarding the intent, belief or current expectations of our customers, estimates regarding future growth in the different business lines and the global business, market share, financial results and other aspects of the activity and situation relating to the Company. The forward-looking statements in this document can be identified, in some instances, by the use of words such as "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "believes", and similar language or the negative thereof or by forward-looking nature of discussions of strategy, plans or intentions. Such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties, and other important factors that could cause actual developments or results to differ materially from those expressed in our forward looking statements. Analysts and investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on those forward looking statements which speak only as of the date of this presentation. CeramTec undertakes no obligation to release publicly the results of any revisions to these forward looking statements which may be made to reflect events and circumstances after the date of this presentation, including, without limitation, changes in the Company's business strategy or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. Analysts and investors are encouraged to consult the Company's public reports. The financial information contained in this document has been prepared under IFRS. This financial information is unaudited and, therefore, subject to potential future modifications.