

European Office Supplies Alliance (EOSA).

25<sup>th</sup> November 2011

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## **Peter Basci resigns from EOSA**

Following the recent Members Assembly in Amsterdam EOSA announces the resignation of its Chairman and CEO, Peter Basci, who will step down from his duties as CEO/Chairman and Board Member by the end of 2011. His successor is Philip Becker, from Dutch member Hedera in Sassenheim, EOS's new home base.

Due to his retirement, Peter Basci already sold his company iba, over a year ago to the Migros group, but remained at the head of EOSA to guide its important strategic process and operation modes. According to Peter Basci, the time is now also right for new faces in EOSA, following his initial appointment in October 2007.

With this decision, a long period of challenging and successful commitment to the organisation will come to an end for Peter. New CEO Philip Becker wants to keep EOSA on track and expresses his cordial thanks in the name of the entire Alliance: *"Peter is a primary solid rock, who has lead our EOSA in a very professional way with an incredible personal commitment. Peter is EOSA. We thank him for being our captain in rough seas."*

Peter Basci looks back: *"EOSA has allowed me to make a fascinating international experience. It was not always easy but very fruitful to deal with so many different nationalities, mentalities and personalities."*

In a certain way, Peter compared EOSA's current situation to the one we experience in the European Union these days. The basic options are either more integration or some sort of disintegration. Peter Basci continues, *"Even though my point of view as a Swiss citizen may be irrelevant, my conviction is that only*

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*integration will lead to a strong and successful organisation.”*

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During Peter's leadership period, EOSA became a strong alliance and was mentioned as the third biggest power in the OP industry in Europe. Now he is leaving EOSA with good feelings and remains open to whatever contribution the industry would like to have from him.

Under the new direction, EOSA's goal remains for the future: EOSA will be the only alternative to global competitors in purchase and in sales.

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