Media release

Second term of office for the Sympany Foundation Board

The Sympany Foundation Board will start its second term of office at the beginning of 2012. Dr Ralph Lewin will hand over the office of Chairman to the current Vice Chairman Dr Siegfried Walser. The Executive Council of the canton of Basel-Stadt has elected the new Foundation Board for the term of office from 2012 to 2014 and appointed the new chairman.

Basel, 17 November 2011 – The current chairman, Dr Ralph Lewin, will be stepping down from the Sympany Foundation Board upon completion of the first term of office, which runs until the end of 2011. From 1986 until his election to the Basel-Stadt Executive Council he was Managing Director of ÖKK Basel, thereafter serving as the Chairman of its Board of Directors. He has chaired the Sympany Foundation Board since 2009.

Dr Lewin has been with Sympany and its predecessor ÖKK Basel for 25 years and has helped shape its development from a heavily state-financed cantonal institution to a modern independent company operating throughout Switzerland.

The current Vice Chairman, **Dr Siegfried Walser**, has been appointed Chairman by Basel-Stadt's Executive Council for the term of office running from 2012 to 2014. Dr Walser (58) holds a degree in economics, is a self-employed business consultant and lives in Muntelier in the canton of Fribourg. He has many years of management experience in the health insurance sector and is fully familiarised with his specific mandate as Vice Chairman at Sympany.

Rolf Baumann has been elected as a new member of the Sympany Foundation Board. Mr Baumann (45) is an experienced business leader in the insurance industry. Since 2007 he has been head of sales and a member of the Executive Board of CSS Insurance. He is leaving CSS Insurance at the end of the year and will not be taking on a position at another health insurer.

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About Sympany
Sympany is the "refreshingly different" insurance cover that provides made-to-measure protection and assistance, with no red tape. Sympany offers health and accident insurance for individuals and companies, and in May 2009 added property and liability insurance to its product range.

Sympany grew out of the ÖKK Basel and other health insurance companies. Sympany's head office is in Basel. Total premium volume in 2010 was CHF 975 million. Employing around 600 people, the company caters to the needs of more than 240,000 private customers, of whom around 214,000 have basic insurance cover. Sympany has 11,500 companies in its corporate customer portfolio.