

## Press Release

### Vita Joint Foundation: above-average return

**Zurich, March 7, 2016 – The Vita Joint Foundation achieved a return of 1.2% in 2015. The largest semi-autonomous pension foundation thereby achieved investment performance significantly higher than the median of 0.7% for Swiss pension funds, despite a difficult investment year.**

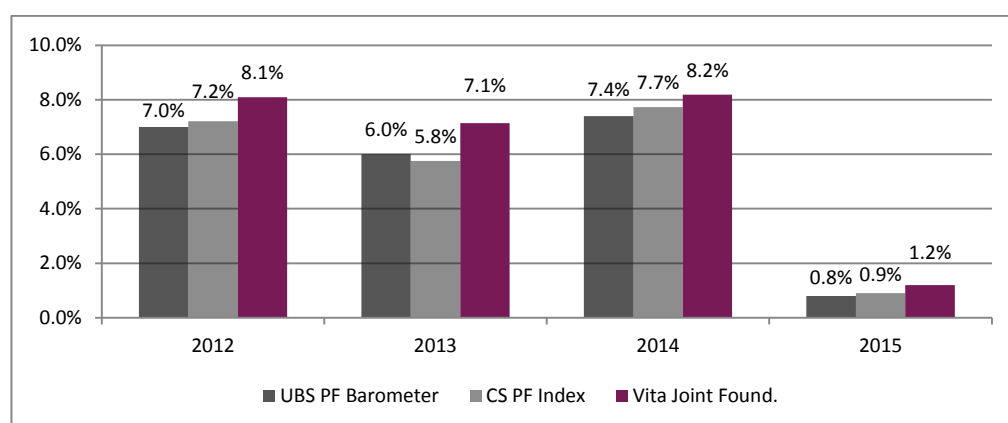
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In 2015, the Vita Joint Foundation generated an annual return of 1.2% in a demanding investment environment. The investment performance for Swiss pension funds in 2015 was 0.7%, but Vita Joint Foundation exceeded this by an additional 0.5% (performance comparison by the Swiss Association of Pension Funds ASIP). This is significantly higher than the important pension fund indices, the CS PK Index (0.9%) and the UBS PK Barometer (0.8%). You can find more details [in the Investment Report 12/31/2015](#).

#### Performance of Vita Joint Foundation in comparison with pension funds -UBS and CS Indices 2012 – 2015



#### Insured benefit from high interest rates

In the years from 2012 to 2014, the broadly diversified investment strategy pursued by the Vita Joint Foundation already earned above-average returns on the savings capital of the insured. Thanks to this excellent earnings basis and an innovative pension planning model, the Vita Joint Foundation can pay high



interest on the pension capital: 2.25% on mandatory savings and 3% on super-mandatory savings, even in the current low interest rate environment.

### **Careful management of risks**

The volatile investment environment and the current market correction give no reason for the Vita Joint Foundation to change its broadly diversified investment strategy: “Our strategy is geared to long-term security and coordinated with the structure of the insured of our semi-autonomous foundation,” says managing director Samuel Lisse, adding, “Our innovative pension planning model also absorbs value fluctuations in the capital markets with a capital buffer.” The security of the pension assets is the most important goal of Vita Joint Foundation. “In 2016, we will continue to focus on carefully managing risks of the capital market,” sums up Lisse.

### **Success thanks to innovation**

The innovative pension model of the Vita Joint Foundation allows a build up of interest reserves in strong investment years with pension assets that exceed the target coverage ratio of 106% on October 31. From these interest reserves, the Vita Joint Foundation then gradually distributes additional interest to those insured over the next five years. Over time, this secure model has resulted in balanced interest earned for the retirement assets and made it possible for the Vita Joint Foundation to pay interest up to 1% higher than the BVG minimum interest rate four times in a row.

### **The largest semi-autonomous joint foundation with some 19,700 companies**

The Vita Joint Foundation is the biggest semi-autonomous joint foundation in Switzerland with over 117,000 insured and some 19,700 companies. It manages pension fund assets worth CHF 10.7 billion.

### ***For additional information:***

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*You can access this press release at [www.vita.ch](http://www.vita.ch)*

**Vita Joint Foundation** was established in 2004 by Zurich as a semi-autonomous joint foundation. It offers all companies a simple, secure and clear occupational retirement provision on attractive terms. Semi-autonomous means that the investment and insurance segments at the Vita Joint Foundation are kept separate. Old age, death and disability risks are insured with Zurich Life Insurance Company Ltd. This separation only has advantages for customers – transparency, interest earned in line with the market and full participation in investment performance, security and flexibility. Thanks to its innovative model, the Vita Joint Foundation has developed into the market leader among semi-autonomous joint foundations. The Vita Joint Foundation is the largest semi-autonomous joint foundation in Switzerland. Over 19,700 affiliated companies with some 117,000 employees have entrusted their occupational retirement plans to the Vita Joint Foundation.

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