

**Dr. Armin Meyer** (CH)  
 Chairman of the Board and  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 Ciba Specialty  
 Chemicals Inc.  
 Basle



Born in 1949. Armin Meyer holds a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH).

Armin Meyer started his professional career in 1976 when he joined the former Brown Boveri Ltd. (BBC) as a Development Engineer. In 1980, he was appointed Head of Research and Development for industrial motors and took over as Head of the international business unit for electrical power generators in 1984. Further steps included the Presidency of ABB Drives Ltd. as well as of ABB Power Generation Ltd. In 1995, he was nominated Head of the Power Generation Segment and became a Member of the Executive Committee. Furthermore, Armin Meyer has served as a Member of the Board of Ciba Specialty Chemicals since 1997. In 1998, he was appointed Head of the Building Technologies Segment of ABB Ltd. In 2000, he left ABB Ltd. to become Chairman of the Board of Ciba Specialty Chemicals, and subsequently, he took over as Chief Executive Officer in 2001.

Armin Meyer serves as a Member of the Board of Zurich Financial Services as well as a Member of the Board of the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC). Additionally, he acts as a Member of the Foundation Board of the International Institute for Management Development (IMD). Besides his responsibilities at ABB, Armin Meyer also acted as Professor for Electrical Engineering and Drives at ETH Zurich for twelve years.

Theses  
**Leadership in Innovation  
 to Lead in  
 Global Business**

- Vision, strategy and objectives are the bedrock for innovation and change.
- Leaders are the agents building a work environment that fosters and supports innovation.
- The ability to manage simultaneously for today and tomorrow, with contrasting

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alignments of people, structure, culture and processes, is the key to long-term success.

- Having the right people at each stage of the process and understanding how they can work together is as critical as the innovation ideas themselves.
- Innovation is not limited to R&D, but involves all functions of a company.
- Corporate innovation programmers need to strike the right balance between customer and market-driven incremental research and development and longer term, higher risk activities.