

RUAG Space

RUAG Space shows important progress in 2021: both financially and with a functional, global organisation.

Business performance

RUAG Space can look back on a very pleasing financial year. All key figures show a positive trend for RUAG Space. The business segment increased sales from CHF 277 million to CHF 319 million. Earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) climbed from CHF –21 million to CHF 14 million.

Building on the strategy adopted in 2020, the reporting year saw the organisational adjustment to a functional organisation with a leaner management structure, with more women in the upper management levels and the global bundling of all competencies along six functional units, including the two programme areas 'Launchers' and 'Satellites'.

The Launchers business unit recorded encouraging growth – particularly in the USA. In the year under review, important contracts were secured in connection with payload fairings for launch vehicles and dispensers for new satellite constellations. An agreement was also reached with the key American customer United Launch Alliance (ULA) on the continuation and expansion of the long-standing partnership. For example, in 2021 the US plant supplied the first fairing manufactured entirely in the USA for the American Atlas rocket. Development and qualifications for structures for ULA's successor launch vehicle Vulcan are also progressing very well. RUAG Space further continues to manufacture the payload fairings for the European Ariane launchers.

In the Satellites business unit, the overriding focus was on offering subsystems, such as the contract won for the "Sunshield Solar Array Subsystem" for the European "planet hunt" mission PLATO. The production of serially manufactured structures for satellite constellations (e.g. OneWeb) developed stably and the development of the next generation of more powerful onboard computers for satellites has started. One highlight was the launch of the James Webb Space Telescope on 22 December, which took off into space with numerous RUAG Space products.

Outlook

For the year 2022, a growing space market can be expected, which will receive new impulses from the commercial players in the market, but which will also remain challenging. RUAG Space aims to continue growing organically in both Europe and the USA, in the institutional and commercial sectors. An ever greater challenge is to attract the relevant experts on the job market to the company. With a rebranding planned for March 2022 and a change of name to Beyond Gravity, the company is visibly continuing its internal transformation away from a state-owned company to an agile high-tech space provider.

Short profile

RUAG Space is a leading supplier of space products and has a growing presence in Europe and the USA. The business segment specialises in products for use aboard satellites and launch vehicles.

Locations

Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Sweden, Finland, USA

Numbers and facts

CHF 319 M

Net sales

CHF 14 M

EBIT

1,455

Employees (FTE)