

Media Release

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GF announces partnership with MassChallenge Switzerland

GF is joining the MassChallenge initiative, gaining access to top start-ups in Switzerland to develop innovative business models, products and services.

Together with an established network of business partners, entrepreneurs and students from around the world, GF is constantly developing new technologies and solutions to help its customers address their needs. These actions supports GF's vision to become a sustainability and innovation leader providing superior customer value.

Established in 2009, MassChallenge has helped startups across the world match with leading corporations that contribute expertise, mentors and resources to help them scale up and develop. As of February 2022, GF will become a partner of this global network in Switzerland fostering collaborative innovations.

"We are delighted to join efforts with MassChallenge and kick-start yet another initiative that brings us closer to new talent, and new ideas," Andreas Müller, GF CEO said. "GF has traditionally supported young entrepreneurs and start-ups in their quest to grow their business and create impact. Their innovative drive, leaner infrastructure and agility are a perfect match for a company like ours."

"GF is the ideal partner for MassChallenge Switzerland, thanks to its track record as an industrial company addressing long-term trends in sustainable water and energy consumption, mobility solutions and advanced manufacturing. MassChallenge Switzerland's mission is to connect startups to experts and corporations who can help them disrupt the status quo and create meaningful change. GF's partnership is going to be especially helpful to entrepreneurs whose ideas can help industry operate more sustainably," stated Matt Lashmar, Managing Director of MassChallenge Switzerland.

GF is currently running several mentoring projects with start-ups and academia, including a pilot program with the Zurich-based ETH, allowing students to work on real business cases in strategy, innovation and leadership.

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Corporate Profile

GF comprises three divisions: GF Piping Systems, GF Casting Solutions and GF Machining Solutions. Founded in 1802, the Corporation is headquartered in Switzerland and present in 34 countries with 137 companies, 59 of them production facilities. GF's 14'118 employees generated sales of CHF 3'184 million in 2020. GF is the preferred partner of its customers for solutions enabling safe transport of liquids and gases, lightweight casting components, and high-precision manufacturing technologies. More information is available at <u>www.georgfischer.com</u>.

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