

Media release

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New Head of Nuclear Energy Division

Michael Kessler (56) is to become the new Head of Nuclear Energy at Axpo. He will succeed Roland Schmidiger, who is handing over operational management of the division for health reasons. Michael Kessler will take up the position on 1 May 2025, which he has already been performing since mid-March in the role of Deputy Head of the Nuclear Division. In this role, he will also take over the management of the Leibstadt nuclear power plant.

The graduate mechanical engineer has an excellent and broad knowledge of nuclear energy as well as many years of experience in managing technical organisations. Michael Kessler initially held various positions at Siemens. He then went on to manage the Leibstadt nuclear power plant, first as head of mechanical engineering and later as power plant manager, and is currently a member of the management team there. For over four years, Kessler has headed Asset Management Nuclear at Axpo. He is Chairman of the Board of Directors of Zwischenlager Würenlingen AG (ZWILAG) and a member of the Board of Directors of KKW Gösgen AG and AKEB.

"I look forward to my new challenge and to working with an outstanding professional and technical team," says Michael Kessler. "I am convinced that I can profitably apply my operational and strategic experience in the field of nuclear energy as the new head of the Nuclear division at Axpo."

Andy Heiz, Head of Production and Grids at Axpo: "In Michael Kessler, we have found an excellent person for the challenging environment in the field of nuclear energy and we are pleased that we were able to fill the position internally."

The handover of office will take place on 1 May 2025. The current division head, Roland Schmidiger, will continue to support Axpo as a senior nuclear consultant and work on various strategic projects.

About Axpo

Axpo is driven by a single purpose – to enable a sustainable future through innovative energy solutions. Axpo is Switzerland's largest energy producer and an international leader in energy trading and the marketing of solar and wind power. Axpo combines the experience and expertise of more than 7,000 employees who are driven by a passion for innovation, collaboration and impactful change. Using cutting-edge technologies, Axpo innovates to meet the evolving needs of its customers in over 30 countries across Europe, North America and Asia.