

### **Chocolat Stella Bernrain: forward looking energy strategy**

• Swiss company Chocolat Stella Bernrain has strengthened its position as a highly flexible, internationally renowned manufacturer of niche products by extending the Giubiasco factory. At the same time a forward looking energy strategy has been implemented. The hi-tech energy strategy – including groundwater cooling technology – ensures only 5% – 10% more energy is required for three times the area. This in turn has boosted flexibility, opening up new opportunities to take on contract orders for smaller and medium sized retail partners.

The family-owned company is well-known for its ecological and sustainable engagement over the past decades. Others include developing the world's first ever fairtrade chocolate in 1991, and making the first organic chocolate that same year. "The trend in favour of very individual

chocolate products, manufactured in small sized batches, has been increasing fast. Now we can respond in the best possible way," says Monica Müller, who took over the company from her father in 2007, looking ahead to exciting future innovations.

At the ISM 2014, Chocolat Stella Bernrain confirms its international reputation – in particular with regard to new organic, fair trade and sugarfree varieties. Latest example: chocolate sweetened with agave nectar and coconut flower sugar, fully in step with the growing interest in natural sweeteners. "As an organic and fair trade certified producer, we are convinced that sustainability brings social, environmental and economic benefits to all of us," says Monica Müller. "We consider environmental protection an integral part of our commitment to our world." •