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# Media Release

St. Gallen, 24 September 2019

In accordance with SIX Swiss Exchange's Directive on Ad hoc Publicity this media release is dispatched outside trading hours.  
This text is a translation from the media release in German, which version shall be decisive.

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## René Walser appointed as member of the executive board

**The Board of Directors of St.Galler Kantonalbank appoints René Walser the new Head of Retail and Commercial Clients and Member of the Management Board as of July 1, 2020. He succeeds Albert Koller, who, as announced in February 2019, wants to devote himself to tasks outside the bank.**

### Regional network

René Walser (52) has many years of leadership experience in Swiss banking. Since 2008, he has been Head of Retail and Commercial Clients Eastern Region at the St.Galler Kantonalbank, responsible for the market area from Lake Constance via the Rhine Valley to the Sarganserland with 18 branches. Previously, he spent 12 years in UBS's corporate banking business in various positions, most recently as Head of Credit Risk Control Eastern Switzerland.

Walser grew up in Sargans and lives with his family in Wangs. Since completing his commercial apprenticeship at the St.Galler Kantonalbank and the degree of HWV St.Gallen, he has continued his education, for example with the Executive Program of the Swiss Banking School and most recently with a diploma in business law at the HSG St. Gallen.

The Board of Directors and Management of St.Galler Kantonalbank look forward to working with René Walser. Roland Ledergerber, President of the Management Board: «We are convinced that with René Walser, we have found a competent, highly motivated and well-qualified person for this position. He fits into our team, is well connected in the region and understands the concerns and needs of our customers.»

### Succession of Albert Koller

In the Retail and Commercial Clients segment, around 700 employees work at 38 branches in the cantons of St.Gallen and Appenzell Ausserrhoden as well as in Zurich.

René Walser succeeds Albert Koller (55), who has been a member of the Management Board as well as Head of Retail and Commercial Clients since 2007. Albert Koller had already announced his resignation at the beginning of the year. In future, he will devote himself to strategic mandates outside the bank. The Board of Directors and the Management Board already thank him for his great commitment to the St.Galler Kantonalbank.

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The **St.Galler Kantonalbank AG (SGKB)**, founded in 1868, has been listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange since 2001. The Canton of St. Gallen is the majority shareholder, with 51% of the share capital. The St.Galler Kantonalbank offers a comprehensive range of financial services to its clients in the cantons of St. Gallen and Appenzell Ausserrhoden. While SGKB operates out of Zurich in the remaining parts of German-speaking Switzerland in private banking and corporate banking segments, it is actively engaged in the German market through its subsidiary SGKB Germany. SGKB meets its responsibilities for the economic, social and cultural development of the region as an employer, taxpayer and sponsorship partner. The parent company operates with a state guarantee and has an Aa1 credit rating from Moody's. Further information at: [www.sgkb.ch/en](http://www.sgkb.ch/en)