

**DEPARTEMENT
VOLKSWIRTSCHAFT UND INNERES**

Vorsteher

24. November 2025

**Inauguration of Swiss PIC Packaging Fab, November 24, 2025, Villigen
Welcome address by Landammann Dieter Egli**

((Es gilt das gesprochene Wort))

Dear representatives of Swiss Photonics and Swiss PIC, dear representatives of Park Innovaare, dear guests from the worlds of business and research, ladies and gentlemen

Thank you for inviting me to the inauguration of the Swiss PIC Packaging Fab. I am delighted to convey the warmest regards of the Aargau Cantonal Government.

First of all, I must admit that I unfortunately know very little about what you do here. I am not familiar with photonics and the details of your technological development. But I think, I actually don't need to be. After all, you are the experts – my job, our job as the site canton, is to support you in your work and to promote you.

We ensure optimal conditions so that you can concentrate on what you do best: namely, being innovative. In the cantonal administration, we use all our resources to achieve this goal.

Your commitment and dedication contribute to the development of new ideas and technologies that can be used economically. This creates value and prosperity, keeps our economy competitive, creates jobs, and benefits society as a whole.

That is why your presence here in Aargau is extremely important to the canton and, of course, to me as Director of Economic Affairs. We are delighted that you, dear Swiss PIC managers, have set up your Packaging FAB here. I would like to express my sincere thanks for the trust you have placed in us. We are proud that you recognize and appreciate the advantages offered by Aargau as a business location.

I also consider it as a recognition of our good location conditions that Anaxam and Swiss PIC, two of only four technology transfer centers in Switzerland established as part of the federal government's AM-TTC initiative, are located here with us. We are very grateful for that.

These centers bridge the gap between laboratory-scale research and industrial applications. They build bridges between theory and practice, between science and industry. And we need precisely such bridges

at a time when innovations and markets are developing at an ever-increasing pace.

at a time when protectionist, selfish tendencies are increasingly straining the international community

and at a time when technological progress is often used to ruthlessly assert one's own interests.

To ensure that we do not fall behind technologically, that we do not become a pawn in global power politics, we must remain up to date. We need progress, we need innovation. And above all, we must derive economic benefits from it as efficiently and quickly as possible.

It also makes perfect sense and is absolutely essential to think of these technology transfer centers in national terms, across Switzerland, as a collaboration between the federal government and the cantons – also with regard to international projects. If we want to remain at the forefront of high-tech fields, we absolutely need a bigger frame.

But thinking big does not always have to take place in large, glamorous, urban agglomerations and global metropolises. Thinking big can also be smaller and more tranquil. You can see that here today in this place – the Innovaare Park in Villigen.

Here, surrounded by nature and nestled in beautiful countryside, people work and conduct research - down-to-earth and pragmatic, but at the highest international level. What you experience here is the true spirit of Aargau.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to you, the managers of Park Innovaare, for making this possible through your dedication and commitment.

You have created an ecosystem here that breathes innovation, where new ideas are born and developed, resulting in successful products and services that ultimately generate added value. It is the perfect place for technology transfer.

It is above all the connection with the Paul Scherrer Institute, one of the jewels in our canton, where cutting-edge international research has always been conducted, that makes Park Innovaare so attractive – for large companies that are expanding their research and development here in an inspiring environment, but also for innovative start-ups that benefit from access to large-scale facilities – and also for you, dear Swiss PIC managers.

I wish you every conceivable success here at this location. And I wish you all the inspiration you need to develop and perfect the new high-end and cutting-edge technologies that we as a society so urgently need. I look forward to continuing to work with you.

And I look forward to your contributions, which are yet to come, and to many good discussions with you all today. Thank you very much.