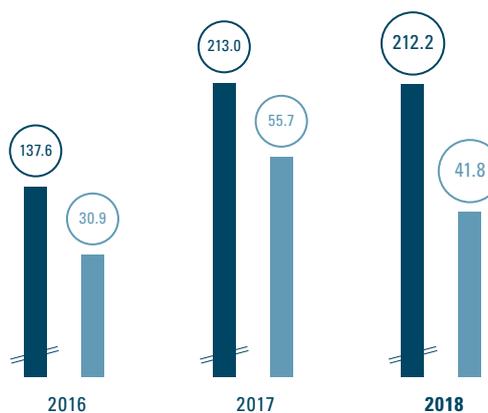


## Business in the divisions

Despite a sharp downturn in the semiconductor market, the Comet Group's sales of CHF 436.4 million in 2018 very nearly matched the 2017 record. The Group took rapid and significant steps to enhance earnings performance in individual areas and maintained important investments in strategically valuable projects to ensure the sustained development of its businesses.

### PCT PLASMA CONTROL TECHNOLOGIES



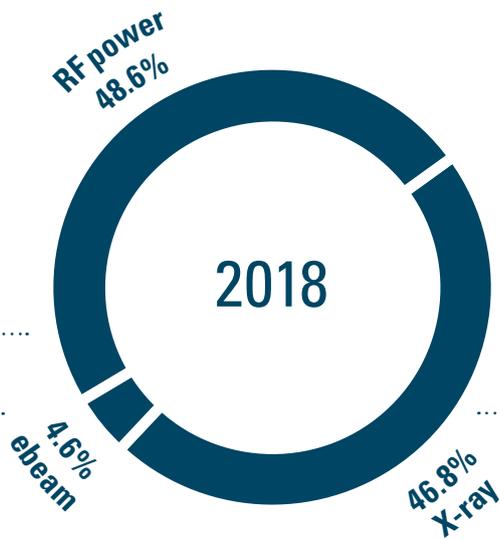
PCT achieved sales virtually at the prior-year level despite a pronounced slow-down of the semiconductor market in the second half of the year. The division swiftly aligned its capacity with demand. However, shifts in the product mix and intensive investment in development projects for the future reduced EBITDA operating earnings.

### EBT EBEAM TECHNOLOGIES

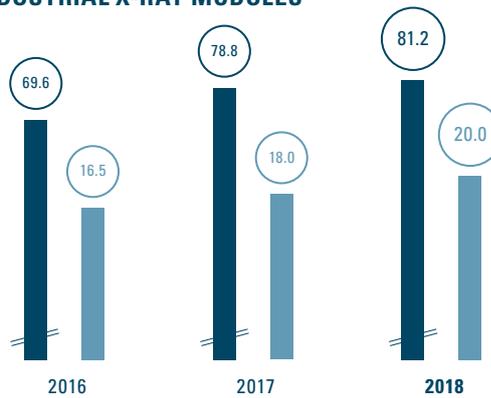


For EBT the year's defining developments were the disposal of the loss-making ebeam systems business in the USA and the refocusing on the OEM business. The division registered a loss of CHF 20.2 million, of which CHF 14.5 million was due to the now divested ebeam systems activities.

■ Sales in CHF million  
■ EBITDA in CHF million

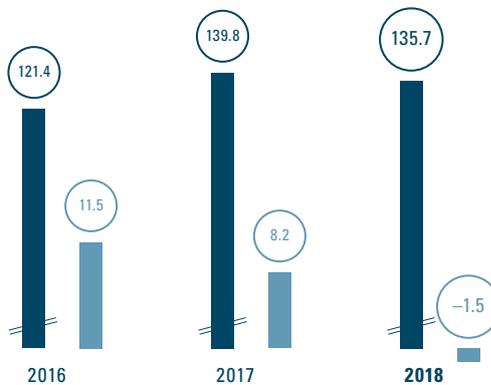


## IXM INDUSTRIAL X-RAY MODULES



IXM further expanded its position in the core business of non-destructive testing, driving slight sales growth for the year. Even with one-off costs for the facility expansion in Flamatt, the division further improved its EBITDA operating earnings.

## IXS X-RAY SYSTEMS



For IXS, successes with new products, above all in the electronics market, coincided with decreases in other submarkets where portfolios were not yet renewed, leading to overall sales slightly below the prior-year level. After a weak first six months the division, under new leadership, executed an earnings improvement program by the year-end whose results will be felt in 2019. One-time costs for this, together with high investments in product renewal, led to an EBITDA loss.