

# Executive Committee Biographies

September 2025



When you need to be sure



**Géraldine Picaud**  
Chief Executive Officer

## Global Functions



**Marta Vlatchkova**  
Chief Financial Officer



**James Roberts**  
Chief People Officer



**David Plaza**  
Chief Information  
Officer



**Martin Oesch**  
Group General  
Counsel

## P&L Leaders

### Testing & Inspection



**Steven Du**  
Asia Pacific



**Malcolm Reid**  
Europe



**Teymur Abasov**  
Eastern Europe,  
Middle East and Africa

### Testing & Inspection



**Rafael Navazo**  
Latin America



**Derick Govender**  
North America

### Certification



**Damien Rousseau**  
Business Assurance

## Global Business Development



**Charles Ly Wa Hoi**  
Connectivity & Products  
and Health & Nutrition



**Egidijus Jokubauskas**  
Industries & Environment  
and Natural Resources



# G RALDINE PICAUD

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### Other activities and functions

- Non-Executive Director and Chairwoman of the Audit Committee of Danone (France)
- Member of the CFO Coalition for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), United Nations Global Compact

### Expired terms of office

- Member of the Supervisory Board of Infineon Technologies AG (Germany)
- Director and chairwoman of the Audit Committee of Alstom (France)
- Director of A roports de Paris (France)
- Director of Huaxin Cement Co. Ltd. (China), Holcim Group Services Ltd (Switzerland), Holcim Technology Ltd. (Switzerland), LafargeHolcim Maroc SA (Morocco), LafargeHolcim Maroc Afrique SAS (Morocco), Lafarge Maroc SA (Morocco)

G raldine Picaud was appointed Chief Executive Officer of SGS in March 2024. She joined the Group as Chief Financial Officer in December 2023 with an extended scope notably including Strategic transformation, M&A, IT and Digitalization, Procurement, Communication and Sustainability, in addition to Group Finance.

G raldine has more than 30 years of experience in strategic leadership roles spanning various industries and development stages, from accelerated growth to corporate turnaround. She has a proven track record of delivering concrete results and transformation across complex global business environments.

She served as Group Chief Financial Officer and Executive Committee member of Holcim, a global leader in building solutions, from 2018 to 2023. In this capacity, she implemented a proactive strategy of growth acceleration and corporate simplification. Prior to this, she was Group Chief Financial Officer and Executive Committee member of Essilor International, the world leader in ophthalmic lenses, where she led the consolidation of the prescription lab market through a resolute strategy of bolt-on acquisitions. She also held senior executive positions at ED&F Man, an ingredient and commodity company notably specializing in agricultural products, coffee, sugar and animal feed, and at Safic Alcan, a specialty chemicals group. She started her career as an auditor with Arthur Andersen.

G raldine graduated from  cole Sup rieure de Commerce de Reims and holds an MBA. She is currently a non-executive director and chairwoman of the Audit Committee of Danone.

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## STEVEN DU

### HEAD OF ASIA PACIFIC

#### COMMERCIAL AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Steven Du was appointed Head of Asia Pacific in March 2024.

He was previously Chief Operating Officer of SGS North-East Asia. Prior to this, he held many senior positions in Asia including Managing Director of China and Managing Director of Vietnam. He also worked for SGS Singapore and Philippines in food testing, certification and training. In 2002, he managed the establishment of China's first commercial food testing laboratory. Steven joined SGS in 1999 and holds a Management Diploma from Shenzhen University and a Master's degree in Logistics and Supply Chain Management from the Chinese University of Hong Kong.



## MALCOLM REID

### HEAD OF EUROPE

#### COMMERCIAL AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Malcolm Reid was appointed Head of Europe in March 2024.

He was previously Chief Operating Officer, South-East Asia Pacific. Prior to this, he held the positions of Executive Vice President for Consumer Testing Services and Executive Vice President of Systems and Services Certification. He was also Managing Director in several countries, including Australia, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam. He joined the company in 1987. Malcolm graduated with a BSc Chemistry (Hons) from the University of Glasgow in 1985.



## TEYMUR ABASOV

### HEAD OF EASTERN EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

#### COMMERCIAL AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Teymur Abasov was appointed Head of Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa in March 2024.

He was previously Chief Operating Officer, Eastern Europe and Middle East. Prior to this, he held several key roles for SGS in the region: Managing Director SGS Kazakhstan and Caspian Region, Managing Director of SGS Azeri & Georgia and Operations Manager of SGS Azeri. He joined SGS in 1994 as a senior inspector in Azerbaijan after graduating with a degree in Electrical Engineering.



## RAFAEL NAVAZO

### HEAD OF LATIN AMERICA

#### COMMERCIAL AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Rafael Navazo was appointed Head of Latin America in July 2024.

He was previously Vice President of Flow Control EMEA at Vesuvius, where he was instrumental in delivering high technology solutions in the steel and foundry markets, significantly contributing to the divisions' growth and sustainability. Prior to this, Rafael held several pivotal roles at Imerys, including Vice President & General Manager for South America in Filtration and Performance Additives. Rafael holds a MSc in Management from HEC Paris and a Mining Engineer degree from Universidad Politécnica de Madrid. He also completed an Executive Program at INSEAD.



## DERICK GOVENDER

### HEAD OF NORTH AMERICA

#### COMMERCIAL AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Derick Govender was appointed Head of North America in March 2024.

He was previously Executive Vice President for Natural Resources. Prior to this, he had been Executive Vice President for Minerals Services and Regional Minerals Business and Operations Manager in South Africa. He joined SGS as Chief Chemist in 2002. Beforehand, he was Chief Chemist of Mintek's precious metals laboratory and also worked in Randgold mine laboratories. He was educated in South Africa and holds qualifications in Analytical Chemistry and in Business Management.



## DAMIEN ROUSSEAU

### HEAD OF BUSINESS ASSURANCE

#### COMMERCIAL AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Damien Rousseau was appointed Head of Business Assurance in September 2025.

He was previously Head of Central and Eastern Europe & SGS Digital Ventures. Damien joined SGS in 2024. Prior to this, Damien held several pivotal roles, including Head of Eastern Europe at Holcim and Vice President Americas at Essilor Instruments. He brings close to 30 years of senior executive experience across services, digital, biotech, optical technology and building materials. His expertise spans sales and business development, mergers and acquisitions, transaction services, and finance. Damien holds a Master's degree in finance and management from Université Paris-Dauphine PSL.



## CHARLES LY WA HOI

### HEAD OF CONNECTIVITY & PRODUCTS AND HEALTH & NUTRITION

#### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Charles Ly Wa Hoi was appointed Head of Connectivity & Products and Health & Nutrition in March 2024.

He was previously Executive Vice President for Connectivity & Products. Prior to this, he held several senior executive roles within SGS: Executive Vice President for Consumer and Retail, Global Head of Materials and Manufacturing, Global Head of Transportation, Equipment and Machinery. Charles joined SGS in 1992 and rejoined in 2008 after director-level roles at E. Leclerc and Bouygues Energy Services. He holds a degree in Electronics Engineering from ENSEIRB-MATMECA.



## EGIDIJUS JOKUBAUSKAS

### HEAD OF INDUSTRIES & ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

#### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Egidijus Jokubauskas was appointed Head of Industries & Environment and Natural Resources in March 2024.

He was previously Head of Mineral Commodities at SGS, where he had responsibility for P&L and operational excellence in servicing global key accounts. Prior to this, Egidijus held various leadership positions within SGS, including Head of Energy Minerals. Before joining SGS in 2006, he worked for Intertek in Lithuania as manager for the Baltic states within the Agricultural business, as well as at BSI as an operations manager. Egidijus completed an Engineering degree in Marine Power Installations and a Master's degree in Marine Transport Technologies at the University of Klaipeda, Lithuania.



## MARTA VLATCHKOVA

### CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

#### GLOBAL FUNCTIONS

Marta Vlatchkova was appointed Chief Financial Officer in May 2024.

Prior to joining SGS, she served as Chief Accounting Officer at Sandoz, a global leader in off-patient medicines, where she successfully led the transition of the accounting function from a Novartis division to an independent publicly listed company. Prior to this, Marta led Group Accounting and Financial Planning & Analysis at Holcim, a global leader in building solutions. She also served as Head of Group Financial Planning & Analysis at Essilor, the world leader in ophthalmic lenses. She holds a Master's degree in Finance from the University of Paris II Pantheon-Assas, France and a Bachelor's degree in international Economic Relations from the University of National & World Economy in Sofia, Bulgaria.



## JAMES ROBERTS

### CHIEF PEOPLE OFFICER

#### GLOBAL FUNCTIONS

James Roberts was appointed Chief People Officer in November 2024.

Previously, he served as Head of HR at Holcim UK, where he implemented effective people strategies that drove commercial growth and enhanced operational efficiency. Prior to this, James held key HR roles at GE Energy Services and Alstom, where he successfully managed complex organizational change. James is highly skilled in developing HR strategies that support business growth and cultivate a culture of performance and accountability. He has a strong track record in incentivization, M&A integration, talent acquisition, leadership development, and advancing diversity and inclusion initiatives. He holds an MSc in Organisation Development and has completed executive education programs at INSEAD, Ivey, and IMD.





## DAVID PLAZA

### CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

#### GLOBAL FUNCTIONS

David Plaza was appointed Chief Information Officer in November 2020.

Before joining SGS, he served as Regional IT Head at Adecco Group, where he managed IT operations across diverse regions, including Iberia, Latin America, Asia Pacific, the Nordics, and Eastern Europe, Middle-East and North Africa. Prior to this role, David held several IT management positions within Adecco, having begun his career with the company as a junior programmer in 1997. He has extensive experience in managing the IT aspects of organizational transformation. David holds a degree in IT Engineering from the Complutense University in Spain, a degree in Sport Science from University Isabel I and a PDG in General Management from IESE Business School.



## MARTIN OESCH

### GROUP GENERAL COUNSEL

#### GLOBAL FUNCTIONS

Martin Oesch was appointed Group General Counsel in May 2024.

Prior to joining SGS, he served as Group General Counsel & Corporate Secretary at Barry Callebaut, where he played a pivotal role in shaping the company's direction and contributing to strategic M&A and expansion projects. Prior to this, Martin was an associate with two leading Swiss law firms. He holds a Master degree in Law from the University of Berne and the University of Chicago Law School (LLM).

# CONTACT US

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