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[20229001]

SFE Technologies said William P. Kuehn was elected chairman and chief executive officer of this troubled electronics parts maker .

[20229002]

The 45-year-old Mr. Kuehn , who has a background in crisis management , succeeds Alan D. Rubendall , 45 .

[20229003]

Jerome J. Jahn , executive vice president and chief financial officer , said Mr. Rubendall was resigning by " mutual agreement " with the board .

[20229004]

" He is going to pursue other interests , " Mr. Jahn said .

[20229005]

Mr. Rubendall could n't be reached .

[20229006]

Mr. Kuehn , the company said , will retain the rest of the current management team .

[20229007]

For the nine months ended July 29 , SFE Technologies reported a net loss of \$ 889,000 on sales of \$ 23.4 million .

[20229008]

That compared with an operating loss of \$ 1.9 million on sales of \$ 27.4 million in the year-earlier period .

[20229009]

In national over-the-counter trading , SFE Technologies shares closed yesterday at 31.25 cents a share , up 6.25 cents .