



Press release

## **Techem Austria celebrates its 50th birthday**

Innsbruck. For over 50 years, Techem Messtechnik Ges. m. b. H. has ensured that energy and water costs in Austrian houses are distributed fairly among consumers. This is a welcome opportunity for Managing Director Karlheinz Egger and his team to celebrate this golden anniversary with customers and employees. A series of events which Techem has planned at all seven of its sites, marking 50 years of Techem's position as market leader in Austria, has been launched in Graz. Year for year, 150 employees make sure that heating costs are settled punctually and efficiently in over 460,000 homes and facilities. In the meantime, Techem operates over 2.5 million heat and water consumption meters in all nine federal provinces. On top of this, since 1996 Techem has also provided services in the field of water supply.

The way to divide the heating costs in apartment blocks among residents so that each resident pays for what he has consumed originated in Scandinavia. Almost everyone is acquainted with the little pipes with coloured liquid attached to radiators, which measure heat output. In the meantime, most of these have been replaced by electronic meters that are more accurate and can even store the readings. Techem installs the meters, records the readings and, on this basis, as a complete service provider, issues bills for heat consumption which the building administration can then pass on to tenants or owner-occupiers. The philosophy behind the whole service is: "Everyone should pay only for what he has actually used!"

Particularly convenient for residents is the radio technology employed by Techem. It is no longer necessary to enter an apartment in order to read the meters.

With the passage of time and given the dramatic increase in energy costs, cost-saving has assumed priority. Several studies have shown that a consumer-friendly settlement of costs can reduce consumption by 15-20 percent. For this reason, the recording and settlement of energy consumption has been introduced as a binding principle in virtually all EU member states. Consequently, for several years Techem has been offering system solutions that bring even greater savings.

Techem Austria is a subsidiary of the Techem group in Germany, which has been headed by Austrian-born Horst Enzelmüller for four years. Techem is a leading world-wide energy services provider with 2,700 employees. The service ranges from energy supply, via a consumer-friendly recording and settlement of costs, all the way to the innovative energy savings system Techem ecotech. Techem serves 686,000 customers in 8.1 million apartments, who save time and money thanks to Techem's services. In 23

countries, the name Techem stands for the economical and efficient management of natural resources.

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