

## **Going to water school with Techem**

*Water supply at last for an Eritrean village - Techem sponsors the water school - every Techem radio frequency cold water meter sold worldwide helps - World Water Day on 22 March 2011*

**In March 2011, the drinking water supply project for the village of Deki Tsenay in Eritrea is to start at last. The children there go to a water school to learn sustainable management of this valuable resource. Techem supports the water school with its fund-raising campaign. “We particularly want to promote responsible water management”, says Hans-Lothar Schäfer, General Manager and CEO of Techem. “This equally applies to rich industrial countries and to developing countries.” There were many bureaucratic barriers to be overcome. The WasserStiftung (WaterFoundation) handles both the technical and the organisational side of implementing the project.**

Techem started its one-year fundraising campaign on last year’s World Water Day with a donation of 10,000 Euros. From every Techem radio frequency cold water meter sold in the fiscal year 2009/10, 10 cents were donated to the WasserStiftung (WaterFoundation). This is to support the construction of water schools, where children in developing countries learn sustainable water management. They are involved with their minds, hearts and hands and carry the knowledge into their families. Because water from both existing and new sources must be used and protected with care. Clean, healthy water is a valuable resource. The WasserStiftung (WaterFoundation) helps people to secure water supplies in critical regions and to use water responsibly.

The village of Deki Tsenay in Eritrea is situated on a hill. 2,400 people live there. 1,600 children go to the local school. The only open waterhole is heavily polluted. This causes many diseases. Clean drinking water is not available locally. It must be carried on foot over a distance of more than two kilometres from a hand-dug well in the valley. There, the WasserStiftung (WaterFoundation) plans to build a pumping station and to lay three kilometres of water transport pipe. The total cost is estimated at 160,000 Euros. Dr. Herbert Hruschka, Technical Manager of the WasserStiftung (WaterFoundation), ex-

plains: "The pumping station is powered by 100 solar panels. We expect to bridge a 176 metre difference in altitude."

Techem is an important sponsor of the WasserStiftung (WaterFoundation). "Responsible water management is important wherever you go", says Hans-Lothar Schäfer of Techem. "With our solutions, our customers save some 37 million cubic metres of water every year. This is enough to supply 461,000 households." (Calculation based on: 4.6 million residential units with Techem service in Germany, Techem energy key figures, 2009.) Henner Lang, Chairman of the WasserStiftung (WaterFoundation), emphasizes: "Thanks to sponsors like Techem, we are able to pass on both knowledge and technology for better utilization of water as a natural resource."

With the World Water Day, the United Nations Organization draws attention to one of the crucial worldwide environmental and developmental problems. More than 2.5 billion people are without basic sanitary hygiene. As a consequence, about 6,000 children die from cholera, typhoid fever, jaundice or diarrhoea every day. It is a global challenge to secure supplies on the one hand and to make sensible use of this valuable resource on the other hand.

#### **About the WasserStiftung (WaterFoundation)**

The non-profit WasserStiftung (WaterFoundation), headquartered in Ebenhausen near Munich, has set itself the goal of providing people with access to clean drinking water by helping them to help themselves.

[www.wasserstiftung.de](http://www.wasserstiftung.de)

#### **About Techem**

Techem is a globally leading supplier of energy billing and energy management services for real estate. Techem is present in more than 20 countries worldwide and employs more than 3,000 people. Its service portfolio ranges from heat and water metering and billing to detailed energy monitoring and includes innovative contracting solutions.

#### **Techem in brief**

- The number 1 in Germany and market leader in other countries
- World market leader in installed radio metering equipment
- 687.5 million Euros in sales worldwide
- More than 57 years of market success

[www.techem.com](http://www.techem.com)