

Geberit streamlines its Organisation

Jona, 7 December 2001 – The slump in the construction industry and the recession in Germany, the weak Euro and the unfavourable economic forecasts for 2002 are causing the Geberit Group to streamline its organisation. The measures envisaged to simplify structures and to adjust capacities will involve a reduction in workforce by approximately 160 to 170 throughout Europe during the year 2002.

More than half of the planned staff reduction is expected to occur in Germany where a number of steps will be taken to streamline the existing organisation in response to continuing weak sales. The central Group functions in Switzerland will also be indirectly affected. The production at the Jona location will continue to be adjusted to the Group-wide demand. Approximately one third of the planned staff reduction will occur in Switzerland; the remainder will be spread over other European countries.

The target is to reduce personnel while keeping the number of business-related dismissals as small as possible and to find individual solutions such as early retirement or part-time work. In addition, there will be no replacement for staff turnover and employment contracts of limited duration will not be renewed.

As European market leader, the Geberit Group is a global provider in the area of sanitary technology and employs a staff of approximately 4,200 worldwide.