

Geberit expands its US Activities

Jona, 4 November 2002 – **Effective 1 November 2002 the Geberit Group through its recently acquired Chicago Faucet Company has bought 100% of the shares of WC Technology Corporation (WCTC), Farmington Hills, Michigan from the Masco Group for USD 5,5 million. WCTC is a small Development and Sales Company in the area of innovative pressure tank technology for WC flushing. The company holds latest international state of the art patents on this technology.**

With this acquisition Geberit secures the water saving pressure tank technology for the commercial and public sector, expands strategically its activities in the US and opens a world wide growth potential.

WC Technology Corporation generates sales of approx. USD 3 million with six employees. The company was established in 1993, when Masco acquired patents from the inventor of the pressure tank technology. Together with Geberit WCTC has developed a pressure tank solution for concealed cisterns which are being sold in the USA since October 2002. Besides the business with Geberit WCTC supplies with increasing success several major vitreous china manufacturers in the USA.

Due to its space saving features and reduced water consumption of less than 4,5 litres (1,2 gal) the pressure tank technology will be part of future developments in the area of sanitary technology. The WCTC pressure tank received the top Product Design Award from the American Society of Plastic Engineers (SPE) based on design integrity, innovation and environmental benefits.

As European market leader, the Geberit Group is a global provider in the area of sanitary technology with sales of CHF 1,2 billion employing a staff of approximately 4'500 world wide.