

EANS-Adhoc: SW Umwelttechnik wins major orders in Hungary and Romania

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Despite difficult market conditions SW Umwelttechnik - a Carinthia-based listed family business - has won major orders for its Infrastructure and Water Conservation business sectors worth a total of EUR5.4m.

A slight pick-up in orders for industrial and commercial construction products is under way following last year's slump in demand. In August SW Umwelttechnik secured orders worth EURO.8 million (m) for precast elements for portal frame buildings in Romania. And in Hungary - where demand has plunged - the company picked up new and repeat orders valued at EUR1.3m. Meanwhile its quality products and project management expertise have won it a follow-up contract for the construction of a shopping centre from a customer in Scandinavia that placed its first order two years ago.

Despite these signs of improvement the company is now increasingly reliant for revenue on its Water Conservation business which caters to local authorities, rather than its Infrastructure sector which serves industrial and commercial clients. For example, SW Umwelttechnik will be delivering bell and spigot, and jacking pipes worth EURO.4m for a surface water drainage project in Dunakeszi, Hungary. Work started in August and completion is scheduled for May 2010. The company has also landed a EURO.9m order for slip joint, jacking, and bell and spigot pipes for the Budapest sewerage system. Construction is scheduled to run from September 2009 until April 2010.

A EUR0.9m contract to upgrade and expand the drinking water and wastewater networks in Pitesti, Romania has been signed. SW Umwelttechnik will be supplying 1.3 km of jacking pipes for this EU-supported project.

Hungarian subsidiary OMS Hungaria has been awarded the contract for an infrastructure and wastewater project in the municipality of Ujsziulv, in central Hungary. The EUR1.1m order is for the engineering design and construction of some 15 km of open drains for the road network and 1.6 km of sewerage pipes. Work is due for completion by the end of 2009.

SW Umwelttechnik expects the trading environment to remain challenging, but is well placed to handle fluctuations in demand thanks to its wide product range, diversified customer portfolio and modern production facilities.

Founded in 1910, SW Umwelttechnik remains a family business, though it has been listed on the Vienna Stock Exchange since 1997. The group is known for its commitment to sustainable enterprise and rapid expansion in Central and Southeastern Europe (CSE). Its innovative environmental products are contributing to infrastructure renewal in CSE.

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