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EANS-Adhoc: Announcement according to § 91 Stock Exchange Act: BKS Bank increases interest in SW Umwelttechnik

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The BKS Bank Group has increased its holding in Carinthia-based family business SW Umwelttechnik to over 5%, with effect from 28.08.2009. The transaction makes BKS Bank one of the largest free-float shareholders in SW Umwelttechnik, which specialises in products for the water/wastewater and infrastructure (energy, transport and natural building materials) sectors. BKS Bank underlined its position as a long-term investor, with a focus on small and medium-sized enterprises.

SW Umwelttechnik and the BKS Bank Group have a long-standing business relationship - BKS was a major provider of funding for SW's expansion into the Hungarian market. The two companies are looking to strengthen their ties in response to the current economic downturn. SW Umwelttechnik has an excellent reputation as a successful Austrian company with a strategic focus on sustainability.

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 technology products are contributing to infrastructure renewal in CSE.

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