



METAL SECTOR: SIGNS ARE POINTING TO RECYCLING

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GENERATION CHANGE

During the ordinary meeting of the supervisory board of the family-run RETHMANN Group on 21 September 2009, a generation change was put into motion when Norbert Rethmann handed over the task of supervisory board chairman to his son Dr Martin Rethmann. REMONDIS aktuell reports about the changes to the company's management. **Page 4**



NATURE CONSERVATION

Less waste and more recycling are not dreams of the future for the NABU. Today, we are already able to produce resource-efficient, long-lasting recyclable products. Besides the systems for reusable products, material recycling of all recyclable materials is an important precursor for the recycling branch. For this reason, NABU President, Olaf Tschimpke, is calling for more support for the environmental service branch. **Page 6**



POLITICS

The coalition agreement signed by the new Government still leaves many questions unanswered. REMONDIS aktuell spoke to REMONDIS managing director and Vice President of the BDE, Andreas Bankamp, about the core subjects of the agreement and the expectations the water and environmental service industry has of the new German government. **Page 10**

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EDITORIAL

Dear Readers!

In the German general elections held in September, the majority of the German inhabitants voted in favour of a coalition between the Christian Democrats and the Liberals. The new Government is facing some colossal challenges. It must carry out a balancing act between consolidating the federal budget and, at the same time, promoting the economy with ambitious stimulus packages. This is of fundamental importance for the future development of the economy. Furthermore, it must make some important decisions about adapting German law to European Union directives. The water and environmental service sector will, in particular, be affected by this. With our branch being a service provider for both the industry and local governments, much will depend on the future development of the economy, the strict implementation of the EU Waste Directive and on fair tax rules being guaranteed. Collection and recycling rates can only increase if our industrial customers are placed in a good commercial position and their rates of production can be stabilized again. At the same time, the approval of thermal recycling plants with guaranteed thermal efficiency as a source of regenerative energy within the framework of the new waste hierarchy should also contribute towards long-term economic planning in this area in the future.

The new coalition government announced a first step towards implementing improved and fairer tax regulations during their coalition talks back in October. In accordance with the demands of the European Union and the private sector, the unfair tax advantages enjoyed by municipal service companies shall finally be abolished. This long-overdue measure would mean that the water and environmental service branch would be a big step closer to having fair competition between public and private sector businesses. This alone, however, is not enough. Germany is an industrial country. Besides guaranteeing liquidity for businesses and creating all necessary legal framework conditions for fair



Thomas Breitkopf,
REMONDIS Board Member

competition between all market players, one of the most important challenges will be, above all, setting the future medium-term growth policies. The aim of these policies must be to promote German industry as the core source of economic growth.

As the New Year approaches, so the signs are growing stronger that the global economy is recovering. Whilst the global economy is nowhere near the growth figures enjoyed before the crisis, business confidence is returning, especially in the EU, in light of the economic development in the middle of 2009. The challenge now is to do one's best to promote this development, to identify and specifically expand growth markets. One such growth market is protecting the global environment and climate. REMONDIS, as one of the leading European companies, is particularly well positioned in this sector. Environmental services combined with well-engineered technical know-how are not only in demand in Germany but also increasingly in Central and Eastern Europe – whether it be in the area of industrial services or municipal waste management. Those active in the target markets are also well aware that as the economy recovers so the demand for raw materials will increase again. REMONDIS does both of these: guaranteeing a clean environment as well as supplying high quality secondary raw materials to the industry.

I would like to wish everyone a very happy New Year as well as a happy, healthy and successful 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Breitkopf', written in a cursive style.

Yours
Thomas Breitkopf

Accepting challenges – Taking responsibility

GENERATION CHANGE WITHIN THE SUPERVISORY BOARD OF THE RETHMANN GROUP

01 Ludger and Norbert Rethmann at a company event in 1985



During the meeting of the supervisory board of the family-run RETHMANN AG & Co. KG on 21 September 2009, the course was set for a generation change. Norbert Rethmann handed over his chairmanship of the supervisory board of the RETHMANN Group to his son, Dr Martin Rethmann.



02 The current RETHMANN Group management team: (from left to right) Dr Martin Rethmann (chairman of supervisory board) with board members, Ludger Rethmann, Reinhard Lohmann (chairman of board of management) and Klemens Rethmann.



03 Working together for the environment: Klaus Matthiesen (right) as Environmental Minister for the state of North Rhine-Westphalia next to Norbert Rethmann in 1988



04 Board of Management and Supervisory Board in 1989: (from left to right, standing) Reinhard Lohmann, Norbert Rethmann and Dr Hermann Niehues; (seated) Bernhard Heinemann, Dr Ludwig Trippen and Heinrich Zölzer

During the ordinary meeting of the supervisory board of the family-run RETHMANN Group on 21 September 2009, a generation change was put into motion when Norbert Rethmann handed over the task of supervisory board chairman to his son Dr Martin Rethmann.

The family management unit will also continue after the generation change.

Together with Norbert Rethmann, Dr Wolf-Albrecht Prautzsch and Heinrich Zölzer also stepped down from the supervisory board – accompanied with special thanks from the family shareholders and the members of the supervisory board and board of management. The new supervisory board is now made up of Dr Martin Rethmann (chairman), Dr Peter Nölke (deputy chairman) and Georg Rethmann. They have all been active on the supervisory board of the

family company since 1999; as a result of this move, the supervisory board has been reduced from six members to three.

The board of management of the RETHMANN Group remains unchanged; Reinhard Lohmann remains the chairman of the board of management with the other two members being Klemens and Ludger Rethmann.

Both the shareholders and the members of the supervisory board and board of management of Rethmann AG & Co. KG would like, above all, to thank Dr Wolf-Albrecht Prautzsch and Heinrich Zölzer for their many years of work and dedication to the company. Heinrich Zölzer took over the important position of responsibility in the highest supervi-



05 Repeatedly emphasising the interests of the company and the branch to politicians: Norbert Rethmann at a discussion forum with the former German Foreign Minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher



09 Norbert Rethmann at a congress in Munich in 1981



06 Dr Wolf-Albrecht Prautzsch and Karin Niermann with Reinhard Lohmann at an event in 2005



10 Heinrich Zölzer at a plant tour in Poland in 2003



07 Norbert Rethmann talking to Lech Walesa



11 Dr Martin Rethmann, chairman of the supervisory board of RETHMANN AG & Co. KG



08 An important step in the company's history: the supervisory board of the RETHMANN Group and guests at the meeting on 21 September 2009 (from right to left): back row: Dr Wolf-Albrecht Prautzsch, Georg Rethmann, Dr Martin Rethmann, Klemens Rethmann, Ludger Rethmann, Dagmar Fouquet and Michael Rohkämper (both from the accountancy firm, PWC) front row: Heinrich Zölzer, Norbert Rethmann, Helmut Grimm, lawyer, Reinhard Lohmann and Dr Peter Nölke



12 Irmgard and Norbert Rethmann together with Michail Gorbatschow

sory body in 1989 – Dr Wolf-Albrecht Prautzsch joined the supervisory board in 1993. Both not only accompanied the development of the company with their wide experience and valuable suggestions but also clearly influenced its development.

On the occasion of the meeting of the supervisory board, Norbert Rethmann once again stressed how important it was to see the company business as one whole. This includes a consensual transfer of ownership to the next generation coupled with the handing over of responsibility in the supervisory board and board of management. Norbert Rethmann personally expressed his gratitude for the many years of dedication given by the former members of the supervisory board, Dr Wolf-Albrecht Prautzsch and

Heinrich Zölzer. "Both have accompanied the development of the company group over many years in a responsible manner and with truly fair – but also critical – loyalty towards the family shareholders and board members, which ultimately represents the basis for the development of the RETHMANN company group," commented today's honorary supervisory board chairman.

Norbert Rethmann and the whole of the supervisory board would like to wish the company and, in particular, also the new supervisory board and board of management members continued success as well as a sustainable development of the business with particular responsibility for the many employees and the shareholders.

The generation change also involves passing on the responsibilities held in the supervisory board and board of management.

Interview

Recycling is a practical way to protect nature

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE PRESIDENT OF NABU, OLAF TSCHIMPKKE, ON HOW THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE BRANCH CONTRIBUTES TOWARDS NATURE CONSERVATION



Less waste and much more recycling are not dreams of the future for NABU (The Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union). Today, we are already able to produce resource-efficient, long-lasting recyclable products. Besides the systems for reusable products, material recycling of all recyclable materials is an important precursor for the recycling branch. Clear legal regulations without any loopholes are needed to protect natural resources and the climate. For, intact natural life cycles are the basis of life for all living things. The preconditions for this are a clean environment and humans making as little impact on nature as possible.

Intact natural life cycles and a clean environment are the basis of life for all living things.

REMONDIS aktuell: Mr Tschimpke, you are president of one of the largest non-governmental organizations in Germany committed to protecting nature and the environment. What has nature conservation got to do with the recycling branch today? Have not the greatest battles already been fought out?

Olaf Tschimpke: Not at all. The quality of the debate has simply reached another level. Many players within the waste management industry have realized that a recycling branch not only benefits people and nature but can also benefit companies over the medium and long term. This fact has now been widely accepted in Germany. However,

we must continue as before to carefully observe what happens to our waste. Even in the 21st century, hazardous waste is still being discovered in places in Germany where it does not belong, such as in the material used to fill clay quarries in some German states. Contamination from pollutants through waste disposal has been considerably reduced thanks to regulatory policies – e.g. setting limits – and binding political targets – e.g. recycling rates. Credit must be given to those active in environmental matters that the current recycling discussion revolves around three important subjects that are not being pitted off against each other: protection against pollutants, protecting the climate and preserving natural resources.

Olaf Tschimpke,
President of NABU, The Nature and
Biodiversity Conservation Union.



REMONDIS aktuell: To what extent is the recycling branch a partner of the environment and where must politicians take the helm?

Olaf Tschimpke: Practically all businesses working within the branch make a great contribution towards protecting the environment. However, this only ever happens in a limited structure, i.e. a company is active, or a company group or a branch association. A new RDF plant or a new line in a waste-to-energy plant prevents, first and foremost, resource and climate-friendly recycling even if both of them are considerably better for the climate than simply taking waste to landfill. It is the politicians' task to set responsible, ambitious political targets, to ensure they are maintained and to set such systems in motion as necessary. The German constitution and the strategy of sustainability demand this as the guiding principle of German federal politics. The obligation and need to preserve biodiversity, which is essential if humans are to survive, must also be mentioned here. The debate about guaranteeing supplies of raw materials by having a functioning recycling branch confirms our opinion that the work shall in the end result in the active protection of nature and the environment having only positive benefits – both economical and social.

REMONDIS aktuell: Germany has had a new Government since October 2009. What do you expect of them, in particular as far as their policies concerning resource and waste management are concerned?

Olaf Tschimpke: Here, I would like to pick out three points besides the great task of protecting biodiversity and the climate: first, we do not expect a simple "Let's continue as

"Many players within the waste management industry have realized that a recycling branch not only benefits people and nature but can also benefit companies over the medium and long term." Olaf Tschimpke

before" but an eco-political, high quality amendment to the Recycling Law. This law and its predecessors have set international standards. The law must continue to live up to these aspirations. This means that both waste prevention and the re-use and recycling of resources that have already been processed should be given priority so that German recycling policies once again become international forerunners. As Germany finds itself in a dilemma of having such a diverse and active waste management branch, the amendment and resulting policies will have a negative effect on some of the lines of business. In this case, politicians must show 'backbone'. Secondly, recycling policies alone cannot save the world. Resources and the climate can only be protected if sustainable production and sustainable consumption are increased. One very important point will be that, before this term of office is over, 100% public procurement will indirectly promote leading environmentally friendly markets. This will range from the obligation to use products made of recycled plastic to the household collection of separated waste across the whole country as well as using biowaste and green waste to produce biogas and substitute turf material. In addition, the Government must use the many climate policy instruments available to increase resource efficiency to ensure that pilot projects become effective across the market. I would name contracting models as an example of promoting efficiency. ▶

The subject of sustainability must be a dominant theme in German politics.

The maxim should be: 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle'.

- ▶ Thirdly, I would like to argue the case for a concrete way to reduce waste: NABU recently commissioned the Öko-Institut to find a solution that pushes forward eco-friendly drinks packaging again. The results show that a resource and environmental material tax on drinks packaging is feasible from both a legal and political point of view. Moreover, it would have a guiding effect on the market without destroying it. In addition to deposits on disposable drinks packaging, this suggested tax would provide an initiative that would allow the political targets for drinks packaging to be within reaching distance.

REMONDIS aktuell: You mentioned the regulations of the EU Waste Directive and the amendment to the Recycling Law. What concrete eco-political measures would be necessary to ensure that the demands you have on a modern recycling sector could become reality?

"Germany has a great responsibility as it has such a strong environmental technology branch." Olaf Tschimpke

Olaf Tschimpke: The political discussion about the amendment is in full swing. As far as the contents are concerned, the Waste Directive represents a European compromise. Germany has a great responsibility when it comes to transferring technology and know-how as it has such a strong environmental technology branch. To prevent it from becoming a 'waste management dinosaur', it is important to ensure that emission protection, resource preservation and climate protection become the guiding principles of the Recycling Law. This also means that some of the structures in Germany must be changed. We must implement the maxim "reduce, reuse, recycle" more vigorously than before to ensure that the recycling business promoted by the EU can become reality. In accordance with the second law of thermodynamics, the law must assume that it is better for the environment to reuse or recycle material, that has already been processed, rather than incinerating it or taking it to landfill. For this reason we need the EU's five-step waste hierarchy (prevention, reuse, recycling, energy recovery, disposal) to become a general rule in Germany,

too. If, depending on the material flow input, it can be proven that it makes ecological sense to deviate from this hierarchy, then this should only be possible through strict exemption clauses. By introducing a clear hierarchy and regulations on recycling rates, i.e. a minimum 65 percent for each individual material stream from household waste, politicians could ensure that the course is set to preserve raw materials. To simplify the debate, we should stop using the word recycling in 'energy recycling' but call it energy recovery instead. Quality assurance must remain the top priority when it comes to environmental policies for all matters concerning material streams. This starts with the separate collection of all secondary raw materials – including biowaste and green waste as well as goods containing pollutants – and ends with end-of-pipe technologies, such as flue-gas treatment and the necessary ongoing collection and monitoring of all emission data.

Furthermore, a greater part of the commercial waste that is currently being taken to RDF plants and cement works must be recycled by having the above-mentioned recycling rates also apply to commercial waste that is similar to municipal waste.

Last but not least, Germany must do its homework to see how more waste can be avoided. The Government's counsel of experts for environmental matters stressed in their latest report that waste prevention cannot be achieved by the Recycling Law alone. However: each inhabitant in Germany produces almost 600 kilograms of waste which is way above the EU average. The Recycling Law should, therefore, define the goal of not only uncoupling economic growth and waste generation but also continuously lowering the absolute amount of waste generation per capita by a realistic percentage amount.

REMONDIS aktuell: Mr Tschimpke, thank you very much for the interview which has once again clarified the eco-political maxim of the recycling economy. I would like to wish you continued success with your work.

We can only benefit from actively protecting the environment – from both an economical and social point of view.

Limiting climate change

New energy for road traffic

REMONDIS SUBSIDIARY VERA REFUELS HYDROGEN BUSES IN HAMBURG

The go-ahead has been given: hydrogen is establishing itself as the energy source of the future at an ever faster rate. Hamburg is the forerunner in Germany. By extending its H₂ infrastructures, the city is helping to preserve the world's scarce oil reserves and, at the same time, reduce climate-damaging CO₂ emissions and fine dust pollution.

One of the top German addresses for vehicles run on hydrogen is Hamburg-Hummelsbüttel. It was here that VERA took over the operation of an H₂ filling station. Fuel cell buses owned by the Hamburger Hochbahn AG travel here to refuel. The hydrogen needed for the buses is produced directly at the filling station – and it is completely emission-free and regenerative. The electrolysis needed to do this works exclusively using green-accredited electricity generated by renewable energy.

Comprehensive know-how

VERA – an abbreviation of 'Verwertungsanlage für Rückstände aus der Abwasserbehandlung' (recycling plant for residue from wastewater treatment) – is a joint venture owned by REMONDIS Aqua, the energy provider, Vattenfall, and the company, Hamburger Stadtentwässerung. Being a public private partnership business, VERA uses residual waste from the town's sewage treatment plant to generate biogas, steam and electricity. "Our expertise in the area of alternative energy concepts was a big point in our favour when we were commissioned to run the filling station," commented VERA managing director, Thomas Rongeleiding.

The City's ambitious targets

Hydrogen-powered buses have been used in Hamburg for six years now. This emission-free form of transport has meant that CO₂ emissions have dropped by several hundred tonnes.

As a result of its positive experiences, Hamburg is now intending to considerably extend its H₂ infrastructures. It is planning, among other things, to set up further hydrogen filling stations which cars should also be able to use. These future-oriented plans underline the town's ecological leaning which will be able to call itself the European Green Capital from 2011.



VERA generates climate-friendly electricity and district heat from sewage sludge and sewage gas for Germany's second-largest city.

The fuel cells are on the roofs of the buses. They transform the hydrogen into energy.



"The best way for those who wish to see what the mobility of the future looks like is to travel to Hamburg." HZwei-Magazin

Interview

Action must follow the words

A CLOSE LOOK AT THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S COALITION AGREEMENT



REMONDIS aktuell spoke to REMONDIS managing director and Vice President of the BDE, Andreas Bankamp, about the core subjects of the coalition agreement and the expectations the water and environmental service industry has of the new German government.

REMONDIS aktuell: Mr Bankamp, the election is now over and the 'black-yellow' coalition is in power. Do you believe that this is the best solution?

Andreas Bankamp: Only time will tell. Traditionally, it can be expected that a liberal-conservative coalition will, of course, promote medium-sized businesses a little more. And it looks as if this will be the case, too, in the coalition agreement. However, it would appear that the Government is already backpedalling in some important points in reaction to pressure from municipal associations.

REMONDIS aktuell: Are you talking about the fact that municipal providers of public services do not need to pay VAT?

Andreas Bankamp: For example. To begin with it was said that private and public companies must face the same tax conditions in the future. In the final version of the coalition agreement, however, a further clause was added to this important point which excludes municipal companies providing 'important public services' from these changes. Fair competition will once again fall by the wayside. Consumers will only be able to benefit from fair and stable charges when politicians push through equal competition rules for all market players no matter whether they are in the private or public sector.

REMONDIS aktuell: Have you got any concrete examples of this?

Andreas Bankamp: The example of Lüneburg demonstrates what happens when there is a lack of fair competition. Since the local council renationalised its waste management activities around two years ago, it has only recorded losses and it is now increasing its charges by an incredible 33 %. In Kassel, where waste management activities have always been run by purely municipal companies without there ever being fair competition, there is the threat of charges being increased by up to 50 %. Precisely those things are happening that we have always warned against: without fair competition, local inhabitants must pay more. And that is neither socially minded nor fair!

REMONDIS aktuell: Is this true for all local councils?

Andreas Bankamp: Absolutely not! Just look at the many successful public private partnerships such as those in Frankfurt, Oberhausen, Düsseldorf or Essen. Right from the beginning, they have been paying the correct amount of VAT as well as business tax and corporation tax and yet they are run so efficiently that local charges have been kept stable or even decreased. It is a fact that more than two-thirds of all local inhabitants already pay VAT on the collec-

"The many successful PPPs show day after day that municipal businesses are clearly able to operate competitively and highly efficiently even if they have to pay VAT."



tion of their mixed municipal waste. Fewer than one-third have the privilege of being exempt from paying VAT, namely those whose services are provided by purely publicly run companies. Thanks to the redistribution rules, money collected from VAT is paid back to all councils – even those that did not pay VAT. What has this got to do with a fair tax system?

REMONDIS aktuell: Another paragraph further on in the coalition agreement, however, states that efforts should be made to treat waste management companies equally when it comes to taxes.

Andreas Bankamp: The question that remains, though, is how and when. Will private sector companies also be exempt from paying VAT or will municipal businesses have to start paying VAT? Our branch together with all those employed in it will, in the future, be judging the new Government on the sustainability of such declarations. Moreover, the governing parties are planning to keep the VAT exemption rule for municipalities active in water resources management if the activities involve wastewater. It is however, impossible to understand why VAT must be paid for supplying water but not on wastewater treated by local councils. Fair tenders are generally not issued here. No competitive comparisons far and wide. Local inhabitants

“Thanks to the redistribution rules, money collected from VAT is paid back to all councils – even those that did not pay VAT. What has this got to do with a fair tax system?” Andreas Bankamp, REMONDIS managing director and Vice President of the BDE

are forced to simply accept wastewater charges without the best prices being found through competition. This situation must be changed.

REMONDIS aktuell: In another section of the agreement, it is said, for example, that the Government wishes to check the feasibility of introducing a recycling bin. Is the new Government about to turn the recycling sector upside down?

Andreas Bankamp: No, I don't think so. But there are also some very welcome starting points. Being a privately run company, we are used to checking the market potential of innovations and, if necessary, to implement them quickly. If, therefore, the Government is saying that they wish to have a waste management sector that is economically and ecologically more efficient and consumer-friendly than that fits in very well with our plans as we have both the know- ▶

Only fair competition can guarantee stable local charges.



The future of the water and environmental service branch depends very much on political decisions.

The innovative strength of medium-sized businesses must not be forced to slow down.

- ▶ how and necessary dynamics to implement such intentions. There must not be any taboos though. The waste management sector can make a great contribution towards limiting climate change – and therefore as a further German contribution for Copenhagen – for example by extending product responsibility beyond pure packaging to include so-called non-packaging of similar material. There is a great deal of potential here! We are already allowed to act in this direction abroad and the results are considerable. If Germany fails now to take a qualitative step forward, then we will lose our leading role within the recycling branch over the long term!

REMONDIS aktuell: Some of the legal framework conditions will also be changed soon. The new Government is planning to amend the Public Procurement Act by the end of 2010 and the Environmental Law is also to be revised. What are you hoping the changes will be?

Andreas Bankamp: The interests of private sector medium-sized businesses must definitely be taken more into account in the Public Procurement Act. There is a need for action here at EU level, too. Loopholes, such as the so-called “inter-municipal cooperation work”, which in reality excludes private sector companies from the competition, must be got

rid of. Especially as the many successful PPPs show day after day that municipal businesses are clearly able to operate competitively and highly efficiently even if they have to pay VAT. It should not be a problem for service providers to face fair competition. This is all we are asking for.

In the future, the Environmental Law will be even more oriented towards climate change. It is not enough to just think about trade in emissions and a successor to the Kyoto Protocol. It is precisely here that the water and environmental service branch can make a much greater contribution – not only in Germany but across the world – if there are the right legal framework conditions and the innovative strength of medium-sized businesses is not forced to slow down.

REMONDIS aktuell: If the new Government allowed you to make a wish what would it be?

Andreas Bankamp: Action must follow its words and it must not allow special individual interests to put it off its course of supporting medium-sized businesses.

REMONDIS aktuell: Mr Bankamp, thank you very much for the interview.

“The waste management sector can make a great contribution towards limiting climate change, for example by extending product responsibility beyond pure packaging to include so-called non-packaging of similar material.” REMONDIS managing director and Vice President of the BDE

Current news

REMONDIS Ukraine with a new office in Kiev

MODERN RECYCLING: FROM THE CAPITAL INTO THE WHOLE OF THE COUNTRY

In the future, the Ukrainian capital, Kiev, is intending to start collecting separated waste from households by introducing bins for damp and dry waste and for residual waste. The aim is to adapt their system to the standards of the European water and environmental service branch as well as to use the waste as a source of valuable secondary raw materials. "As far as REMONDIS is concerned the timing of the decision to strengthen local activities here couldn't have been better," commented Ansgar Frieling who is in charge of the project.



With this aim in mind, the branch in the capital, which had been set up in April, has now become the central holding company of REMONDIS' subsidiary TOV REMONDIS Ukraina. In the future, this main branch in Kiev will be expanding and controlling business throughout the whole of the Ukraine. A further 10 qualified jobs have already been created in the areas of controlling, project management and IT as well as in other departments as a result of the expansion of the main branch office.

REMONDIS has also now become active in the operative business in Kiev with two new special waste collection vehicles, which are initially being rented out to a Ukrainian company. Besides running a fleet of vehicles, this also includes renting out bins and containers for collecting

recyclables. The partner company is already active in two large boroughs of Kiev and is, therefore, already providing waste management services for over 800,000 local inhabitants living in the capital. If these activities are added to those being provided in other Ukrainian towns such as Saporoshje, Artemovsk and Melitopol, then TOV REMONDIS Ukraina is working either directly or indirectly for over 2 million inhabitants. The company is looking to found further public private partnerships with Ukrainian cities and districts that are interested in setting up a recycling sector that conforms to EU standards.



“With its extensive know-how in the areas of water supply and processing, REMONDIS Aqua India has succeeded in establishing itself on the Indian subcontinent as a competent service provider.” Mukund Dhadge, managing director of REMONDIS Aqua India

Current news

Clean water for India's major industrial enterprises



REMONDIS AQUA INDIA IS A “RELIABLE, FLEXIBLE AND LOW-COST” PARTNER FOR INDIA'S INDUSTRIAL BUSINESSES

Although REMONDIS has only been active in the Indian market for just a few months, it has already succeeded in making its mark among many large Indian companies such as can be seen by the example of Seco Tools.

SECO



REMONDIS Aqua India supports the international company Seco Tools, a leading developer and manufacturer of high quality steel cutting tools from Sweden, by providing a reliable service processing and supplying process water. Seco's extensive product range includes, among others, tools for milling, turning and hole-making as well as for clamp systems.

To ensure the smooth production of the metal cutting tools, which are marketed by Seco Tools worldwide, REMONDIS guarantees the supply of demineralized process water as well as the pre-treatment of the water supply at the company's Koregaon Bhima site near the city of Pune.

An example

Tata Ficosa Automotive Systems (TFAS) is a joint venture between Tata AutoComp Systems (TACO) and Ficosa International. Tata Ficosa produces rear view mirror systems for the global automotive industry at its site in Hinjewadi near Pune. Tata Ficosa Automotive Systems produces a whole range of integral solutions for export including parking brakes, operational control systems for vehicles, gear boxes, windscreen washer systems and rear view mirrors. Its local and international customers include, among others, Brose, Fiat, Ford, General Motors, Hindustan Motors, Honda Sael Cars, Mahindra & Mahindra, Tata Motors and Toyota.

REMONDIS Aqua India has succeeded straight away in demonstrating the quality of its work to well-known industrial customers.

REMONDIS produces the demineralized water directly from the site's well by using a reverse osmosis facility that achieves a permeate yield of 70%. At the end of the production process, REMONDIS then treats the wastewater resulting from the processing of coolants using a chemical-physical process. Thanks to REMONDIS, Seco Tools benefits from having a reliable and safe closed water circuit from the supply of process water to the treatment of the site's wastewater.

REMONDIS Aqua India planned and built the wastewater treatment facilities for TATA FICOSA in Hinjewadi and today is responsible for operating and maintaining the on-site facilities. The site's sanitary wastewater and the wastewater containing graphite from the production of automotive components is treated in such a way that it can then be used to water the plant's outdoor area. The wastewater is treated in series-connected sub-processes beginning with a chemical-physical treatment process followed by



Mukund Dhadge, managing director of REMONDIS Aqua India

◀ 95 % of the organic pollutants are filtered out

SECO Tools' Koregaoun Bhima site near Pune
▼



a biological treatment stage. As a result almost 95 % of the organic pollutants are able to be filtered out. Oxygen is then added to the water using membranes and special solid materials which further increase the efficiency of the plant.


As a result of REMONDIS' work, both TATA and Seco Tools are freed of any risks involved in the areas of water processing and wastewater treatment and are able to calculate the costs of this service over a long-term period. According to a study recently published by the management consulting firm McKinsey together with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), India is the preferred location for growth trends in a globalized market due to its well educated workforce, its use of low-cost and effective technologies as well as its excellent production capacities. REMONDIS Aqua India is already on site actively supporting the industrial businesses and is continuing to extend its position as a leading and reliable partner for all aspects of water and wastewater management.

Waste paper collection

A clear breach of European law

FEDERAL ADMINISTRATIVE COURT RULING ON WASTE PAPER TRIGGERS WAVE OF CRITICISM

The intention to extend the obligation of households to hand over their waste to local authorities to include recyclables violates several EU laws. This is shown by a report drawn up by the Hamburg-based competition lawyer, Dr Martin Dieckmann, on behalf of the BDE, the Federal Association of the German Waste Management Industry.



“When reaching its decision, the Federal Administrative Court would appear not to have taken the fact sufficiently into account that waste paper is a valuable secondary raw material that should not be lumped together with the collection of disposal waste.”

Hubert Neuhaus, Chairman of the Association of Paper Recycling and Vice President of the bvse

The reason behind the legal report was the so-called waste paper ruling issued by the Federal Administrative Court on 18 June 2009. In their ruling, the Leipzig judges stated that local councils had the right of first refusal to collect separated recyclable waste. Private households, the court ruled, must in principle hand over their household waste including any recyclables to public waste management businesses. They are not entitled to commission third parties to recycle such waste.

A violation of the EC Treaty

The aim of the report was to establish whether the decision of the Federal Administrative Court is compatible with EU law. According to the 69-page report, this is not the case. The report states that the ruling is a breach of the European Waste Shipment Ordinance as well as of the European Waste Framework Directive. Furthermore, it also violates the principle of free movement of goods and disregards the competition rules of the EC Treaty.

In addition, the Federal Administrative Court failed to meet its obligation to submit its legal opinion to the European Court of Justice for examination before passing its verdict. BDE President Peter Kurth: "We very much welcome this report as it makes it clear that administrative courts in Germany are also obliged to observe higher-ranking European law."

Recycling sector under threat

The BDE believes that the Leipzig ruling jeopardizes the legal basis for waste management businesses, according to which they can collect recyclables from private households. Private sector businesses collect waste paper in many cities and districts. This is an important prerequisite for a reliable, economically viable and eco-friendly raw material sector.

The ruling, however, not only triggered a wave of protests from the BDE. Other associations such as the bvse (German Association for Secondary Raw Materials and Waste Management), and the BDSV (German Association of Steel Recycling & Waste Management Companies) have vetoed the decision.

Federal Constitutional Court and EU Commission now involved

The case heard by the Federal Administrative Court involved a specific conflict between a private sector company and the City of Kiel. The company is not prepared to accept this

The battle for waste paper

The ruling of the Federal Administrative Court arose from an order issued by the state capital Kiel. It forbade a private sector waste management business to collect and recycle waste paper from private households. One of the reasons given for this decision was that, should the company pull out, the efficiency and the ability of the council to plan waste disposal could be compromised. The private sector recycling firm took legal action against this order and was successful to begin with – until the decision of the Schleswig-Holstein Administrative Appeals Tribunal was overturned by the controversial decision of the Federal Administrative Court.

decision and has now taken the case to the Federal Constitutional Court. The BDE, acting as the largest representative of the interests of the private sector waste management branch in Germany, has welcomed the company's decision to take the case a step further. In addition, the BDE has itself submitted a complaint to the European Commission. Its intention is to have it ascertained whether the Federal Republic of Germany has violated European law.

Keep within EU law

With its position confirmed by the Hamburg report, the BDE is now assuming that the controversial waste paper ruling will, in the end, fail. At the same time, the association is warning once again against the massive restrictions to free competition and free movement of goods. If the assessment of the Leipzig ruling is inserted into pending laws such as the amendment to the Waste Framework Directive, then this would have fatal consequences. It would then be questionable whether a fair, high quality supply of raw materials for the industry would be possible.

BDE President Peter Kurth: "We are appealing to the new Federal Government that they strictly observe European laws. There is no justification whatsoever for extending the obligation of the councils to provide waste collection services beyond that for mixed residual waste."

The object of dispute: the waste paper bin – Who does waste paper belong to?



"The public sector must not curtail the first moves made by the Recycling Law towards privatisation and de-regulation. Additional handover obligations cannot be justified either from an economical or ecological point of view."

BDE – Federation of German Industries

Hungary: Dual systems reach a crossroads

EKO-PUNKT NONPROFIT KFT.: 500% INCREASE IN JUST TWELVE MONTHS



The legislator must now decide whether free competition can be developed in the Hungarian market for system providers. If the situation remains as it is at the moment, then it is, in principle, impossible for waste recycling to be further developed. The companies are certainly more than ready for further development. EKO-PUNKT Nonprofit Kft., which was set up by REMONDIS to coordinate the treatment of waste packaging, has succeeded in increasing the amount of waste it processes by 500% in just one year.

The final preparation stage of the governmental ordinance, which regulates the activities of the so-called "coordination organizations" responsible for waste treatment, began in autumn 2009. The Hungarian market has been waiting a long time for the creation of a binding legal basis for the system providers. Considering the content of the paper, however, the organisations affected hold very different opinions.

The Hungarian market for dual systems began in 2003 and involved only a few participants who divided up the responsibility for the different types of waste among themselves. At the same time, the volume of separated waste collected grew more slowly. Competition gradually increased with the foundation of new companies over the last two years. The number of manufacturers and sales companies has grown. Parallel to this, the volume of separately collected recyclable waste has once again begun to rise.

The most important question currently facing the branch is whether the legislator will allow competition among the system providers or instead obstruct the activities of the new market players thus causing the volume of recyclables to stagnate at a low level. Statutory provisions, which stipulate that a production company must own a minimum 51% share in a newly founded system provider or that prescribe either minimum market shares or minimum recycling prices, are not only counterproductive – such provisions contradict the principles of a free market and, therefore, valid EU law. The goal of this decision-making process must be – both

in the interests of Hungary and Europe – to guarantee fair competition between the system providers in order to promote the separate collection and recycling of private municipal waste.

EKO-PUNKT Kft., a company founded by REMONDIS in 2007 to collect waste sales packaging in Hungary, has, in the meantime, demonstrated the efficiency of its business in an impressive manner. With the help of REMONDIS' Hungarian subsidiaries, EKO-PUNKT Kft. has succeeded in increasing its market share fivefold both among industrial and commercial customers as well as with its municipal collection activities. Csilla Sztarinka, managing director of EKO-PUNKT Hungary, believes there is potential for more growth: "Our most important goal is to successfully fulfil the obligation of the companies affiliated to our system to recycle the packaging they place on the market. An increase in the volume of separated waste from households will, however, play an important role if the volume of licensed sales packaging is to grow further. With this in mind, the company is launching its own programme before the end of the year to increase environmental awareness. Our first step will be to start an information campaign and a competition in the supermarkets in the city of Szolnok to inform the local inhabitants about separating their household waste. We are then planning to carry out similar campaigns next year throughout the whole of the country."



REMONDIS opens new EU landfill in Hungary

INCREASING INVESTMENTS IN THE HUNGARIAN WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE BRANCH



Peter Szabó is a new managing director at REMONDIS Hungary.



The Mayor of the City of Tapolca, László Császár, and Dr Ulrich Guthunz at the opening ceremony.

The City of Tapolca is located above the popular holiday destination, Lake Balaton. Tourism is important throughout the whole of the region. Great efforts are being made to ensure that the environment is kept as clean as possible. Maintaining the high quality of Lake Balaton's water is of particular importance to those living there.



When REMONDIS took over the companies of the former OTTO Group in the summer of 2007, it also took over the responsibility of the landfill in Tapolca. As all old landfills had to be closed down in Hungary in the middle of July, new solutions had to be found to ensure that the waste from the city and surrounding 44 districts was disposed of in accordance with EU standards. Together with the local authorities, an EU-conform landfill was designed that has been approved for use until 2017. A local firm took over the construction work and completed the landfill within less than three months. Even the many days of heavy rain did not prevent the landfill being put into operation on time.

Thus, the opening ceremony took place on 05 August, a milestone achievement for the region's recycling sector. The welcoming speech was made by Dr Ulrich Guthunz, managing director of REMONDIS Hungary. In his speech, he not only underlined the local importance of the investment but

also REMONDIS' commitment throughout the whole of the country, where the company has already created around 600 jobs since 1993. The Mayor of the City of Tapolca, Mr László Császár, and the managing director of REMONDIS Tapolca GmbH, Mr Nándor Kiss, then praised the efforts of all those involved. Following the speeches, local inhabitants were then given the opportunity to exchange experiences with the local VIPs. All guests agreed on one thing: this day was a great asset for the whole of the region.

New managing director joins REMONDIS' team in Hungary

A new managing director joined REMONDIS Hungary in September. In the future, Péter Szabó will be running the business together with Dr Ulrich Guthunz. Peter Szabó has a degree in economics and engineering. Before joining REMONDIS, he worked for many years as a director at one of Hungary's largest gas companies. He is married and has three children.

“Down Under” continues to expand

REMONDIS AUSTRALIA ACQUIRES METROWASTE NZ



Another milestone was achieved in the history of REMONDIS on 02 November 2009 when REMONDIS Australia acquired the business and assets of Metrowaste NZ. Metrowaste is a privately owned company and was established in 1979. It is situated in Auckland on New Zealand's Northern Island and has operations in Avondale (head office and operations) and a transfer station in Rodney. New Zealand is, therefore, the 26th country on REMONDIS' global map.



“Metrowaste will also look to expand onto the Southern Island.”

Luke Agati, managing director of REMONDIS Australia

New Zealand is often described as the whole world on two islands. Practically every kind of landscape that the world has to offer can be found in New Zealand attracting tourists from all around the globe to the South Pacific. Metrowaste, REMONDIS' latest subsidiary, successfully operates in the municipal and commercial & industrial sectors and the organisations' activities are centred around municipal contracts, transfer station operations, special events and the commercial and industrial sector.

Metrowaste's services range from refuse bag collection and residential bin collection to commercial bin collection and hook lift bins.

The municipal sector makes up about 60 % of the company's business. Metrowaste's largest client is the Auckland City Council for whom Metrowaste services 78,000 MGBs and is currently conducting a com-

mercial recycling trial. The organisation also has a litter bin collection and skip bin business in Rodney District Council, where its transfer station is located. Metrowaste's commercial business forms 40 % of its activities and revolves around commercial and general waste collection, recycling and transfer station management. With a staff of 69 full-time employees, Metrowaste NZ manages 36,600 tonnes of municipal and almost 11,000 tonnes of C+I waste annually. Metrowaste has 27 front line vehicles and a total fleet of 50 vehicles.

The future will bring some exciting changes to Metrowaste as municipalities are changing their collection strategies from bagged and crated recyclables to MGBs and greater emphasis will be put on recycling and organic processing. Metrowaste will also look to expand onto the Southern Island and to further grow and expand its commercial activities.



District of Gifhorn and REMONDIS open a CHP plant at the Wesendorf landfill

A combined heat and power plant (CHP) was officially put into operation at the Wesendorf landfill this August to transform landfill gas into electricity. The energetic recovery of the landfill gas is the first part of a long-term cooperation agreement between the District of Gifhorn and REMONDIS. Waste was delivered to the landfill between 1982 and 2005 and now has a volume of approx. 1.5m³. The rotting and digestion processes create a gas in the landfill body, which for the most part consists of combustible methane. The landfill gas is drawn off via special wells using a vacuum process. The so-called gas wells have different intake levels and are up to 15m deep.

By irrigating the landfill body using an irrigation system, it is possible to control the water balance of the landfill exactly which, in turn, has a great influence on the formation of the landfill gas. As a result, the landfill is run like a bio-reactor with the aim of making the best possible use of the gas yield using biochemical conversion processes. The extracted landfill gas is then fed into the CHP via a compression system. A gas engine generates electrical energy via a generator which is then fed into the LSW electricity grid. Thus, with this plant in Wesendorf, the District of Gifhorn and REMONDIS are making a further contribution towards limiting climate change and air pollution.

Know-how for Egypt's water branch

Four Egyptian scholarship holders travelled to REMONDIS' subsidiary, WAL-Betrieb in Senftenberg, in September to spend three weeks at its training centre to learn more about the water and environmental service branch. The budding experts from the city of Alexandria are hoping, in the future, to find managerial positions in the North African conurbation in the region around Alexandria. The training project is sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Development and runs for a total of 12 months. The four participants, electronics engineer, Mohammed Eion, and

his colleagues, Islam Okka, Fady Tawfik and Yasser Abhou Elkheir, were impressed by the level of technology used for the automated water treatment processes at Tettau and, besides picking up some important ideas for their future work, will not forget the excellent impression left by their German "training centre". Managing director, Marten Eger, was pleased that the training course went so well: "WAL-Betrieb's training centre in Senftenberg plays an important role within the REMONDIS Group."



Contracting

Ready for the future

POULTRY SPECIALIST SELECTS REMONDIS AQUA FOR ITS WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT

The Westphalian poultry specialist, Borgmeier, stands for high quality throughout the whole of the supply chain.

An alternative had to be found when the municipal sewage treatment plant was no longer sufficient. Borgmeier Frischgeflügel opted for the clever contracting solutions provided by REMONDIS Aqua. In the future, a state-of-the-art treatment facility will ensure that the dynamic growth of this traditional Westphalian company can continue unhindered.

More efficiency thanks to innovative processes

The heart of the facility is the ultrafiltration membranes used to separate solids and liquids. Covering an area of 1,120m², they separate the biologically treated wastewater from the activated sludge in the filtration basin. The membrane's tiny pores, which are only a few nanometres in size, keep even the smallest particles back. One of the biggest advantages resulting from this specific process is the excellent cleaning results.



Heinrich Borgmeier bought the buildings and land over a hundred years ago laying the foundation stone for today's poultry production business. A lot has changed since then. A medium-sized company has developed from the small agricultural business which is now being run by the third generation and processes up to 90,000 high quality broiler chickens every day. A special feature of this successful family-run business is its very high quality expectations. Thus, Borgmeier not only expects expertise and safety for its production processes but also for its wastewater management activities.

Construction and operations partner

Special know-how is needed to treat wastewater from food production as it contains organic contents. REMONDIS Aqua has built up an excellent reputation in this field and was, therefore, Borgmeier's first choice when it needed to find a solution for its growing volume of wastewater as its production increased. In order to set a long-term course, the poultry specialists commissioned REMONDIS Aqua to both plan and build the new facility as well as to run it once it was put into operation. Custom-made models were drawn up for both complex tasks.

A multi-stage treatment process

The plant concept drawn up by REMONDIS Aqua makes it possible for the industrial wastewater to be fully treated. During the initial stage, a flotation system primarily removes contents containing fat. The organic load is then eliminated during the biological treatment stage. Membrane filtration keeps the bacteria and microorganisms in

the plant. The result is treated water free of solid matter that also easily fulfils the most stringent requirements. Thanks to this innovative treatment technology, the treated wastewater even fulfils the EU's Bathing Water Directive and some of it is used again directly by Borgmeier.

Unhindered growth

By using the contracting model, Borgmeier is freed of any organisational and technological risks involved in the process. "Together with our customers, our aim has been, right from the very beginning, to find solutions that are as efficient as they are reliable," commented Dr Eckart Döpken. Being an engineer for environmental and process engineering, he is responsible for industrial project management at REMONDIS Aqua and, for many years, was also involved in the development and realisation of the membrane technology.

In addition, Borgmeier was looking to safeguard its wastewater management activities on a long-term basis. For, the poultry specialists are expecting their business to grow strongly and intend to expand their production facilities accordingly. The new system is ready for such expansion: infrastructures that are difficult to access, such as pipes and pumps, have been designed for additional loads of up to 25% above the current rate. Future extensions to the wastewater treatment facility can be directly attached to this potential bringing Borgmeier both time and cost advantages. If the Westphalian company continues to expand at its current rate, then the planned capacity reserves will certainly be needed.



Whether it's to do with the construction or running of wastewater treatment facilities: REMONDIS Aqua provides integral contracting solutions that open up a wide range of advantages.

Working with REMONDIS Aqua means that the business risks of wastewater management are reliably eliminated. For, many years of experience and extensive know-how are the best basis for safe solutions.

Energy from water

TREATMENT OF WASTEWATER AND GENERATION OF ENERGY MERGE INTO ONE

Industrial wastewater as a source of energy – that makes responsible wastewater management even more attractive. REMONDIS Aqua shows how it's done. Using state-of-the-art processes and future-oriented technology, the company implements a triangular solution of perfect treatment services, low running costs and clear environmental advantages.

Using potential: when modern technology is used then it is also worth using wastewater that only has a low organic load to generate energy.

The legislator stipulates that it expects "state-of-the-art" wastewater treatment and, with this definition being open to different legal interpretations, it is contenting itself with very little. As a consequence, older sewage treatment plants, in particular, often lag behind today's options – and not only when it comes to their treatment performance but also with other important aspects.

A striking example is energy requirements. Even if the ideal prerequisites for implementing new concepts exist, things are often not changed: clean water continues to be paid for dearly due to the excessive consumption of primary energy and correspondingly high costs. The result: energy costs account for almost a quarter of the overall operating costs. This needn't be the case as modern wastewater management models not only offer a first-class treatment performance but also an efficient use of energy. The best option is to generate energy, as wastewater can be used to produce biogas using anaerobic biological processes which in turn can be used as a source of energy.

Value-added partnerships

It is especially worthwhile producing biogas when the wastewater has a high concentration of organic contents. Such water can be found in the food industry. It is not surprising, therefore, that manufacturers of food and drinks have acquired a taste for it.

Whether it is Lorenz Snack-World or Humana Milchunion, German cheese manufacturers or Spanish fruit juice producers: within the framework of contracting partnerships, REMONDIS Aqua unites industrial wastewater treatment with the advantages of producing biogas. To achieve this,

the technical and organisational set-up is adapted to fulfil the customers' exact needs. Thus, individual solutions are drawn up that makes the best possible use of the potential available. What they all have in common, though, is the small amount of space needed and the tangible business advantages.

Worthwhile improvements

The recovered biogas can either be used to produce steam for production processes or to be turned into electricity in combined heat and power plants. Both possibilities are looked upon favourably for renewable energy helps to limit climate change. Political targets are to increase the share of electricity generated by such energy sources to 20 percent by 2020. Financial rewards are being offered as an incentive. The amendment to the EEG (Renewable Energy Sources Act) has further increased such assistance. The potential EEG income clearly contributes towards the investment in the technology being quickly amortised.

"In addition, anaerobic wastewater treatment means there are no costs for aeration energy and there is far less sludge to dispose of. Two advantages that also have a positive effect on the balance sheet," explained Gerhard Simon, sales manager at REMONDIS Aqua. Last but not least, it is also possible to use residual production waste, which has been pre-treated accordingly, to generate energy together with the biogas. This means, therefore, that material flow management becomes easier for solid organic waste and not only in the water management sector. A plus point that especially contributes towards the safe and long-term management of waste.

A sensible alternative: anaerobic wastewater treatment reduces electricity requirements and paves the way for producing one's own energy.



“We have the technology to produce biogas from wastewater so that it can be used as a source of energy.” Gerhard Simon, sales manager REMONDIS Aqua



Steel and metal recycling

TSR focuses on growth

NEW SITES EXTEND CATCHMENT AREAS AT HOME AND ABROAD

The signs are pointing to recycling in the metal sector, too. With good reason, for recycling helps to guarantee the supply of raw materials and, at the same time, helps to limit climate change. The TSR Group are experts in this field. They are continuing to extend their market position through strategic expansion.

Using recycled metals not only reduces the need for primary raw materials but also guarantees energy-efficient, low-CO₂ production processes.



Industrial progress and the economic upturn of threshold countries both mean the Earth's supply of raw materials is being used up at an ever increasing rate. The result: natural resources are dwindling – and not only fossil energy resources but also metals. Experts believe that global supplies of zinc will have run out in 22 years' time and copper reserves in 31 years' time. These figures prove that there is a future for metal recycling.

Metal recycling guarantees the supply of raw materials

REMONDIS' subsidiary, TSR, is a leading business in Europe for the recycling of steel and non-ferrous metals. Each year, it returns more than 10 million tonnes of the material to the economic cycle. Most of this is scrap steel, the most important source material for the production of raw steel. Around 56 percent of European steel production is already based on this secondary raw material.

In view of the increasing importance of metal recycling, TSR is investing significantly in further extending its business. Its aim is to position itself on the market so that its business is wider, more diversified and more self-sufficient. An essential factor, if this goal is to be a success, is its network of locations. Thus, TSR has now added two new businesses to its network of more than 100 branches and associated companies. Its intention with both acquisitions is to guarantee its access to steel resources and push forward metal input from its own sources.

Closing regional gaps

Its stake in Metallrecycling Veit GmbH (MRV), which is based in Mörsdorf in the state of Thüringen, extends TSR's

Copper – one example of many

One of today's most important metals is copper. The high-tech industry, in particular, cannot do without this precious metal. Worldwide, 16.5 million tonnes of copper are needed every year. Global consumption is expected to have increased by 72 percent to 28.5 million tonnes by 2025. Due to the shortage of this metal, copper is on the index of potentially high-risk raw materials in Germany. Global recycling rates, i.e. the percentage of recycled material consumed, currently lies at only 10 percent. In Germany, this figure has already reached approx. 50 percent – an achievement to which REMONDIS has contributed considerably.

presence in eastern Germany. MRV specialises in non-ferrous metals, cables and scrap. In order to strengthen its potential, the firm has invested in new company grounds and installed state-of-the-art infrastructures. The BVMW (German Association of SMEs) also recognized the importance of this extension work: it named Sven Veit, co-owner and managing director of MRV, the "Outstanding Entrepreneur of 2009" in the district of Saale-Holzland.

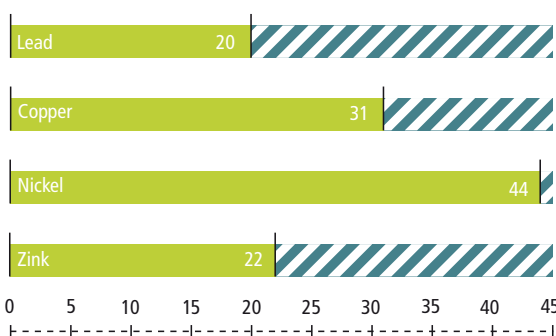
Tradition opens doors

TSR has also acquired an interest in Johann Neumüller GmbH in Ennsdorf in Austria. The cooperation work with this traditional company will give it access to the steel and metal recycling market in the country. Neumüller has comprehensive know-how of the scrap trade, reliable access to extensive steel resources and an exemplary logistics system. The firm's own rail and harbour facilities are currently being extended to optimize the procurement of steel by train and ship.

An exemplary footprint: using one tonne of scrap steel saves 650 kilograms of iron ore, one tonne of CO₂ as well as 0.5 tonnes of coal.

A strong union: REMONDIS has had a 60% share in the TSR Group since 2007.

Extent of reserves of important metal raw materials (in years)



Source: IW, 2008

Reference: report

Three times brighter, three times cleaner!

REMONDIS OLPE IS TRILUX GMBH & CO. KG'S PARTNER FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT

Its name is its programme. As early as 1949, the medium-sized, Arnsberg-based family-run company gave itself a name that shines all around the world today: TRILUX, made up of the Latin words Tri for "threefold" and Lux for "light". The idea behind the name was the development of lighting units for low-voltage fluorescent lamps that gave three times the light of conventional bulbs. It has since enjoyed an exemplary success story and become one of the world's most innovative manufacturers of lighting units. Business growth has meant the company has had to face new challenges. One such challenge was the question of how to manage its waste in an eco-friendly and sustainable way. To achieve this, TRILUX GmbH & Co. KG called on the know-how of another Westphalian family-run company: REMONDIS.

When it came to optimizing TRILUX's waste management processes in accordance with legal requirements – and in particular the in-house waste streams in this case – REMONDIS first carried out a free detailed review of the in-house waste system. REMONDIS' waste management advisers realized that there was potential for optimizing the decentralized collection of waste materials at small waste collection points in the production facilities. The containers could only be transported individually from the factory buildings to the waste collection points. This involved a high degree of staff deployment from very different kinds of departments.

REMONDIS drew up a report on all the types of waste containers used in the factory buildings for TRILUX and calculated the time needed to transport the waste within the company. A part of the analysis also included all the processes used at the waste collection points, an analysis of the volumes of waste generated, extensive photo documentation of the in-house waste management system and further analyses of the processes. The results of the review showed that there was potential for improvement. In some cases,

there was not a uniform waste collection system in the individual plant sections. The labelling of the container systems was not always sufficiently clear for the employees to know how to separate the waste or which bin should be used. The amount of time needed for the in-house personnel to handle the waste was too high as the containers could only be transported individually and emptied manually. Moreover, the containers themselves were no longer suitable for the collection of the material fractions that could generate income.

Together with TRILUX, the REMONDIS experts drew up a plan which in essence involved optimizing the separation of waste and the organisation processes used to collect the different waste materials. The in-house containers – especially those for commercial waste, plastic film, paper, cardboard and scrap metal – were replaced with modern containers which make it easier to separate these recyclables according to type. Not only is there now a uniform system of containers but the in-house system for transporting waste has been simplified by setting up so-called "waste collection islands" in the factory. A container pool has also been set up at the ramp to prevent waiting times. The containers are emptied by machine using lifting/tipping equipment which reduces the time needed to empty a bin by around 40 seconds. Furthermore, using electrically run equipment means the emptying process is much quieter.

Optimizing the separation of waste and the organisation of waste collection saves costs.

"With the pressure of costs nowadays ever increasing, it is important to stand out from one's competitors by having individual waste management concepts." Dieter König, managing director of REMONDIS Olpe

Christian Senft, waste management officer at TRILUX, described the work carried out with REMONDIS: "To be totally honest – the project was so big that I was feeling pretty nervous during the planning and start-up phases. But the creation and setting up of the newly planned collection points both inside and outside the factories, the installation of the auxiliary equipment and the implementation of the different containers for our 65+ types of waste fractions went practically without a hitch. Minor initial difficulties were always solved quickly and smoothly together with our customer adviser, Ms Christel Fortagne from REMONDIS Olpe, and the REMONDIS project engineer, Mr Steffen Drüggen. TRILUX has opened up new prospects for itself by changing to REMONDIS."

Very soon after their cooperation work began, TRILUX and REMONDIS then introduced a system to separate waste in the administrative buildings so that the collection in the offices could be run just as smoothly. This project also involved the cleaning service. The measures were accompanied by the installation of a comprehensive information system for the employees on the subject of waste as well as by the deployment of REMONDIS experts to organize the waste management system. Thus, today things at TRILUX are not only three times brighter and more friendly but, thanks to REMONDIS, absolutely environmentally friendly and clean.



The containers are emptied by machine using lifting/tipping equipment which reduces the time needed to empty a bin by around 40 seconds. Furthermore, using electrically run equipment means the emptying process is much quieter.



Source: Trilux

REMONDIS Olpe

REMONDIS Olpe GmbH is the largest waste management business in the south Westphalian region. With over 140 employees working at its three business locations in Olpe, Siegen and Meschede, the company manages waste from approx. 600,000 local inhabitants. REMONDIS Olpe originated from the family-run company, AKM Olpe GmbH, which was founded in 1996. In 2005, REMONDIS acquired a 60% share in the firm and, since its name was changed in 2007, it has been a fully consolidated company of the REMONDIS Group. REMONDIS underwent a fundamental change after the takeover. Whereas before, its activities had primarily consisted of national container waste disposal, the company now offers a complete range of services covering the management of non-hazardous waste for the industry, commerce and trade. Moreover, over the last few years, REMONDIS Olpe has also succeeded in establishing a strong position within the area of municipal waste management.

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"TRILUX has opened up new prospects for itself by changing to REMONDIS."

Christian Senft, waste management officer at TRILUX



New rules for hazardous waste: from April 2010 the records and approval procedures will be carried out digitally.

Waste-records system

Electronic waste-records procedure enters the final stretch

REGISTA® PAVES THE WAY FOR THE NEW ERA OF GERMAN WASTE LAW

Just a few weeks – then all records dealing with hazardous waste must be submitted digitally. With its software solution, REGISTA®, REMONDIS has set up the best prerequisites to be able to put the legal requirements into practice without a hitch.

The countdown has begun: the eANV (electronics waste-records procedure) comes into force in Germany on 01 April 2010. Consignment notes and, to some extent, handover certificates may only be managed electronically from this day onwards. Besides the obligation to transfer information electronically, the eANV also defines the framework for the operative processes for this. Thus, among other things, secure transmission paths must be used as well as standardised interfaces. Moreover, certificates and documents must be archived according to the regulations.

IT system combines legal compliance and additional benefits

In order to simplify the entry into the digital age, REMONDIS began looking for a practicable solution very early on and set a future-oriented example with its online portal, REGISTA®. The application software, which was presented for the first time at the beginning of 2008, is tailored to meet the legal requirements exactly. It offers both waste producers and companies transporting and disposing of waste with a practice-oriented way to reliably fulfil all the legal regulations.



An overview of the most important advantages of REGISTA®

- user-friendly and self-explanatory software user interface
- can be accessed anywhere via the Internet
- automatic plausibility check of the waste disposal certificates
- automatic compilation of the electronic waste register
- legally compliant, long-term archiving system
- data evaluation with the option to further process data e.g. in MS Excel
- ongoing updates of potential eANV changes
- possibility to have detailed reference assessments and manage hierarchical authorizations
- REGISTA® does not need the installation of signature software

Furthermore, REGISTA® offers a whole range of additional useful tools, which also offer advantages to those dealing with non-hazardous waste. Thus, for example, it is possible to administer all databases on one platform providing a perfect way to analyse information on different material streams.

REGISTA® was not only developed for REMONDIS' more than 500 business locations but also for its customers from the industry, trade and commerce as well as for its municipal partners. Consequently, REMONDIS presented the portal at the ENTSORGA-ENTECO, the international trade fair for recycling and environmental technology, which was held in Cologne in October. "The reaction of the visitors was, without exception, positive and showed clearly that we more than fulfil their wish to have a simple and convenient solution. Many customers have already decided to use this portal," commented Jürgen Feiler, sales manager at REMONDIS Industrie Service.

A successful start

Since November 2008, REGISTA® has been successfully tested by various REMONDIS businesses. The portal will be

available for the whole of the company group from January 2010. Customers, who wish to use the software, can already apply now for access to the portal. REMONDIS also carries out the required registration process at the ZKS-Abfall, the central coordination authorities for the German states. It is also possible to already order the signature equipment needed for the process. It enables the digital documents to be furnished with a qualified electronic signature.

With the switch to electronic waste records, the paper forms used today will become a thing of the past.



Collection of hazardous waste

A classic service with a future

MAIN TASK IS STILL THE COLLECTION OF SMALL VOLUMES OF DANGEROUS MATERIALS

The company has a tradition in providing mobile and stationary collection services for hazardous waste. For more than 20 years, they have been ensuring that small volumes of potentially dangerous materials are disposed of correctly or recycled. Despite its long history, the separate collection of risky materials remains as topical a subject as ever.

REMONDIS has bundled its hazardous waste collection services together into its Industrie Service division. This does not mean, however, that it only deals with companies. The collection service is also available for local inhabitants in more than 120 towns and districts. The service is coordinated centrally from Bramsche and provided by more than ten different branches located around the whole of the country.

From old medicines to detergents and cleaning agents to cleaning solvents: many small volumes of waste have hazardous contents that can endanger people and the environment.

Service for councils, local inhabitants and the private sector

Whether it is a mobile collection service for hazardous waste or a central collection point: REMONDIS uses both types. In order to provide the best service, the company advises its municipal partners on how to set up the best possible system for their local inhabitants. For, if the opening times are good and the collection points can be easily reached, then the public is more prepared to use them and so the volumes of waste increase. The company's full service for commercial



businesses is particularly popular. Here REMONDIS collects the hazardous waste directly from the customers'. As the service is available throughout the country, waste management concepts can also be drawn up for companies that have a wide network of branches.

Impossible without specialist know-how

The collection of hazardous waste is precarious work that must be carried out by experienced specialists. After all, the problematic waste must be assessed, checked, sorted, packed and labelled when it is collected. The collection points must also be run according to high standards. The TRGS (Technical Regulations for Hazardous Substances), in particular TRGS 520, stipulates the many safety regulations for the municipal sector. Silvia Barnasch, head of the hazardous waste collection division explained: "We help to plan or set up the collection points. And by doing so we play a role in ensuring that the collection of hazardous waste remains what it is – an essential part of modern waste management structures."



Qualifications mean good future prospects

PRACTICAL TRAINING MEANS ADVANTAGES FOR ALL THOSE INVOLVED

The recycling sector needs specialists. This is especially true for companies dealing with hazardous waste. To ensure that such experts are available on hand on a long-term basis, REMONDIS offers its own apprenticeship and training courses. General knowledge of the profession is united with specific specialist knowledge – a combination which means added value.



Photo: Hildgard Wekenborg-Plecke/Bramscher Nachrichten

Bramsche near Osnabrück, a small town with a good 31,000 inhabitants. REMONDIS is one of the town's largest employers as well as one of its most important companies offering training courses. The company processes liquid, pasty and solid waste in its network of plants on the Midland Canal. More than 600 different kinds of material are stored, treated and processed as far as possible. These are ideal conditions for an apprenticeship in the area of chemicals.

A stepping stone to a career

Six junior employees are currently doing an apprenticeship at REMONDIS' Bramsche site to qualify as a chemical technician or a chemicals production specialist. They are learning about all aspects of the work – from taking and analysing samples to controlling and monitoring the many different kinds of chemical-physical and thermal treatment facilities. REMONDIS reacts very early on to bring school

leavers and companies closer together. Its activities range from presenting the apprenticeship courses at schools to taking part in the job exchange, which takes place every two years, to enabling pupils to get work experience in their company.

Keeping an eye on the future

For REMONDIS, Bramsche is one example among many, for training is taken very seriously throughout all areas of the company group. It is not only focusing on ensuring that there will be sufficient experts available in the future. Rather the forward-looking personnel policies aim to pass on expert knowledge at an early stage to set the course for long-term progress. Last but not least, it is also a question of taking over responsibility. For qualifications ensure employment and so contributes towards the standard of living in the region.

At the job exchange: Viktor Gärtner, an apprentice at Bramsche, presents the work of a chemical technician.

First hand knowledge of the branch: more than 600 junior employees are currently doing an apprenticeship at REMONDIS.

Environmental services

The dream team for document logistics

REMONDIS DATA OFFICE AND RHENUS OFFICE SYSTEMS COMBINE FORCES AND EXTEND THEIR RANGE OF SERVICES

With more than 20 years of running a successful business, REMONDIS Data Office has established itself on the market as a specialist for file and data destruction work as well as for office waste management logistics. This year, the company joined together with Rhenus Office Systems under Rhenus' roof. The new dream team, run under the name Rhenus Data Office, is now offering its customers a full range of document logistics services from postal services and digitalisation, to providing personnel and archiving services, to the destruction of files.

“The wider range of services will benefit our customers and can create additional value for our own organization.” Jens Kumbrink, managing director of Rhenus Data Office

With this new constellation, the two sister companies, REMONDIS and Rhenus, have further extended their cooperation work which they had been successfully carrying out for many years in the area of file destruction and archiving. For the customers, the new Rhenus Data Office means an extended range of products in addition to their well-known services. The trusted contact people will remain the same. “The wider range of services will benefit our customers and can create additional value for our own organization,” emphasized Jens Kumbrink, previously managing director of Rhenus Data Office and today the managing director responsible for the whole range of document logistics. “Because Rhenus stands for excellent document logistics services.”

Being a leading service provider, the company has more than 10,000 customers across Europe. Depending on the customers’ requirements, Rhenus carries out individual tasks or provides a system of services that covers the whole life cycle of a document. Rhenus currently bears the responsibility for more than 100 million archived documents from their customers, which are subject to the most stringent security regulations.

Between mailroom and archive: in paper form and in digital form

One of the company’s main activities is fully or partly taking over mailrooms. With a professional organization and

modern equipment, the mailroom can speed up the flow of information within a company: if incoming documents are digitalized immediately, then the process can be dealt with more efficiently and often the following stages can be automated. Rhenus also has wide experience of digitalizing archives of all sizes. Sensitive documents such as personnel, credit and contract files are processed and digitalized individually. With such references, the company is also a recommended partner for public authorities: modernising the archives of a public institution often involves considerable costs – sourcing the work out to an external company saves the client investment costs, lowers the ongoing costs and increases their ability to calculate long-term expenditure.

Rhenus runs document centres across the country where they store files and data storage devices. The archived material stored there can be ordered online and are either delivered to the customer or transmitted as a digital image. And Rhenus also steps in to help if a customer finds himself without qualified and motivated employees for his document logistics: the company’s range of services also includes providing personnel in accordance with the AÜG (Temporary Employment Act). By combining their strengths, REMONDIS and Rhenus are, therefore, ensuring that they provide a perfect range of services covering all aspects of document logistics.

Rhenus Data Office offers a full range of services in the area of document logistics.



7,600 tonnes of contaminated earth must be disposed of in accordance with regulations and in an eco-friendly manner.



Soil remediation

From fallow land to housing space

REMONDIS PROTERRA CLEANS UP THE GROUNDS OF AN OLD PAINT FACTORY IN GRONAU

REMONDIS®

Both the soil and groundwater in the grounds of the old "Brocolor" paint factory in the Westphalian town of Gronau were highly contaminated because, in the past, production and solvent residue was not handled correctly. As the grounds are located in one of the city's most desirable areas and are to be sold for housing development, the remediation specialists, ProTerra, set about transforming the contaminated land into healthy living space.

The safety and protection of the residents is at the forefront of everyone's mind during the project.



The production of varnishes and paints at the paint factory, known as "Brocolor", was carried out on the centrally located Müllerstraße until 1984. Following the relocation of the company to an industrial park, the old factory buildings were removed. During the dismantling work, it was discovered that the soil and groundwater had been contaminated by highly volatile pollutants such as BTEX as well as by solvents and other substances.

Once an extensive examination of the soil and groundwater had been carried out, the company owner put a groundwater treatment facility into operation in 1998. The District of Borken took over the financing of the facility after the company became insolvent in 2002. The AAV NRW (Association for Remediation Services for the state of North Rhine-Westphalia) subsequently became involved in the project. Remediation work has been carried out on the terrain since May 2009 thanks to the financial and technical support of the AAV. REMONDIS ProTerra GmbH has been acting here in the role of general contractor. Taking part in a public tender, REMONDIS' subsidiary beat the other 10 competitors thanks to its extensive experience of similar remediation projects.

Having lowered the groundwater level, the remediation work is being carried out in two so-called remediation areas. Sheet piling was rammed into the ground in individual sections up to a depth of seven metres to excavate the contaminated soil. The main task of this project is disposing of the approx. 7,600t of contaminated earth. As the site is in the city centre, the safety and protection of the residents

as well as of the pupils in a nearby primary school is at the forefront of everyone's mind during the project. Levels of noise and dust as well as smells are being reduced as much as possible by using every technical method available. Transporting the material away from the grounds and delivering clean sand to fill the site has been a true logistical feat considering the restricted space around the building site. By the time the work has been finished, around 600 semi-trailer trucks will have passed through the narrow building site entrance called the "Baumtor" ("Tree Gate"). The area can be handed over to the City of Gronau once the excavation pits have been filled with sand. The clean grounds can then be used for housing development.

The old industrial site has been transformed into first-class development land thanks to REMONDIS ProTerra.

Facts & figures: The AAV

The Altlastensanierungs- und Altlastenaufbereitungsverband NRW (AAV/Association for Remediation Services for the state of North Rhine-Westphalia) cleans up contaminated areas if the work cannot be carried out by the person responsible for doing this. The AAV is a voluntary cooperation model between the public and private sectors, including REMONDIS. The association currently spends around ten million euros a year on remediation work. Possible returns from selling the cleaned-up land is invested in new projects.

REMONDIS ProTerra GmbH specializes in remediation work and disposing of bulk mineral materials. Acting as general contractor, the company carries out all the individual services from calculating the costs of such projects to the construction work to disposing of any waste. Each year, it handles approx. 600,000 tonnes of material.

International recycling

New structures in Turkey

REMONDIS FURTHER EXPANDS ITS ACTIVITIES



Things are looking to change in Turkey: with its wish to join the EU, the country is increasingly orienting itself towards the legal standards of the European Union. In order to provide sufficient support in this process of change, REMONDIS is increasing its business activities within the water and environmental service branch.



Sewage treatment plants and waterworks in Turkey are often run by private sector businesses.

REMONDIS has been active in Turkey for three years now and has already enjoyed some major successes. Its present structure is now to be extended considerably. Whilst focus is being put on extending services and infrastructures, it is also looking to increase its local presence in the country.

Company-run water management services

An important cornerstone of the company's previous activities was REMONDIS Sistem Yapi, a German-Turkish joint venture. At the beginning of 2009, REMONDIS acquired the

shares held by the Turkish plant manufacturer, Sistem Yapi, in the joint venture so that the firm is now fully owned by the company group. To underline this change, the company, which is still run in accordance with Turkish law, has been given a new name: REMONDIS Su ve Atiksu Teknolojeri AS. "Su" is the Turkish word for water; "Atiksu" the word for wastewater. Both emphasize the areas of expertise of the company. REMONDIS Su's main area of activity at the moment is operating ten water management plants, primarily on behalf of local authorities. Sewage treatment plants and waterworks in Turkey are often run by private sector businesses. Up to now, such work, which is contracted out for set periods of time, has been put out to tender in accordance with the Turkish Public Procurement Act.

Istanbul as the joint head office

In order to push forward the company's environmental service activities, a separate company was founded in the middle of the year – REMONDIS Atik. The two firms have moved into joint office space which is located in the centre of the Asian part of Istanbul. All sales activities are managed from here as well as the coordination and monitoring of the operations at the plants in REMONDIS' charge. The



current projects mainly consist of municipal sewage treatment plants. They can be extended to between 15,000 and 1,550,000 population equivalents and all are operated using the activated sludge process. By deliberately using the metabolic activity of certain bacterial cultures, organic carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus compounds can be broken down. The waterworks belonging to the City of Sivas is new to the company's portfolio; REMONDIS took over the operation of the plant at the beginning of 2009. Moreover, it has been commissioned by private sector businesses to treat landfill leachate in Bursa as well as to operate a wastewater treatment facility for a centrally organized industrial area in Antalya.

Prospects for international growth

REMONDIS Su is market leader in Turkey, a position it intends to further extend. Besides municipal operation models, the company is also looking to increase its activities within the industrial water management sector. One main point here is material flow management with the solid residual waste from wastewater treatment being sent for recycling. Such services are in high demand among

commercial customers in Turkey. REMONDIS Su is also continuously extending its international activities. Its aim is to offer its services on the markets of the neighbouring countries, managing such activities from Istanbul, and so push forward the geographic expansion of REMONDIS Aqua. The first activities have already begun in Rumania and Bulgaria. The emerging countries in the Middle East and Central Asia could be the next port of call as well as Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. For, just as in Turkey, there is much to do in these countries.

Changing course: on its way into the EU, Turkey is working on rapidly changing its water and environmental service branch.



Gold medal and award for REMONDIS

REMONDIS' award-winning stand at the POLEKO in Poznan.



The doors to the 21st international environmental trade fair, POLEKO, in Poznan opened on 24 November. The motto of this year's fair, the largest in Eastern Europe dealing with environmental protection, was "Waste Management" and the event was held under the patronage of Poland's Minister of the Environment, Prof. Maciej Nowicki.

The open and modern design of the exhibition stand and the future-oriented display attracted many visitors to REMONDIS' stand. Specialists, council representatives and

different companies talked to those at the stand to learn more about the latest developments in the water and environmental service sector. The fact that eco-friendly waste disposal and recycling is also growing in importance in Poland was underlined by the official visit of the Polish Minister of the Environment, Prof. Maciej Nowicki. The minister was particularly interested in REMONDIS' wide range of services within WEEE recycling, the production of substitute fuels and the water management branch.

Award presented to REMONDIS

REMONDIS Sanitech Poznan was presented with an award at the POLEKO when it was named one of the best companies for the collection of waste glass in Poland. A special honour was also bestowed on REMONDIS when it was awarded the Gold Medal for the best stand. The jury of the 'Accanthus Aureus' competition presented the prize to REMONDIS praising the stand's modern concept and purposeful presentation of the contents.

News in brief

REMONDIS opens new branch in South Australia

In response to the Australian state support programme, "Recycling at Work", REMONDIS relocated a branch in the Australian state of South Australia from Adelaide to Wingfield during the second half of this year. REMONDIS, who made a name for itself on the fifth continent in

1983 for, among other things, being the first to introduce wheelie bins, is expecting to invest around \$1m over the medium-term in building up a new bin collection system in Wingfield. Furthermore, REMONDIS is also offering a new user-pays recycling programme for SMEs with which around 70% of the

waste, which would normally go to landfill, can be taken for recycling. This should involve up to approx. 50,000t during the two-year programme. The manager responsible for the programme at REMONDIS Australia, Trent Kotz, is expecting a positive reaction from all companies located in the region that are looking to run eco-friendly production processes. He emphasized REMONDIS' unique position: "We stand out from other waste management companies because we promote recycling to protect the environment rather than rely on landfills." Delfin Lend Lease was one of the first companies to use REMONDIS' service. The company's project manager, Troy Jamieson, explained that it had taken this step because the subject of sustainability is becoming ever more important for the company.



The moving story of two nations

BOOK PROJECT WITH NORBERT RETHMANN ILLUMINATES GERMAN–POLISH RELATIONS

The Laetitia Foundation recently presented an extraordinary book in Warsaw. Entitled "Doppelbild Polen-Deutschland 1939-2009" (Double Image Poland & Germany), the book looks at the joint history of the two countries since the outbreak of the Second World War. The work is particularly fascinating as it involves two individuals looking back over this period of time: Professor Andrzej Jacek Blikle and Norbert Rethmann. Both were born in September 1939; one in Warsaw, the other in Lünen.

Following many years of academic work, Professor Blikle then took over the management of a popular, family-run pastry shop in Warsaw which he expanded with other businesses. Norbert Rethmann built up his firm from a small local haulage business to a globally active company group. In detailed interviews, the two successful entrepreneurs from the East and the West describe their personal impressions and experiences from the post-war period to today.

The 120-page book is published in German and Polish and has a large selection of illustrations. Its aim is, above all, to inform the younger generation about the relationship between Poland and Germany – from the time of hostility to reconciliation to cooperation and their joint work in building up the new Europe. The PDF version of the book can be accessed via the Internet by visiting

www.fundacja-laetitia.eu



REMONDIS subsidiary WAL-Betrieb awarded contract in Mühlberg (Elbe)

The City of Mühlberg/Elbe (South Brandenburg) has awarded a contract, following a Europe-wide tender, to the Wasserverband Lausitz Betriebsführungs GmbH (WAL-Betrieb) located in Senftenberg (South Brandenburg) to run the commercial side of its wastewater operations. Thus, REMONDIS Aqua's subsidiary has once again successfully beaten its competitors in the water management sector and further extended its business activities in the east of Germany. Under the terms of the agreement, WAL-Betrieb will, among other things, take over the management of wastewater charges and accounting as well as draw up business plans and the annual financial statements.

"We already provide commercial services in the area of water supply and wastewater treatment for over 30 local authorities in the new German states and, with our know-how, are able to contribute towards keeping wastewater charges stable in many municipal districts," explained Marten Eger, managing director of WAL-Betrieb.

The City of Mühlberg is located in the south-west of the state of Brandenburg in the district of Elbe-Elster on the border to the state of Saxony. The landscape is characterised by the River Elbe and the manmade gravel lakes. Over 4,500 people live in Mühlberg, 3,400 of whom are connected to the central sewage network.



A service provider from the very first moment

BUCHEN MANAGING DIRECTOR GERHARD RÖTTGEN TO RETIRE

"We at Buchen ..." Gerhard Röttgen has personified this statement like no other during his many years at Buchen UmweltService. It is difficult to picture what the Buchen Group has been doing since 1966, what has moved and pushed the company, without Gerhard Röttgen. He – together with his colleague Wolfgang Balter, who unfortunately passed away in 2008 – has been successfully managing the company since 1986.



Gerhard Röttgen, managing director of the Buchen Group, will retire in January 2010 after over 43 years at the company.

The Cologne-based Buchen Group is one of the leading industrial service companies in Europe. Founded in 1844 as a pump manufacturer, the production business transformed itself into a service company when it began offering cleaning and waste disposal services to industrial businesses in 1957. With more than 2,300 employees, the Buchen GROUP had a turnover of approx. 320 million euros in 2008. The company is active wherever refineries, chemical businesses and heavy industry companies are located.

Gerhard Röttgen congratulates Norbert Rethmann on his 50th birthday.



Just 10 minutes, so the saying goes, was what Gerhard Röttgen needed to convince Richard Buchen to take him on. Just over thirty people worked at the company when he joined. And Richard Buchen made the right decision when he took him on, for Gerhard Röttgen truly incorporates the principles of "service". "Together with the colleagues, to always be a service partner for our customers." This motto still motivates the managing director today, who will soon be entering into retirement. Besides his work as managing director of the Buchen Group, Gerhard Röttgen has also worked actively in trade associations. He was a founding member and board member of the Bundesverband für Sonderabfallwirtschaft (Federal Association of Hazardous Waste Industry) until it merged with the BDE in 1996. Following this, Gerhard Röttgen was a member of the committee and chairman of the group of experts responsible for the hazardous waste sector. Other tasks include his work at the Industrie-Müllverband Köln-Aachen (industrial waste association) since 1968 to set up a hazardous waste landfill for the region, the politically intended use of the capacity of the RZR Herten for hazardous waste disposal in the state of NRW as well as activities in the AAV (Association for Remediation Services in NRW).

The many years spent in the Rhineland have also left a mark on Gerhard Röttgen as a private citizen. He has been a member of the Blaue Funken (Blue Sparks), a traditional Cologne carnival club since 1999. Gerhard Röttgen, who was born in Westerwald, has also made a career for himself in this "branch"; he currently holds the position of vice president of the club. He is very much a family person: he has three children and six grandchildren and his wife Ingrid, with whom he will soon be celebrating his 40th wedding anniversary, has given him strong support throughout his career. One thing is certain: Gerhard Röttgen will continue to move quickly even after he retires: He is passionate about motorbikes.

> Impressions



◀ Luke Agati, Managing Director REMONDIS Australia, and Jay Weatherill, Minister for Environment and Conservation South Australia

▼ Norbert Rethmann and Prof. Andrzej Jacek Blikle at the official book presentation in Warsaw on 04 September.



▲ REMONDIS' new administration buildings in Lünen shortly before completion.



◀ FFN Radio presenter, Franky, during a recording at REMONDIS in Hanover.




◀ REMONDIS Board Member Egbert Tölle talking to a member of the editorial team.

▲ From left to right: Siegfried Kochanek, managing director of ReFood GmbH, Jörg Lange, Mayor of the City of Malchin, Marc Reinhardt, member of the Landtag, Siegfried Konieczny, district administrator of the District of Demmin, Jürgen Seidel, Minister of the Economy in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Norbert Rethmann, honorary chairman of the supervisory board at RETHMANN AG, at the opening of the new plant in Malchin.



◀ From left to right: Marek Plywaczky, marketing REMONDIS, Prof. Maciej Nowicki, Polish Minister of the Environment, Mariusz Gawelda, project manager REMONDIS Aqua Sp. z o.o., Marcel Fleischer, board member of REMONDIS Aqua Sp. z o.o.





“Water and raw materials are treasures of nature. Or products from REMONDIS.”

> The water and environmental service branch

The global demand for water and raw materials is growing. Natural supplies of these products, however, are gradually becoming depleted. Being one of the world's largest water and environmental service companies, REMONDIS is doing everything in its power to promote the sustainable conservation of natural resources to protect them for future generations. With this aim in mind, we are active in the fields of water supply and wastewater treatment, in recovering raw materials from waste, in developing innovative recycled products as well as in producing alternative forms of energy. We play a role in each and every stage of the supply chain in these fields – for companies that can provide a full range of services also achieve the best results. Would you like to learn more about our international activities to conserve resources and limit climate change? Then why not give us a ring or send us an email. We look forward to hearing from you!

Service, water, raw materials,
products and energy. For now
and for the future.