

Responsible management of production and procurement

- Eco-efficiency improved by an average of 9% in the last three years
- Water consumption reduced by totally 35% in the last three years
- Risk management for suppliers takes account of sustainability aspects

In its Code of Conduct, Geberit sets out that environmental aspects flow into all decision-making processes and activities, and that the environmental performance is constantly improved. Corresponding measures in production and procurement show that the statutory requirements are frequently exceeded in this respect.

Practiced environmental management shows success

At Geberit, there has been a tradition of environmental management since the early nineties. The central environment and sustainability department plays an important role in this respect and contributes towards making decision makers sensitive to these aspects. The pronounced environmental awareness results in constant improvements in eco-efficiency as well as minimizing costs and risks. The basis for this is a comprehensive environmental management system. Since the beginning of 2007, Geberit has been in possession of a combined Group quality and environment certificate as per ISO 9001 and ISO 14001. As of the end of 2006, eleven European production locations were certified for the first time as per ISO 14001; the plants in the USA and China are to follow by the end of 2008.

Measurement and control of the environmental impact takes the form of the annual corporate eco-balance. An important illustration of performance in this respect is the calculation of the environmental impact which covers all 17 production locations worldwide and thus 85% of the gross value added. The environmental impact is calculated in eco-points in accordance with the Swiss Ecological Scarcity Method (2006 version). In the period 2004 to 2006, the absolute environmental impact fell slightly adjusted by acquisitions. The same period saw a considerable increase in economic performance and value added. As a result, the environmental impact per value added unit (eco-efficiency) has increased by 9% p.a. over the last three years. This is above the 5% target striven for.

Development environmental impact and eco-efficiency 2004–2006

