

Press Release dated September 24, 2001

GREENPEACE Award for the Manufacturer of PVC-free Water Pipes

Trademark licence for **aquatherm**: green water pipes are also ecologically on the green side.

Hamburg/Attendorf, 24.09.01. Water pipes without the pollutant PVC are an environment-friendly and future-compatible product. For this reason, **Greenpeace Media GmbH** has now awarded **aquatherm** for the manufacture of PVC-free water pipes. The pipe manufacturer with its production facilities located in the Sauerland and Radeberg/Saxony can now and in the future designate its product „**fusiotherm**®“, a pipe system made from polypropylene, with the impressive title „**future product approved by Greenpeace**“. With the award of the trademark licence for this product, Greenpeace wants to underline the significance of ecologically compatible alternatives without the use of PVC.

The green-coloured „**fusiotherm**®“ pipes are an ecological and technical alternative to commercially available PVC and copper lines. Based on its chlorine content, the manufacture as well as the use and decommissioning of PVC involves considerable ecological risks. During the refuse incineration of products containing PVC, dioxins and nitric acids are released. The decommissioning of both toxic substances is complicated and cost-intensive.

Copper which occurs in increased concentrations during the first months following a copper pipe domestic installation, can lead to serious health hazards. For this reason, the limit value for copper in drinking water was reduced to 2 mg/l in the new European Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EG, will be implemented in 2003).

Polypropylene can be recycled and is a long-lasting material. Because of its hygienic properties, it is an ideal packing material for foodstuffs. Yoghurt beakers, bottles, foils, forks and knives, piling boxes for vegetables, meat and fruit are made, for example, from polypropylene. The “packing” of water as a foodstuff in a similar manner would seem to be the logical thing to do.

The „**fusiotherm**®“ system of **aquatherm** has proven its success and its technical suitability in over 25 years of application worldwide. The product’s installation and connecting technology is a convincing factor. After heating of pipe end and connecting part, the synthetic material melts to form a single mass after joining the elements.

With the designation „**future product**“, **Greenpeace** is making a contribution towards a change within the economy. Economic and ecological interests do not have to be in contradiction with each other. And the „**fusiotherm**®“ system of Aquatherm is proof of this statement. When deciding in favour of a „**future product approved by Greenpeace**“, consumers with awareness for the environment can exercise influence on the market by selecting the best quality with high ecological and social standards.

Further information on the „**fusiotherm**®“ system can be obtained by contacting

aquatherm GmbH,
Mr. Ulrich Höffer,
tel.: 02722 / 950-323,
Biggen 5, 57439 Attendorf,
or in the Internet at
www.aquatherm.de.

Information on the licence program „**future product**“ is available from
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