



## Press Release

### New ultrafiltration systems for decentralized water supplies

#### **New Virex Pro systems by Seccua include automatic membrane integrity testing**

**Steingaden, Germany 27th August 2008 – Seccua GmbH, the global technology leader in the field of standardized ultrafiltration systems for treating drinking water, introduces its new Virex Pro systems to the market. These compact ultrafiltration systems process up to 3,900 litres per hour (17.2 GPM) and are especially suited for decentralized water supplies. As the first of its kind, they feature fully automatic membrane-integrity testing and control. If a break is detected, the equipment automatically stops and an alarm is sounded.**

The danger of a membrane rupture was believed to be the main argument against the use of ultrafiltration as a single process for disinfecting drinking water because if a break occurred, the potability of the water could not be assured. Also supposedly stable membranes have occasionally had membranes rupture in the past, typically caused by sudden pressure surges, which all too frequently occur in residential installations. This weak point is addressed directly by Seccua's Virex Pro ultrafiltration system. It checks its membranes regularly for damage, carries out fully automatic filter rinses for quality assurance, and, if required, shuts down the equipment and triggers an alarm locally and remotely. Thanks to this innovation, the removal of pathogenic organisms from the drinking water and a constant high quality of water can be assured.

“The further development of our Virex installation offers significant quality and cost benefits vis-à-vis the other processes,” says Michael Hank, founder and CEO of Seccua. “It is now possible for decentralized water suppliers to use ultrafiltration as the sole reliable process for preparing drinking water, which clearly leads to cost economies in the purchase, installation and operation of the equipment, and offers the highest possible quality.”

### **Intelligent filtration installation Virex Pro**

The membranes have pores of less than 20 nanometres in diameter. Therefore, they are smaller than all known pathogenic organisms found in water. Ultrafiltration offers an almost 100%, chemical-free barrier against viruses, parasites, bacteria and legionella. Turbidity and red coloration due to iron are also simultaneously removed from the water. The new Virex Pro system is automatically shut down in the event of a defect in a membrane. The user is then either informed directly via mobile telephone systems (SMS), or an alarm is sounded in the control room.

In addition, the Virex Pro automatically monitors the loading of its filters and adjusts the interval between the filter cleaning and the length of the filter rinsing to any fluctuations in raw water quality.

As a result, the release of safe, clean drinking water is never compromised. Further disinfection by UV rays after ultrafiltration has now become redundant.

### **Elaborate purification of the drinking water**

Drinking water must comply with the highest standards. If this cannot be ensured at the outset, for example, through taking suitable measures to protect the ground water, the water must be treated before release as drinking water and, if necessary, disinfected. The authority often recommend ultraviolet light (UV) as a disinfecting medium, among others. However, since surface water frequently has high turbidity and sometimes contains parasites, UV rays cannot penetrate it perfectly. Therefore, UV may not do a complete job of deactivating micro-organisms. In addition, many parasites are resistant to conventional disinfection methods. When such parasites are present in the raw water supply, fine filtration upstream is required for UV to be effective. Ultrafiltration is the only process that efficiently and consistently disinfects water in a single step.

### **Effective process of ultrafiltration**

Ultrafiltration, which originates from medical technology, has been making its entry in drinking water treatment to an increasing degree. In the purification process membranes are utilized, which have a pore size of a mere 20 nanometers or less. Thereby they are smaller than all known pathogens present in the water. In this manner, ultrafiltration offers an almost 100%, chemical-free barrier against viruses, parasites, bacteria. Simultaneously, turbidity and red coloration are removed from the water.

### **Seccua GmbH**

Seccua GmbH, based near Munich, Germany, is the world technology leader in the field of standardised ultrafiltration systems that remove all known pathogens from drinking water. Without the addition of chemicals, bacteria, viruses, parasites, sediment and red iron discoloration can be removed from drinking water. The inexpensive, small-scale systems produced by Seccua were originally developed by Michael Hank, founder and CEO of Seccua, in conjunction with a partner from the USA and first went into operation there in 1998. Over 400 of the systems are now already in successful operation, including in the dining cars of the latest generation of high-speed, inter-city trains in Europe. The production facilities of the company founded in April 2004 are designed to handle an annual manufacturing capacity of 1,500 systems.

General manager of Seccua Americas LLC based in Surprise, Arizona, USA is Dan Wyckoff, who has over 30 years of experience in the water treatment industry, including pioneering work in the establishment of ultrafiltration as an accepted treatment technology for residential and commercial applications. Market focus for Seccua Americas LLC is the supply of products and components to established equipment manufacturers and suppliers.

Further information can be found at [www.seccua.com](http://www.seccua.com) or from:

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