

# Drinking water for Vienna

For more than 125 years, Vienna's two Alpine spring water mains have been the backbone of the city's water supply with excellent drinking water from the Alps – a standard which in times of an increasing shortage of this valuable resource is certainly not a matter of course in a large metropolis.

Continuous efforts are made to secure and further improve this standard of excellence, which include ongoing monitoring measures and renewal work on the supply system. The two Alpine spring water mains with a total length of about 270 km transport some 400,000 m<sup>3</sup> of water daily from the Rax-Schneeberg area and the Hochschwab massif to Vienna.

About 100,000 building connections are serviced through a supply network of about 3.200 km length. Vienna Waterworks operates 32 water reservoirs with a total reserve capacity of 1,650,000 m<sup>3</sup>, a volume equal to about three times the daily consumption.



## Detecting changes in water quality immediately

Based on innovative sensor technology for automated water quality monitoring, Vienna Waterworks have been conducting a research project on the management of sensible water uses in cooperation with the Vienna University of Agricultural Sciences.



This project is co-financed by the European Union.



INTERREG



## Pipe laying with almost no trenchwork

This not only implies fewer disturbances for residents and less traffic obstruction, but also lower costs arising for digging up and subsequently restoring street surfaces.

The pipe laying techniques have been substantially improved during the past few years.



Municipal Department 31

### Kleehäufel waterwork

Vienna Waterworks plans to construct a new waterwork to ensure the city's supply of high-quality drinking water under all circumstances, including failures or extensive repair work on either of the two spring water mains, or in times of extremely high demand.

At the Kleehäufel waterwork, the groundwater abstracted from the Nussdorf, Danube Island and Lobau well fields will be collected, treated and fed into the distribution network.

### Karst research aimed at securing spring water resources

Because the properties of the karst have a decisive influence on the quality of our drinking water, first inquiries into the hydrogeological features of karst areas date back to historical times. For this reason, Vienna Waterworks is conducting research in this field in cooperation with other European countries.



### Vienna Water Charta

Since December 2001, Vienna has been the first and up to now only city worldwide to protect its drinking water under Constitutional Law. The objective of the Vienna Water Charta is to protect Vienna's famous Alpine spring water as a basic natural resource for future generations. For more information go to: [www.wienwasser.at](http://www.wienwasser.at)

Vienna, Urban and Environmental Technologies  
Water supply