Dear Reader,

Searching the internet for the definition of the word “network”, Wiktionary says: network interconnected group or objects; and Wikipedia states: networks are systems based on a structure suitable for being modelled by graph and with the appropriate mechanisms for their organisation.

These definitions well describe our activities. The KWB, supported by the Land Berlin, has organised the joint boost “Captital Region Berlin-Brandenburg” at the trade fair and exhibition “Wasser Berlin 2006”. For the first time, scientists and regional SMEs present their activities together with local network organisations (TSB/KWB).

We have received the approval, that the extension of the network activities for SMEs will be funded by the Land Berlin. This will accelerate our steps on the path we have followed, and so a new and important network component is being generated.

At the same time, the networking between European research institutions is advancing well: the KWB coordinates the AMEDEUS project comprising 10 partners and is one of 30 partners involved in the TECHNEAU project. We expect additional suggestions and demand for new research-based technology applications.

As usual, you will find the results in the next issue of our newsletter.

Ludwig Pawlowski,  
Managing Director, Kompetenzzentrum Wasser Berlin

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**EU to Boost Development of Innovative Technologies for Drinking Water Supply**

Through financing the Integrated Project TECHNEAU, the EU has decided to stimulate the development and application of innovative and cost-saving technologies for safe drinking water supply. The project consortium involves 30 universities, research institutions and technology suppliers from Europe and developing countries. The Kompetenzzentrum Wasser Berlin will coordinate the work area “Water Technology” and in addition, carry out a demonstration project on water supply by bank filtration in India. TECHNEAU aims at the development of adaptive system options for water supply. These comprise novel wastewater treatment methods using membrane technology and oxidation procedures, improved analytical methods for the detection of chemical and microbiological stress as well as the advancement of online monitoring technologies. TECHNEAU will create a significant step forward in the state-of-the-art through introducing an integrated source-to-tap approach and by working on the interface between scientific disciplines, water supply stakeholders and industries and SMEs throughout Europe. TECHNEAU was started in January 2006 by a kick-off meeting held at the project coordinator KIWA and will be running for 5 years. The total project budget amounts to 19 Mio €, of which 13,2 Mio € will be contributed by the European Commission.

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