

The heart of the automatic dispenser

CARBONIT filters guarantee carefree drinking pleasure

Everyone agrees on the importance of sufficient daily fluid intake. Consumers often rely on tap water to fulfil this need; after all, they think, the purity of the drinking water is tested at the waterworks. But many people are unaware of another factor at work here, namely that undesirable residues such as heavy metals can find their way into one's water glass as the result of decrepit building pipe systems. Water dispenser tanks are also not necessarily harmless, because microbial loads can appear there if they are not kept properly clean - all the more reason to consider using automatic water dispensers with integrated CARBONIT activated carbon block filters.

CARBONIT automatic water dispensers do not use tanks, so filtration takes place at the moment that the water is tapped. The membrane at the entry to the device and an integrated antibacterial protection at the outlet guarantee optimum safety, meaning that microbial loads are blocked. Working without the inclusion of chemical additives, the CARBONIT System filters out unwanted constituents while leaving in the water such flavour-forming elements as calcium or magnesium. Automatic dispensers with CARBONIT technology guarantee consistent tap quality and individual handling. The product lines range from mobile apparatus without water connections to filtration systems with direct access to the mains network.

Even though installation and handling of the automatic dispensers varies, the product nevertheless always remains the same — clear, fresh water without impairment of flavour, containing mineral concentrations but free of pesticides, bacteria and other harmful substances.



Point of contact for the media:

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Thirst quenchers at every location

New regulations govern household water quality

Waterworks are required not to exceed the limit values set for harmful substances by the European Drinking Water Regulations. But what happens once the water has left the supplier? Is the water that flows from the household tap equally free of pollutants? Quality controls have exhibited certain gaps in the past. When the new TVO went into effect on 1 January 2003, it marked the first time that a drinking water law took into account the fact that pollutants can find their way into drinking water between the time it leaves the waterworks and the time it arrives at the extraction point. Limit values were established in earlier regulations and then checked at the waterworks; the new TVO also provides for the monitoring of limit values at the supplier locations. What's new is that these values will now also be measured at individual building connection points. This means that substances can be detected which could find their way into the water from mains and building pipelines. This has to do mainly with heavy metals, because many pipes made of lead or copper are still in use. In the new TVO, these substances are included among those listed under "Chemical parameters whose concentration can increase in the distribution network, including building installations". In order to exclude these risks, some water companies are subsidising the replacement of decrepit pipe systems with their own finance programs. CARBONIT filters are to be recommended for households which would like to have an influence on the quality of their own drinking water. Thanks to the fineness of their pores, these filters hold back heavy metals, which means that the limit values established in the TVO are maintained — and not only at the water faucet in the home, but also where previously no drinking water had been required — whether it be in Dixi toilets, swimming pools, saunas, public transport or market booths.

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Water for living!!

CARBONIT GmbH produces filters with a purity guarantee

Whether it be in automatic water dispensers, chlorine-free swimming pools, operating theatres or drinking water containers in crisis areas — the products made by CARBONIT Filbertechnik GmbH have many applications. Founded in 1997 in Dambeck near Salzwedel (Saxony-Anhalt), the company is a subsidiary of the German Westa-Group in Gütersloh and produces innovative filtration components in accordance with an international patent. "In contrast to conventional activated carbon block filters, our systems also hold back substances which have not yet been addressed by the European Drinking Water Regulations," explains Executive Manager Dr. Peter Westerbarkey, making it clear that such unwanted pollutants as heavy metals, pharmaceutical residues, pesticides and bacteria are removed without the use of chemicals. The filters all work in accordance with the same principle, but they can nevertheless be utilised at a variety of locations. Whether it be while travelling or at the water faucet in the home or directly at the mains themselves — utilisation of CARBONIT is oriented to the requirements of consumer groups that include more than just domestic households.

"Our filters are also used in so-called crisis areas," noted Westerbarkey and explained that he was referring to water preparation systems which are primarily used in developing countries. CARBONIT products could, for example, ensure water supplies in every village in such places as those many parts of Africa where the populace has to travel several kilometres a day to fetch water. According to Westerbarkey, the filter is practically predestined for container utilisation in crisis areas, because it can also function with low water pressure. Furthermore, it is also the manufacturers of pharmaceuticals or food products whose attention has been caught by the filter system from Saxony-Anhalt. Pure water is a basic prerequisite in these production areas. "This has meant that we have been able to increase our turnover at an annual rate of 30 per cent over the last two years," reports the company chief as he looks with confidence to the future. "After all, clean water is not only a determining production factor in many industrial plants, it also has a role to play in considerations of health and well-being for which there is no substitute."

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Dates and Facts - CARBONIT Filtertechnik GmbH

Foundation:	1997
Company Headquarters:	Salzwedel/OT Dambeck, (Saxony-Anhalt, Germany)
Executive Manager:	Dr. Peter Westerbarkey, Jan Westerbarkey
Number of employees:	20
References:	In 1997, CARBONIT GmbH received the Innovation Prize awarded by the State Ministry for Economics and Technology of Saxony-Anhalt. In 2002, CARBONIT GmbH once again received the Innovation Prize, this time for its combination of hollow fibre membranes and active carbon blocks. In 2003, the company was awarded the "Altmark Economics Prize (Wirtschaftspreis Altmark)".
Corporate association:	CARBONIT Filtertechnik GmbH (Salzwedel) and ERO Edelstahl-Rohrtechnik GmbH (Salzwedel) are subsidiaries of Westaflexwerk GmbH (Gütersloh). The three companies are members of the Westa Group corporate association
Markets:	Europe, Australia, Asia

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Decalcification without chemistry — saves not only energy

CARBONIT filters and catalysis processes increase both the performance and working life of household appliances

Put the laundry in the drum, add detergent powder, select the program and press the start button — standard procedure in many households. Thanks to the washing machine, clothing is clean again in just a few minutes' time. But what is to be done when the domestic appliance becomes calcified? Those who wish to avoid wearisome cleaning and additional energy and repair costs turn to preventative measures. Consumers often use Calgon or other similar agents to extend the working life of their machines, but other options do exist.

The CARBONIT Filtertechnik GmbH products demonstrate the fact that lime treatment is also possible without the addition of chemical substances. "Our PREVENTO flow device is attached at the water inlet to the machines where an activated carbon membrane filter removes not only lime but also other harmful particles such as copper, lead or chlorine," is the way CARBONIT Executive Manager Dr. Peter Westerbarkey describes the advantages of this innovative Technology, which is also utilised in automatic coffee makers under the PREVENTO-Coffee product designation, among others. This makes it possible to protect coffee or other automatic hot beverage dispensing appliances from the effects of hard drinking water. The filter is installed thereby between the water faucet and the appliance connection, where it works in two stages.

In the first step, PREVENTO-Coffee, the same as with the PREVENTO flow device, filters out unwanted substances that have negative effects on flavour, such as pesticides, heavy metals and lime. The catalysis process then takes over, which makes it possible to have additional anti-lime protection for the water, without the use of chemistry or electricity. During this stage, the pre-treated water flows into a cartridge filled with CATALYSER granulate. The lime components still remaining in the water are thus brought into contact with the surface of the



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spherical granulate, where special anti-lime crystals accumulate. As time goes by, the lime accumulations become so large that they are flushed away with the water flow and the growth process described begins anew. "As a result of this process, the lime crystals are suspended in the water and no longer adhere stubbornly to the surfaces," notes Westerbarkey in summarising the advantages of catalysis. "The action of this principle in PREVENTO-Coffee not only contributes to the protection of high-quality beverage technology, but also provides a natural basis for the optimum development of coffee aromas."

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CURRICULUM VITA

Dr. Peter Westerbarkey

DOB:

27 October 1961 in Gütersloh (Germany), married

University studies:

Economics at the Johannes-Gutenberg-Universität in Mainz and Technical Assistant, Graduate degree in economics, Dr. rer. pol.



Positions held:

1996 - 1999	Project manager Lufthansa School of Business, Seeheim Jugendheim
1999 – 2001	Management position at the Westa Group, Gütersloh
since 2001	Executive Manager, Westaflexwerk GmbH, Gütersloh Executive Manager, ERO Edelstahl-Rohrtechnik GmbH, Salzwedel Executive Manager CARBONIT Filtertechnik GmbH, Salzwedel

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"We provide good air and clean water"

Westa Group captures international markets

"We provide good air and clean water" – this is the statement the Westa Group uses to describe its multifaceted product offering. From apartment ventilation devices to exhaust technology to Monoblock water filters – the products are utilised around the globe in a wide variety of branches of industry. "As the result of increasing demand, we are paying special attention to the markets in Europe, Australia and Asia," says Executive Manager Dr. Peter Westerbarkey. Together with his brother Jan Westerbarkey, he assumed control of the family company in 2001 as the fourth generation to do so.

The corporate group was founded over 70 years ago in Gutersloh in North Rhein-Westphalia, where the headquarters building of the corporate group is located, together with Westaflex GmbH. The mother company is nowadays counted among the market leaders in Germany in the area of domestic appliances for ventilation, air conditioning and exhaust technology.

The subsidiary ERO Edelstahl Rohrtechnik GmbH was founded in 1991 in Dambeck near Salzwedel, where stainless steel systems for ventilation and exhaust technology are manufactured.

The latest investment of the Westa Group was also made in Saxony-Anhalt, where the corporate group set up the company CARBONIT Filtertechnik GmbH. The company develops, produces and markets internationally patented filter systems for the treatment of drinking water in both domestic households and industry.



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