Mondsee, 20 August 2015. In the first half of 2015, BWT – Best Water Technology – Group increased its consolidated revenues by 4.0% year on year from €255.4 million to €265.7 million, with 2.0 percentage points coming from foreign exchange rate changes (particularly EUR/CHF).

EBIT amounted to €15.2 million (previous year: €13.4 million) and consolidated net earnings after minority interests totalled €9.5 million (previous year: €8.0 million). Expenditure on investments in fixed assets decreased from €16.8 million to €6.0 million. The main reason for this decrease was the completion of investment programmes at the Mondsee location and in Bietigheim-Bissingen in 2014. A total of €11.0 million was spent on company acquisitions (previous year: €1.1 million). This rise resulted primarily from BWT’s acquisition of an interest in the Russian Mettem Technologies Group.

As at the end of June, BWT Group’s net debt went up from €14.9 million to €18.2 million compared with 31 December 2014. As at the balance sheet date, gearing stood at 9.9% and the equity ratio at 42.4%. As at the end of June 2015, the BWT Group employed a total of 2,641 people (previous year: 2,576).

Outlook
The implementation of the framework agreement signed in January 2015, which concerns the acquisition by the BWT Group of a majority interest in the Mettem Technologies Group, Russia, with operations in the Point of Use consumer business, also shaped the second quarter. Its first-time consolidation is planned for the end of the year, after antitrust approval has been obtained.
The development of the “BWT” brand with the brand message “BWT – For You and Planet Blue” as the leading water brand largely determines all marketing activities. Investments in property, plant and equipment are set to return to a normal level with major investments having been completed last year.

For the current 2015 financial year, the Management Board anticipates a slight rise in revenues and consolidated net earnings at the same level as the previous year.


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About BWT
The Best Water Technology Group is Europe’s leading water technology company. BWT’s 2,600 employees work to provide clients in private households, industries, commerce, hotels and municipalities with innovative, economic and ecological water treatment technologies that ensure the highest standards of safety, hygiene and health in their daily contact with water. BWT offers modern treatment systems and services for drinking water, pharmaceutical and process water, water for heating, boilers and cooling, and water for air conditioning systems and swimming pools. BWT’s R&D department uses state-of-the-art methods and the latest processes and materials to develop environmentally-friendly, cost-effective products. A crucial focus is on minimising the products’ resource and energy consumption, thereby reducing CO₂ emissions.