



Denmark

Water & Waste Water Market Brief 2009

Denmark: Important Links & Contacts

Ministry of Environment – <http://www.mim.dk/eng>

Ministry of climate and energy – <http://www.kemin.dk>

Danish environmental protection agency – <http://glwww.mst.dk/homepage>

The Danish water works association – <http://www.fvd.dk>



Market Overview

Danish Drinking water is unique in its almost exclusive use of virgin groundwater for drinking water. Overall the Danish water and waste water market is dominated by domestic suppliers which hold strong positions in the international market. This can be attributed to cooperation between public institutions and private firms, combined with an aggressive environmental policy that has helped push forward the Danish industry in the market. However, Denmark is very open to U.S. imports and if U.S. firms sell competitive products of high quality, they might benefit from entering the Danish market for water services. The Danish water sector itself is, however, a non-profit line of business.

The virgin groundwater accounts for 99 percent of the water extracted in the production of water services. It is unnecessary to cleanse the water with carbon filters or add chloride; only oxidation and cleansing in a sand filter is required before it is drinkable. Because of this, the Danish water service industry distinguishes itself from most of its European counterparts by its high degree of decentralization; around 2700 water works supply the Danish population of 5.6 million. A municipally (150) operated water work extracts 24 times the amount of privately (2550) operated water works on average. Consequently, the treatment of water waste is relatively concentrated; 90 percent of the aggregate water waste is treated in 216 plants – mainly municipally operated water works.

The market for water treatment equipment in Denmark is very mature and dominated by domestic suppliers. The sewer business could be a potential market; the municipalities are preparing to upgrade the sewer systems. Another movement in the industry is an increased focus on energy saving improvements. Both of these market trends can potentially lead to profits for American firms entering the Danish market for in high-quality equipment for use in new installations and for replacement of old equipment

Highlight Box

- The market for water treatment equipment in Denmark is very mature and dominated by domestic suppliers
- Of the water suppliers' expenses, new investments account for 9 percent, reinvestments 27 percent and operative expenses 64 percent

EU has granted €100 million for 41 projects across EU. Denmark participates in 4 of these:
CLIWAT: prevention of flooding and decreased water quality in the cities.

WATERPRAXIS: Countries around the Baltic sea, should share best practice cases, and studies should lead to concrete investments in the Baltic region.

Ballast Water: Deals with protection of Sea water. Law will be passed in 2016.

Aquarius: The project will focus on agriculture and prevention of water supply. As a result of climate change, agriculture changes – how will this affect the prevention of our water supply.