



The Netherlands

Water & Waste Water Market Brief 2009

The Netherlands: Important Links & Contacts

Ministry of Traffic and Water Works: <http://www.verkeerenwaterstaat.nl/english/>

Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment: <http://www.vrom.nl/>

Water Information Network: <http://www.waterland.net/>

The Association of Dutch Water Companies: <http://www.vewin.nl/english/Pages/default.aspx>

Association of Suppliers of Environmental Equipment and Technology (VLM): <http://www.vlm.fme.nl>

Market Overview

The Netherlands is known for its excellent know-how in the water industry. Dredging and draining are two areas in which the Dutch are famous for their state of the art technologies. Distribution over water is important, and often takes place through Europe's largest port in Rotterdam.

Even though the Netherlands has known so many successes working with and protecting the citizens against water, it also has its problems. The biggest struggles at this point are the consequences of the climate changes and the pollution of ground and surface waters. In the next ten years the Netherlands will have to invest at least \$ 6.2 billion in order to live up to the safety and environmental standards set both by the Dutch and the European government. The Dutch water market exists of a mixture between different public sources, the biggest being the Polder Boards and the Ministry of Traffic and Water Works and an energetic private sector with many SME's focusing on water purification systems, dredging and draining.

Opportunities for American companies can be found in the following fields: water purification systems, measuring & analysis instruments, and water defense construction technology.

The Dutch are the forerunners in technology and know-how in the water industry. Good opportunities can be found for U.S and Dutch water technology companies interested in joining forces through joint ventures. This would connect the know-how with the means to produce.

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Highlight Box

- In the next ten years the Netherlands will have to invest at least \$ 6,2 billion in order to live up to the safety and environmental standards set by both the Dutch and European Governments.
- Although the Netherlands has a lot of know-how it depends greatly on countries like the United States for innovation projects since regulations slowdown the innovation processes.

Measurement & Analysis Instruments and Parts

Year	Imports from the U.S.
2006	\$823,771
2007	\$811,778
2008 (Jan-Nov)	\$785,501

x 1000

Year	Exports to the U.S.
2006	\$243,271
2007	\$238,341
2008 (Jan.-Nov)	\$291,734

x 1000

1 USD = 0.74 EUR

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Netherlands