

MEDIA RELEASE

Expansion at the world's leading manufacturer of portable drinking water treatment products

Katadyn Holding AG acquires stake in AQUAFIDES

Wallisellen-Zürich/Switzerland, November 3, 2009 – **The Swiss company Katadyn Holding AG in Wallisellen is in full expansion and is acquiring a majority stake in AQUAFIDES Switzerland and Germany. With this move, Katadyn, the world's leading provider of products for portable drinking water purification, is expanding its sphere of operations into the industrial and municipal water treatment sector.**

The company AQUAFIDES was established in 2007. AQUAFIDES's portfolio includes products for industrial and municipal water treatment on the basis of UV disinfection, ozone oxidation and filtration. In addition, the provision of spare parts and services for new and existing proprietary systems, as well as for the equipment of other manufacturers, constitutes the basis for business.

Up until 1999, Katadyn itself was active in the field of industrial and municipal water treatment using UV technologies. The new generation of systems devised by AQUAFIDES, as well as the development work that has been conducted, have convinced Katadyn to reenter this field. The global distribution network of Katadyn Products Inc. is now to be used to ensure improved access to the international markets.

The Swiss Katadyn company is the world's Number One for individual water purification systems and products, with a global market share exceeding 50 percent. Katadyn has been developing water filters, chlorine and silver-based sterilizing agents, and mobile desalinators for the trekking and marine markets for over 80 years now. Numerous international relief

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organizations and special army units rely on the products of Katadyn for survival and life saving. The company has further diversified by adding two other outdoor market brands: "Trek'n Eat" – the Number One for outdoor and expedition foods in Europe – produces high-grade, freeze-dried specialty rations. The Swedish Optimus company – producer of outdoor stoves and accessories – joined the Katadyn Group at the end of 2007.

Katadyn is headquartered in Wallisellen-Zürich, Switzerland, and operates subsidiaries and sales offices in Germany, France, the U.S.A., Sweden, and Singapore. The group employs some 100 persons worldwide and achieved a turnover of roughly 38 million Swiss Francs in 2008.

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