

 **GEBERIT**

Aquarius

Newsletter December 2009



Dear Aquarius member



As I write this from our new Head Office in Warwick, watching what seems to have been constant rain this year, it is hard to recall our last Conference in a very sunny Marrakech. Was it really 7 months ago?

I am sure you will agree it was an excellent trip and as always the opportunity to meet and discuss current topics and product innovations with the Aquarius members is of great value. I know from feedback received that a number of you value this as well as the opportunity to network in convivial company. An added bonus for me is that we now have several compromising pictures of Aquarius members with various belly dancers!!

On a serious note we have of course been through one of the worst recessions in living memory, with all that that implies and looking ahead the future is not easy to forecast. Throughout this we at Geberit have maintained our approach to the market focussing on our core product range, offering the best sales and technical support with training being key, and very importantly, enhancing customer relationships.

This strategy will see us exit 2009 some way ahead of what has been a very difficult market.

All of us at Geberit wish you and your families all the very best for Christmas and the New Year.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Tyler". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Peter Tyler
Commercial Sales Director



A problem solved

Geberit has embarked on a long-term social aid programme which will help bring basic sanitary facilities to schools in developing countries throughout the world. The aim is not simply to provide money and materials but to plan, lead and co-ordinate entire projects, with Geberit employees as the responsible project managers. They, in turn, will be supported by Geberit apprentices wherever feasible.

One of the first projects to benefit is Colegio Pomasqui, a state school near Quito, the capital city of Ecuador. At around 2,600 metres above sea level in a dry valley of the inner Andes, securing a supply of clean drinking water is one of the greatest challenges facing Quito. The school, which has 1000 pupils, currently has basic sanitary services with only 5 toilets for girls and 7 for boys. Waste water flows untreated into the Manjas river, which used to be the town's main water source. Approximately ten litres of drinking water is used for each toilet flush.

Geberit are focussing on water savings, recycling and treatment. This includes the construction of a new restroom building with solar powered hot water, the installation of wall-hung toilets, urinals and washbasins for daily hygiene and the construction of a reed sewage plant to purify waste water and protect drinking water resources.

Worldwide, a considerable amount of fresh water consumption is used by flushing toilets and in large establishments such as schools and educational facilities, this can be a huge drain on resources and in turn, the environment. Geberit technology provides an important reduction in potable water consumption – for instance our dual flush WC controls can reduce the volume dramatically.

In addition to water-saving, the Duofix wall-hung system was the ideal solution as it offers raised levels of hygiene as floors are free of awkward spaces that gather dust and harbour germs, and is easy to install and maintain.

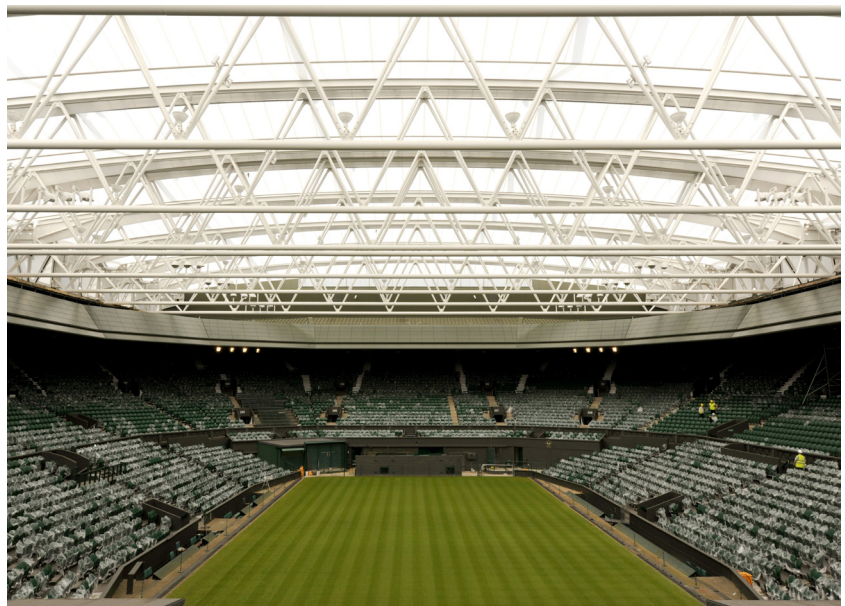


A siphonic solution

A combination of greater roof spans and the deluge of rainwater caused by heavy storms in recent years have resulted in the increased use of siphonic roof drainage systems.

Geberit Pluvia is based on a gravity induced vacuum principle to create a siphonic action, which allows the complete drainage of a roof with smaller diameter pipes than used in conventional systems. One of the major benefits is that the horizontal pipe runs do not have any fall, minimising the space required to accommodate the system and giving more architectural flexibility.

The high suction of the system reduces the pipe diameters and number of vertical drops needed compared to a gravity system, providing a reduction in cost for most installations.



An additional benefit to the system is that pipe runs can be designed and prefabricated away from the site of installation. They can be created in a safe, clean environment, ensuring secure and accurate fabrication as well as offering significant material and labour savings.

Geberit Pluvia has been used for over 30 years around the world in over 80,000 installations. One such project where Geberit Pluvia provided a highly efficient solution was for Wimbledon's new centre court roof.

The two-year project involved the refurbishment of the world famous arena and installation of a retractable roof.

The Pluvia system was specified to remove the potentially large amounts of rainwater created from the new roof. The join between the old and new independent roof structure, and the movement created by the retractable roof, presented problems with deflection and movement of the pipework and gutters, but with the flexibility of the Pluvia system this issue was accommodated.