

Responsible on a sustained basis with its core business – GE presents Citizenship Report
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Munich > GE presents its current Citizenship Report and dedicates a chapter solely to “the financial market” and to “the power supply of the future”. Projects on providing funding support for renewable energy sources – including public projects – call for social consensus. Especially when GE uses these as a building block in the energy mix. The report focuses on this and also seeks to contribute towards achieving this consensus by extending a clear offer to engage in a dialogue. “Our Citizenship Report for this year mainly reflects the impact and consequences of the financial crisis. We will address these challenges and develop solutions, as well as prospects for the future,” CEO Georg Knoth, who is responsible for GE in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, told CSR NEWS. “Especially here in Germany, we will live up to our social responsibility, not only by participating in non-profit activities, but also by driving forward future technologies in the areas of energy and healthcare that are mainly green,” Knoth emphasized.

For example, GE started Europe’s first cooperation on greater sustainability in healthcare together with the Asklepios Clinics Group. The “Green Hospital” concept contributes towards designing healthcare facilities in an energy-efficient and environmentally conscious manner. Here, power, heating and cooling systems, solar technology, energy-efficient medical technology, lighting approaches and systems for use in water treatment are being combined to form one comprehensive catalog of measures. Construction work on the Asklepios Clinic in Hamburg-Harburg based on this approach is scheduled for completion by the year 2013.

Corporate Volunteering has been playing a special role as part of the traditional area of Corporate Citizenship at GE in Germany, as well, since 2007. GE Volunteers work on social and environmental projects and participated in reforesting the protected forests in the mountains of Garmisch-Partenkirchen only this year. Over the last 16 years, GE has planted more than 80,000 seedlings together with the German Armed Forces and Bavarian State Forestry Department. In Regensburg, more than 100 employees worked to renovate a secondary school, clean up a commercial zone and take care of a nature reserve. The company’s Corporate Volunteering is organized by more than 140 “GE Volunteer Councils” all over the world.

The GE Citizenship Report 2008 can be downloaded in English from here:
www.ge.com/citizenship/reporting/index.jsp