



AACC

A – 1015 Wien, Lobkowitzplatz 1, P.O. Box 76

جفوفاء الففءاءاء الففءاءاء
austro-arab chamber of commerce
österreichisch-arabische handelskammer

T +43 1 513 39 65, F +43 1 513 85 59, headoffice@aacc.at www.aacc.at

AACC Organises a Company Visit to Ebswien Sewage Water Treatment Plant for High-level Arab Representatives & Diplomats

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Vienna - Austria



On 21 November 2022, AACC organised a company visit to **ebswien sewage water treatment plant**, Vienna's wastewater treatment plant in charge of cleaning the city's entire wastewater flow. Coordinated by AACC Secretary General **Mr. Mouddar Khouja**, the high-level delegation consisted of Secretary-General of the Union of Arab Chambers **H.E. Dr. Khaled Hanafi**, the Ambassador of the Sultanate of **Oman** to Austria **H.E. Mr. Yousuf Aljabri**, in addition to **Mr. Jamal Al-Jaber**, Minister Plenipotentiary at the Embassy of the State of **Qatar** in Vienna, **Mr. Abdelkhalek Medjeber**, Counsellor at the Embassy of the People's Republic of **Algeria** in Vienna, **Dr. Zahim Muslim**, Counsellor at the Embassy of the Republic of **Iraq** in Vienna, and **Mr. Mohammed Hanafy**, Second Secretary at the Embassy of the Arab Republic of **Egypt** in Vienna.



The delegates were warmly welcomed by **DI Dr. Markus Reichel**, Deputy Project Leader and Officer-in-charge for energy issues at **ebswien**, who provided a thorough insight to the plant and its sewer systems, stating that the plant receives approximately 6,000 litres of wastewater per second and can handle up to 18,000 litres per second. These effluents initially pass through a mechanical treatment stage, which is followed by two biological treatment stages modelled on nature. Mr. Reichel then elaborated on the city's strategies to provide energy for the purification process by raising energy efficiency and using different sources of renewable energy such as solar, wind power and hydraulic energy. He also introduced the EOS project (Energy Optimisation Sludge Treatment) realised from 2015 – 2020 as an important contribution to ecological sustainability and climate protection in Vienna. Wastewater treatment at such a high level is an energy-devouring process, for which ebswien needs roughly 1% of Vienna's overall electricity consumption.

Since 2020, ebswien generates more renewable energy on site than it actually needs for its own wastewater treatment operations “With **111% self-covering ratio for electricity and 171% self-covering ratio for thermal energy**, the wastewater treatment plant has become a self-sufficient eco-power plant”, concluded Reichel.

Following the presentation, the delegates were invited to a tour through the plant site to get a closer look at the dimensions of the plant and its functions.



AACC would like to express its sincere gratitude to **H.E. DI Omar Al-Rawi**, member of the Viennese government and member of AACC Board of Directors, and **DI Günther Schmalzer** from ebswien management, for supporting this company visit.