

Press Release

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ETLog Health GmbH works on waste-project in China

by Andrea Schuster

Berlin/Jishou. The Berlin-based firm ETLog Health GmbH is to carry put a waste-management project in the healthcare system in the autonomous Chinese province of Xiangxi between January and September 2008. The project will be supported by the DEG *Deutsche Investitions- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft mbH*, within the framework of the Private Public Partnership (PPP) programme by German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) .

The focus of the German and Chinese development cooperation is a comprehensive advice in environmental matters. In co-operation with the German ministries for economics and the environment, and the involvement of the private economy, Chinese environmental legislation and its implementation is to be improved, environmentally-friendly economic operation and technology improved.

In order to support this aim, a disposal centre for the handling of hospital waste will be put into operation in the town of Jishou (Xiangxi prefecture). Xiangxi is the autonomous prefecture of Tujia and Miao minorities and belongs to the province of Hunan. At the end of 2004, 4016 medical centres (out-patient clinics and wards included) were counted.

In the town of Jishou, a waste-disposal centre will be erected on an area marked out for this purpose. Here, the waste from the surrounding hospitals will be treated. The disposal centre is the core of the project, with the aim of an economically sensible and safe system of transport logistics and handling of hospital waste in the region. The entire province Xiangxi will be included in the tour planning. The legal foundation of the system will be worked out by the environmental sector and local officials working together, and aid for its monitoring will be determined. As a basis, generally valid environmental protection rules will be implemented, according to UN recommendations, international standards and local legislation.

In order to guarantee that during and after the completion of the project, the necessary specialist knowledge is applied; waste disposal and transport companies will be schooled and certified. The first months of practical operation will be supervised. In parallel to this, in order to enable to monitoring and control of the project, employees of the environmental authorities will be trained regarding disposal of hospital waste.

In order to disinfect infectious hospital waste, the environmentally friendly and secure process of autoclaving will be implemented. The medium to long-term aim envisages the construction and operation of further waste-disposal centres in China.

The DEG, a member of the *KfW Bankengruppe* (KfW banking group), finances investments of private companies in developing and transition countries. As one of Europe's largest development finance institutions, it promotes private business structures to contribute to sustainable economic growth and improved living conditions.

ETLog Health EnviroTech & Logistics GmbH is a specialist provider in the healthcare field. The Berlin-based firm acts worldwide as an advisor to clinics, institutions and ministries regarding the disposal of hospital waste, waste management technology, waste water and aids prevention.

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