

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



MINOL USA ANNOUNCES ACQUISITION OF UTILITY BILLING GIANT, MASTER TEK INTERNATIONAL

Dallas, Texas – June 27, 2005. In a move that has created the nation's third largest utility billing service, Minol USA of Dallas, Texas today announced that it is acquiring Master Tek International of Westminster, Colorado. The merger will establish Minol USA as one of the nation's top three utility allocation and submetering providers to the real estate industry, with approximately 400,000 contracted units. The new entity will operate under the Minol name as Minol extends its state-of-the-art service to Master Tek's existing accounts.

Minol USA (<http://www.minolusa.com>) is a Dallas based utility and financial management company, offering utility expense recovery and energy conservation solutions as well as bundled voice, video and data services to the real estate industry. Minol USA is a division of Minol International, the third largest provider of utility consumption data equipment in the world, operating in 27 countries worldwide.

Master Tek International is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Southwest Water Company (Nasdaq: SWWC, www.swwc.com), a Covina, California based Public Utility Company. Master Tek has, for the past twenty-five years, provided billing and payment processing services to both submetered properties as well as those employing utility allocation systems. The merger with Minol will allow Master Tek clients to benefit from the advanced technology infrastructure pioneered by Minol. For example, once the transition is completed, property managers at Master Tek's submetered communities will be able to go online daily to view consumption data for each unit in the community. Both submetered and utility allocation clients will be able to view financial information, such as outstanding balances and delinquencies, for each of their residents.

"We found Master Tek's existing client services to be of excellent quality" stated Minol President, Mike Quigley, "and we see a really strong conformity of mission between the two companies. The natural benefits that will flow to our customer base from this merger are simply enormous. Master Tek clients will benefit from the enhanced sophistication of our reporting capability and from the larger array of services that we provide."

Minol International General Manager, Alexander Lehmann, stated that Minol USA would immediately begin a program to introduce all Master Tek properties to the state of the art technical standards enjoyed by Minol customers. "We make submetering work the way it should," he said, "and Master Tek clients can count on Minol to deliver the high level of system performance and customer care that the real estate industry has come to expect from Minol and that's what really counts."

For more information visit <http://www.minolusa.com> or contact us at info@minolusa.com.

###