



Strategic Utility & Energy Management Solutions

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **MINOL USA AND U.S. WATER WORKS ANNOUNCE BUSINESS COMBINATION**

**Dallas, Texas – May 17, 2004 – Minol USA of Dallas, Texas and U.S. Water Works of Chicago, IL and Amherst, New Hampshire** announce a business acquisition of U.S. Water Works by Minol USA. This transaction combines the U.S. Water Works submetering, billing and water conservation operations with Minol's operations. U.S. Water Works will operate as a division of Minol, conducting all but its billing operations from its Amherst, New Hampshire office. Their Chicago, Illinois based billing operations will be moved to Minol's U.S. headquarters in Dallas, Texas. Minol is a Dallas, Texas based utility and financial management company offering utility expense recovery and energy management solutions to the real estate industry. Minol operates nationally with offices in Atlanta, Amherst, NH, Cleveland, Dallas, Los Angeles, San Diego, Tampa, Seattle, and Washington D.C. Minol USA is a division of Minol International, the second largest utility expense recovery company in the world operating in 27 countries worldwide and providing service for over eleven million meters annually.

An industry leader, U.S. Water Works provides water conservation equipment installations, submetering and utility billing services nationally. Although, Minol provides submetering system design and installations and utility billing, both of which provides substantial conservation benefits, this acquisition allows Minol to now offer a proven water conservation program with a twenty-plus year track record to our clients. "While Minol is pleased to acquire U.S. Water Works' submetering and billing accounts, we are very excited to enter the water conservation business utilizing U.S. Water Works superior products, technology and experience," said Minol USA President, Mike Quigley.

Current U.S. Water Works customers will continue to receive the high level of service previously provided by U.S. Water Works, now enhanced by Minol's automated billing and reporting systems. Minol-Direct™ on-line account access provides real-time information for portfolio managers, site managers and residents. U.S. Water Works customers will also gain on-line payment capabilities.

"I am impressed with Minol's technological superiority and their commitment to develop increasingly more efficient methods to provide the absolute best utility expense recovery and energy management solutions to our industry," stated Jack Hanover, President, U.S. Water Works. "Joining Minol provides U.S. Water Works the opportunity to focus our energies on growing our business with the assistance, support and technological resources available in an International organization with over 50 years of experience in this Industry."

Minol International General Manager, Alexander Lehmann, states, "the Minol name has always been synonymous with experience, reliability and vision. These values form the basis of Minol's organizational strength, and these values are all evidenced within the U.S. Water Works organization."

For more information on Minol visit our website at [www.minolusa.com](http://www.minolusa.com) or contact us at [info@minolusa.com](mailto:info@minolusa.com).