

## Franke Expansion in Romania

**Franke Romania SRL, a subsidiary of Franke Holding AG in Aarburg opened on November 2, 2000, their own business structure consisting of an office, warehouse, showroom and assembly site for cooking hobs, adding to the already existing commercial sink division in Bucharest. Up to this time the company had been experiencing success solely in the commercial sink sales segment of the Romanian market.**

Franke Romania SRL launched its commercial sink sales in Romania in 1997 and has been pleased with the progress made by this investment in such a short period of time. The rented premises were simply not sufficient enough to support this growth and that of the very promising cooking hobs market. These factors supported the earlier planned decision to purchase and develop, over the past 9 months, the 2000 square meter construction. Franke regards this measure as an important milestone in the development of Franke's global leadership position within the Kitchen Systems area.

Information: G. Hepp/P. Boerner

*The Franke Group today is globally active with 60 companies world wide. Apart from the Kitchen Systems division, Franke is also active in the Contract Group (producer/supplier to chain restaurants) and Beverage Containers (drink tanks for the beer and soft drink industry, containers for the chemical and pharmaceutical industry) divisions - all three are global market leaders in their respective segments. The half yearly result of this year occupies the growth trend of the Franke Group: It could increase their sales by 18.1% on altogether CHF 796,0 million. For the further process of the yearly the group counts on a stable sales development of approx. 10%.*