

NEWS MARCH 2026

Editorial

Dear colleagues,



We are currently realising once again that the only constant is change: as one crisis subsides, the next is already on the horizon, unfolding with virtually no restraint. This ties up our energy and resources, and can cloud our vision of the future. That is why reliability, optimism and innovative ideas for the future are, now more than ever, the cornerstones that enable us to act with a long-term perspective.

This is precisely what the TZW stands for as a centre of excellence for the water industry. With this in mind, we have selected three key future topics for this newsletter: inspections of drinking water pipes, regulatory requirements for treatment using membrane systems, and solutions for dealing with 'forever chemicals' (PFAS). These topics are complemented by specialist events, whether on PFAS at TZW or on inspection methods at IFAT 2026.

I look forward to meeting you in person at our [events](#). Let us look ahead with courage and optimism!

Wishing you an enjoyable read,

Dr. Josef Klinger



Optical-acoustic inspection of drinking water pipelines

In the OptInspekt project, three optical inspection systems – push camera, crawler, and water snake – were tested under real-world drinking water conditions. The objective was to assess their operational limits, practical applicability, and the quality of the collected data. Since conventional methods often provide only statistical assessments, OptInspekt demonstrates how non-destructive internal inspections can deliver object-specific information. The results from extensive test series and more than 25 field applications were incorporated into the new DVGW Code of Practice W 492, providing an important basis for future applications. The results and selected innovative inspection methods will be presented as part of the [TechLIFT event on 5 and 6 May 2026](#) at IFAT 2026 in Munich.

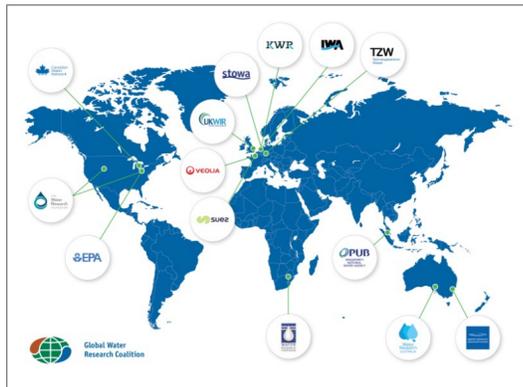
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ZeroPM Set to Conclude with Major Impact

The EU project ZeroPM will be completed in September 2026. In recent years, the consortium has made significant progress in identifying, preventing, and treating persistent and mobile substances (PM substances) in the environment. The approaches and pilot applications developed within the project make an important contribution to improving environmental and drinking water protection management.

[Read more](#)



GWRC

Activities in 2025

TZW is a founding member of the Global Water Research Coalition (GWRC), a global network of leading water research institutions such as PUB (Singapore), the Water Research Foundation (USA), Water Research Australia, the Water Research Commission (South Africa), among others. The coalition brings together international expertise to jointly develop solutions for key challenges in water supply. In 2025, TZW was again actively involved – both scientifically and strategically. A highlight was the board meeting held at TZW, where Dr. Josef Klinger and TZW partners presented German research activities and national challenges in water supply.

[Read more](#)



News in brief

Events

This year, TZW is once again offering a variety of event formats on water-related topics for different target groups. You can find all information on content, programmes, and registration via the respective links. Please note that the conference language is German.

Probenahmeschulung Vertiefungskurs - 14. April 2026 - Karlsruhe

Probenahmeschulung Basiskurs - 15. April 2026 - Karlsruhe

WebTalk für Behörden - 28. April 2026 - Online

Trinkwasserkolloquium - 12. Mai 2026 - Dresden

DAS THEMA: PFAS - 19. Mai 2026 - Karlsruhe

Probenahmeschulung Vertiefungskurs - 6. Oktober 2026 - Karlsruhe

Probenahmeschulung Basiskurs - 7. Oktober 2026 - Karlsruhe

RiskPlus: Verschiedene Webinare - Online

SAVE THE DATE - 31st TZW Hybrid Colloquium on 2 December 2026

Experts from TZW will present current topics relevant to the water sector. Join us in person in Karlsruhe or online. Information and registration will soon be available on the TZW website.

AWBR - Drinking Water Memorandum

In February 2026, the Association of Waterworks Bodensee-Rhine (AWBR) published its new Drinking Water Memorandum. The ten principles set out a clear focus on a future-proof and affordable drinking water supply for the more than 10 million people in CH, F, DE, AT and LI served by the member utilities. The AWBR calls for consistent measures to improve the protection of drinking water – from prioritising drinking water, to product approvals suitable for drinking water, all the way to mandatory remediation based on the polluter-pays principle. Insufficient protection, inadequate substance testing, and a lack of manufacturer responsibility currently lead to additional costs that ultimately have to be borne by drinking water customers. Further and more detailed information – including the flyer – can be found on the [AWBR website](#).

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