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## Pro Aqua — Pro Vita at Basle

Today some 20 million people are provided with drinking water from the Rhine, and the proportion of the population having to be supplied with processed river water will probably increase enormously in the future. No effort must be spared, therefore, to restore the natural vitality of our lakes and rivers. In this respect, the first Pro Aqua exhibition, in 1958, can be considered a real pioneering landmark. In fact, this first trade fair devoted to water and sewage was organised at a time when no-one — or hardly anyone — spoke or thought about the protection of the environment. The next four Pro Aqua exhibitions were accompanied by related display groups (elimination of waste products, preservation of the purity of the air and the fight against noise) and each exhibition was more successful than its predecessor. Thus 330 exhibitors from 15 countries took part in the last exhibition held in 1971. The 6th Pro Aqua-Pro Vita exhibition is to be held in the halls of the Swiss Industries Fair in Basle from 11th to 15th June 1974; its scope will be very wide, covering vastly different fields such as collection of water, lifting of water and sewage, water conduits and sewers, mechanical, biological, thermal, electrical and chemical treatment of water and sewage, garbage disposal, air pollution control and noise control. The problem of pollution will be the subject of special discussions at the technical meetings held during the exhibition. (SODT)

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