



13 June 2012

## Günter Geyer awarded Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary

On 12 June, **Günter Geyer, Chairman of the Managing Board of Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein**, received the **Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Hungary**. The conferral of one of the highest honours of the Hungarian Republic took place at the Hungarian Embassy in Vienna, in the presence of Hungarian **Prime Minister Viktor Orbán**.

In his speech, **H.E. Vince Szalay-Bobrovniczky, Ambassador of the Republic of Hungary to Austria**, paid tribute to Mr Geyer's services to the Hungarian insurance industry, and to his contribution to the close economic ties between the two neighbouring states.

**Günter Geyer**, a trained lawyer, joined Wiener Städtische Versicherung in 1974 and became a member of the company's Managing Board in 1988. From 1991 he also sat on the Managing Board of Donau Versicherung, becoming General Manager in 1999. In 2001, Günter Geyer took up the position of General Manager of Wiener Städtische Versicherung. From the 1990s onwards, Mr Geyer oversaw the company's expansion into Central and Eastern Europe and the growth of the stock exchange-listed Vienna Insurance Group – the leading insurance group in the region. He took over as Chairman of the Managing Board of Vienna Insurance Group's main shareholder, Wiener Städtische Versicherungsverein, on 1 June 2012, and now focuses on core strategy and the Group's social and cultural activities.

Günter Geyer's commitment and dedication has been acknowledged and honoured many times. He has already received the **Großen Tiroler Adler-Orden** of the Province of Tyrol, and the **Decoration of Honour in Gold for Services to the Province of Vienna**. In 2007, Mr Geyer was presented with the **Grand Decoration of Honour in Gold for Services to the Republic of Austria** by Federal President Heinz Fischer, and in 2010 he received the **Decoration of Honour in Gold of the Province of Upper Austria**.

Günter Geyer's exemplary work for social causes as the head of a leading Austrian company was acknowledged in 2011, when he was awarded the **Karl Leitl Prize for Partnership with the World of Work**.

In recognition of his commitment to the insurance industry in Slovakia, and the country's economic development, Günter Geyer was awarded the **Bratislava Mayor's Prize** in 2007, and an **Honorary Doctorate** by the **University of Economics in Bratislava** in 2012.

Enquiries to:

Alexander Jedlicka  
Public Relations  
Schottenring 30, 1010 Vienna  
Tel: +43 (0)50 350 ext. 21029  
Fax: +43 (0)50 390 99 21029  
E-mail: [alexander.jedlicka@vig.com](mailto:alexander.jedlicka@vig.com)