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Siemens Probe Widens, Second Suspect Turns Himself in (Update1)

By Sheenagh Archey

Dec. 6 (Bloomberg) -- The embezzlement probe at Siemens AG, Europe's biggest engineering company, which last month had its offices raided by 250 police officers, is continuing as a second suspect turned himself in, prosecutors said.

A second person, after the first was arrested last month, voluntarily gave evidence and a third person has already completed preliminary questioning, the public prosecutor's office in Munich said in an e-mail today. Five suspects are in prison, it said.

The prosecutor can't release details about the investigation as it has to compare statements and written documents with each other and evaluate them, which will take "a fairly long time," the authority said.

The embezzlement probe of Munich-based Siemens, may involve 200 million euros (\$265 million), the authority said on Nov. 22. Police, along with 23 prosecutors, last month searched company buildings and private residences of employees at 30 locations in Germany and Austria, including the office of Chief Executive Officer Klaus Kleinfeld.

Siemens spokesman Andreas Schwab said the company is cooperating with prosecutors.

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