

In brief in this issue:

Articles

UK Ecolabel Delivery at the 4th Ekoteks Textile Symposium in Istanbul

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Innovative agreement for the Detergent sector in Belgium

The EU Ecolabel in Belgium may be at an important stage of its development.

Successful cooperation during the "EU12 Ecolabel workshop" tour

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Agenda and other issues

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On **13 May**, a **national EU Ecolabel workshop** will take place in Sofia, Bulgaria.

On **18-19 May**, the **European Business Summit 2011** will take place in Brussels, Belgium.

On **20 May**, a **national EU Ecolabel workshop** will take place in Valletta, Malta.

On **24-25 May**, the **World of Private Label International Trade Show** will take place in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

On **24-25 May**, the **SBA Conference European Enterprise Awards 2011** will take place in Budapest, Hungary.

On **24-27 May**, the **Green Week 2011** will take place in Brussels, Belgium.

News—Full article

UK Ecolabel Delivery at the 4th Ekoteks Textile Symposium in Istanbul

On 29 March 2011, a substantial audience of professionals from the textile sector gathered at the Ekoteks Textile Symposium held in Istanbul. The symposium welcomed a diverse assembly of manufacturers, researchers, public officials, buyers from major companies (including Levi's, Marks & Spencer, Tesco, H&M), as well as materials testers and chemical suppliers. The EU Ecolabel was represented by the UK Competent Body, and was very warmly welcomed.

Many Turkish companies are accustomed to meeting the environmental standards of their clients (major textile houses and retailers) when exporting to Europe. But the emerging challenge for them is how to access wider European markets without compromising on environmental standards, and how to ensure standards are applied evenly for companies trading within Turkey. A few days before the 4th Ekoteks Textile Symposium, the Turkish



government had introduced a tough new regulation on the use of chemicals, so the symposium was particularly well-timed. It was opened by Zafer Çağlayan, Minister of State of the Government of the Republic of Turkey, who spoke to a packed audience. There were over 350 attendees, with many others being turned away.

The EU Ecolabel was represented by David Parker, from the UK Ecolabel Delivery. Mr Parker's presentation focused on how the EU Ecolabel is a good tool for delivering textile products with lower environmental impacts. He described the Ecolabel criteria: its purpose, benefits to manufacturers and customers, the key thinking behind the textiles criteria, and an outline of the application process. The presentation also highlighted how the EU Ecolabel for Textiles minimises the use of hazardous substances throughout the life cycle.

The audience was very receptive and asked relevant questions, and further discussions indicated that the EU Ecolabel was seen as a practical instrument, which also provided great commercial value. With positive environmental regulation from the national government and great interest from companies, the EU Ecolabel most likely has a great future in Turkey.

For more information, please visit www.ekoteks.com

Innovative agreement for the Detergent sector in Belgium

The EU Ecolabel in Belgium may be at an important stage of its development. On 6 April 2011, the DETIC, the leading Belgian and Luxembourgian association of detergent manufacturers and distributors, signed with Paul Magnette, Belgian Minister of Climate and Energy, and a consumer association and representatives of the business sector, a sectoral agreement which aims at increasing the share of environmentally friendly detergents on the Belgian market.

The deal guarantees that, in the future, the market will be more respectful of the environment. But this ambitious agreement is setting higher targets. The share of environmentally friendly detergents on the Belgian market is expected to exceed 60% by 2019. In 2008, EU ecolabelled laundry and household maintenance products accounted for only 2% of the retailing

offer. According to statistics from the [e-catalogue](#) there are currently only 4 licences awarded by the Belgian CB for Detergents products sold in the Belgian market. With this agreement, the share of EU ecolabelled Detergent products should exceed 10% by 2019.

Another positive impact is that these changes will encourage more and more companies to apply for the EU Ecolabel in the Detergents product categories.

With this initiative, the Belgian government is the first public authority in Europe to set up a legal mechanism aiming to directly shift the retailing offer. "We hope that these kinds of agreements will stimulate similar initiatives in Europe, and thereby reinforce the environmentally friendly products market," said Mr Magnette.

Read more about this with the full press release [here](#).

Successful cooperation during the "EU12 Ecolabel workshop" tour

The first series of workshops organised in the 12 most recent EU Member States within the framework of the "EU12 Ecolabel workshops" project have been conducted by the Competent Bodies in Romania, the Czech Republic, Cyprus and Poland. They were supported by the EU12 workshops project team composed of Energon, Reduce2day and G&L. The aim of these workshops is to promote the EU Ecolabel to the industry and relevant stakeholders who may support future EU Ecolabel activities. However, participants also included government officials, EU Ecolabel experts, media, and NGO representatives, with an average audience of 30 to 65 attendees. A total of almost 170 participants took part in the discussions. The main product groups covered were: Textiles, Tourist Accommodation, Paints and Varnishes, Detergents, Soaps and Shampoos, and Floor Coverings.

Discussions took place regarding the promotion of the EU Ecolabel and raising environmental awareness between



producers, retailers and consumers. A general consensus was reached, whereby producers, retailers and governmental institutions agreed to cooperate and engage the appropriate minimum of means and resources in order to successfully address sustainability.

The feedback from all stakeholders was very positive in terms of information and tools received. Companies expressed that the workshop provoked and strengthened their interest in the EU Ecolabel. The majority of participants stated that the group work and discussions were very helpful, as it gave them the opportunity to address very specific topics, such as the criteria and the application process.

The next workshops are under preparation for Estonia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Malta and Hungary and are scheduled to take place in April, May and in the beginning of June.

Read more about this and keep up-to-date with the events [here](#).

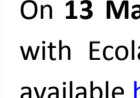
Statistics

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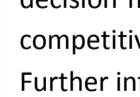
ALL PURPOSE CLEANERS AND SANITARY CLEANERS

	WERNER & MERZ	DE	Extension
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FOOTWEAR

	DIVISION ANATOMICOS SL	ES	Extension
	ANDREA MONTELPARE SRL	IT	New holder
	SESA SRL	IT	New holder

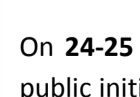
INDOOR AND OUTDOOR PAINTS AND VARNISHES

	MARTIN MATHYS NV	BE	Extension
	PRODUCTOS JAFEP SL	ES	New holder
	PINTURAS MACY SA	ES	New holder

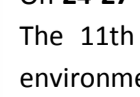
SOAPS AND SHAMPOOS

	CHIMIPACK SRL	IT	New holder
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TEXTILE

	BUTE FABRICS	UK	New holder
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TISSUE PAPER

	JABIPACK SL	ES	New holder
	CARTOTECNICA SANTA CATERINA	IT	New holder
	MAPEDO SPA	IT	New holder

TOURIST ACCOMODATION SERVICES

	MONTE GRANATICO SRL	IT	New holder
	CAMPING CASTELWOOD VACANCES	FR	New holder

Agenda and other issues

On **11 May**, a **national EU Ecolabel workshop** with a general product group focus will take place in Skalika, Slovak Republic. Further information is available [here](#).

On **13 May**, a **national EU Ecolabel workshop** with a focus on retailer cooperation with Ecolabel products will take place in Sofia, Bulgaria. Further information is available [here](#).

On **18-19 May**, the **European Business Summit 2011**, Europe's key platform for decision makers and business leaders to meet and debate on how to build a more competitive and sustainable European Union will take place in Brussels, Belgium. Further information is available [here](#).

On **20 May**, a **national EU Ecolabel workshop** with a focus on Tourist Accommodation Service will take place in Valletta, Malta. Further information is available [here](#).

On **24-25 May**, the **World of Private Label International Trade Show** to help manufacturers and retailers build their private label programmes will take place in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Further information is available [here](#).

On **24-25 May**, the **SBA Conference European Enterprise Awards 2011** rewarding public initiatives to support businesses and promote entrepreneurship will take place in Budapest, Hungary. Further information is available [here](#).

On **24-27 May**, the **Green Week 2011**: Resource Efficiency - Using less, living better. The 11th edition of Green Week, the biggest annual conference on European environment policy, will take place in Brussels, Belgium. Further information is available [here](#).

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