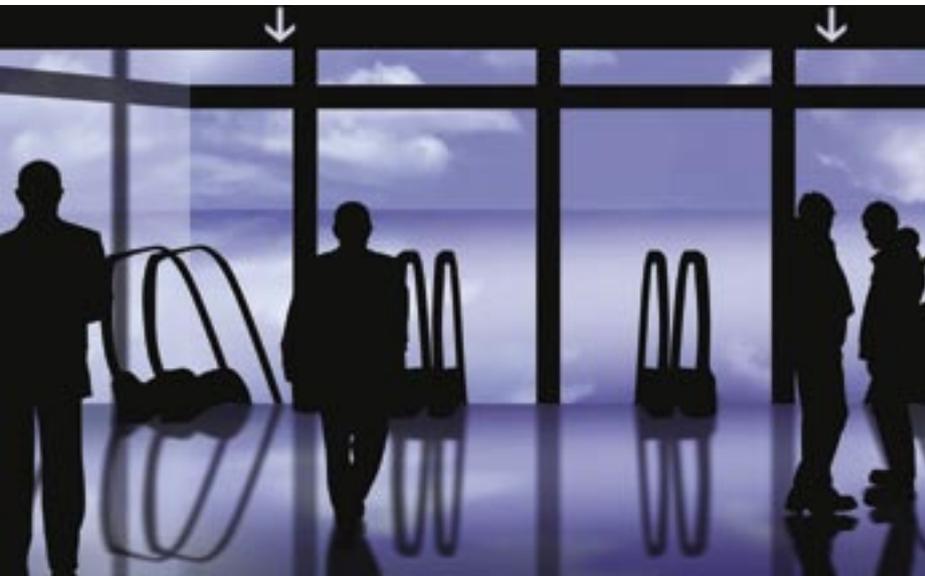




European Business Awards for the Environment 2006

Changing the way we do business



Nominees:

Aceria Compacta de Bizkaia S.A. Spain
Sotral S.p.A. Italy
GE Hungary Ltd Light Source Factory Nagykanizsa Hungary
VA TECH HYDRO GmbH & Co Austria
Windsave Ltd United Kingdom
DTS OABE SL Spain
Fortum Power and Heat Oy Finland
Volkswagen AG Germany
TenCate Advanced Textiles BV & Color Wings BV The Netherlands
iD-L inspired innovations The Netherlands
YIT Rakennus Oy Finland
BASF AG Germany

12 pioneering projects in green innovation

Management

Product

Process

International Co-operation



The future of business is green business

Contents

3	Introduction by Commissioner Stavros Dimas
4-5	Rewarding Europe's best in green innovation
6-7	The Management Award
8-9	The Product Award
10-11	The Process Award
12-13	The International Co-operation Award
14-15	Are you the best in your business?
16	About DG Environment of the European Commission

Legal Notices

The European Business Awards for the Environment is organised by the Directorate General for Environment of the European Commission.

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/business_awards

For further information:
Johanna Lampinen
E-mail: Johanna.LAMPINEN@ec.europa.eu
Tel: +32 2 296 77 56

© European Commission, 2006
Reproduction is authorised provided the source is acknowledged.
Editorial work and lay-out: PRACSIS
Photo credits: Shutterstock
Printed in Belgium on Cyclus Print

Introduction by Commissioner Stavros Dimas

Every business – large or small – has the opportunity to help solve today's great environmental challenges, from climate change to the decline in our biodiversity and the unsustainable use of natural resources. These are not only threats to the environment but also to our way of life and our economies, which rely on a predictable and stable climate and the food and raw materials provided by nature.

This brochure introduces the 12 companies nominated for the European Business Awards for the Environment. These enterprises have moved from words to action by developing pioneering solutions – solutions that reduce their own environmental impacts, solutions in the form of environmentally friendly products and processes, and solutions that help spread good environmental practice. I am impressed by their ingenuity and achievements and congratulate them all.



Protecting the environment makes economic sense for business. Companies that take care of the environment often recoup their initial investments within a few years since gains in energy efficiency and waste reduction translate into savings. And those that market environmental technologies operate in a promising industry sector. EU eco-industries have enjoyed a healthy annual growth rate of around 5 percent since the mid-1990s and account for 200 billion Euros per year, or one third of the global market.

We have to encourage business to be “green and profitable” since eco-innovation is the way of the future – the only way in which we can ensure our well-being in the long term and remain competitive. In addition to the Business Awards for the Environment, the European Commission has created a number of tools to help business invest in eco-innovation and become environmentally friendly. The Environmental Technologies Action Plan comprising 25 individual actions seeks to promote the development and uptake of eco-technologies. The EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) helps organisations identify and manage their environmental impacts so that they continuously improve their environmental performance. The EU Eco-label allows consumers to recognise environmentally sound products and services and make their purchasing decisions accordingly.

But in the end it is up to companies to take the decision to go green – and this will be based on the calculation that an environmentally aware approach is also good for the bottom line. I am therefore very pleased that this brochure shows how going green is a “win-win” approach for both business and the environment.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Stavros Dimas'.

Stavros Dimas
Commissioner for the Environment



The future of business is green business

Rewarding Europe's best in green innovation

The European Business Awards for the Environment are awarded by the European Commission every two years and aim to recognize and reward European companies which set an example by successfully bringing together innovation, economic viability and environmental concerns.

The scheme comprises four award categories in which companies are rewarded for management practices, products, processes and international co-operation activities which contribute to economic and social development without detriment to the environment.

To be eligible for the European Business Awards for the Environment, companies first have to succeed in the national award schemes which are organised throughout Europe every year. This means that the companies awarded the European prize are 'the best of the best'; the most far-sighted, responsible and innovative across Europe.

Participation is open to companies from all EU member states and Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey. The submission of entries to the European awards competition is managed by national coordinating bodies.

Companies from 23 European countries have participated in the 2006 edition of the European Business Awards for the Environment and a total of 139 entries were received. This is the highest number of entries submitted in the 19 year history of the European Business Awards for the Environment (launched in 1987 under the name European Better Awards for Industry) and is an indication of businesses' growing interest in taking care of the environment and increased awareness of the benefits this offers.

The 2006 Business Awards for the Environment Jury

An independent panel of 12 jurors from across Europe met in Vienna, Austria, on 21 – 22 February 2006 to assess and evaluate the 139 entries submitted for this year's award.

The Jury consists of representatives from industry, NGOs, academia and the public authorities. All Jury members have environmental matters as their field of expertise.

Members of the Jury for 2006 are:

Mr Heinz Felsner
CEO, KPI Consult GmbH Management Consulting, Switzerland.

Mr Jaime Alejandro
Director General, Quality and Environmental Evaluation for Spain's Ministry of Environment.

Dr Nilgün Kiran Ciliz
Lecturer and member of the environmental committee of the Turkish Industrial association TUSIAD, Bogazici University, Institute of Environmental Sciences.

Dr John Bowman
Environmental Scientist and Independent Consultant to the UK Government on environmental issues, Fellow of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA).

Mrs Stanislava Dimitrova
USFCS Coordinator and EcoLinks Programme Manager, US Commercial Service (USFCS), US Embassy, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Mr Hannu Penttilä
Executive Director, Helsinki Metropolitan Area Council.

Mr Rolf Wurch
Head of Central Technique Industry affairs, BSH Bosch und Siemens Hausgeräte GmbH. Zentrale Technik Verbandspolitik, Standardisierung und Außenkoordination.



The Jury at work in Vienna, February 2006, under the presidency of Mr Heinz Felsner

A history of rewarding green innovation: 1987-2006

1987

Launch of the European Better Environment Awards for Industry (EBEAFI) on the occasion of the European Year of the Environment

1988

First Better Environment Awards for Industry
Ceremony: Brussels

1989

Second Better Environment Awards for Industry
Ceremony: London

1990

Third Better Environment Awards for Industry
Ceremony: Paris

1992

Fourth Better Environment Awards for Industry
Ceremony: Seville

1994

Fifth Better Environment Awards for Industry
Ceremony: Copenhagen

1996

Sixth Better Environment Awards for Industry
Ceremony: Dublin

1998

Seventh Better Environment Awards for Industry
Ceremony: Leeuwarden

2000

Renaming of the European Better Environment Award for Industry:
First edition of the European Awards for the Environment
Ceremony: Brussels

2002

Second edition of the European Awards for the Environment
Ceremony: Budapest

2004

Third edition of the European Business Awards for the Environment
Ceremony: Brussels as part of Green Week 2004.
The word "business" was added to give well-deserved recognition to companies that have introduced and promoted sustainable development in their activities and practices.

2006

Fourth edition of the European Business Awards for the Environment
Ceremony: Brussels

Dr Konstantinos Aravossis

President, Association of Environmental Protection Companies (PASEPPE).

Mr Roman Vyhnanek

Senior expert and head of adaptability team, European Social Fund technical assistance section of the National Training Fund, Czech Republic.

Mr Bruno Détanger,

President, Fenarive (Fédération Nationale des Associations de Riverains et Utilisateurs Industriels de l'Eau), France.

Prof Gianni Orlandi

Professor of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Department of Information and Communication Sciences and Techniques (INFOCOM) within the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Rome La Sapienza.

Mr Theo van Belleghem

Former Deputy Head, Department of Economy and Technology, Environment Ministry, Netherlands.

The Management Award

This award is for companies with outstanding strategic vision and management systems that enable them to continuously improve their contribution to sustainable development.

Award Criteria

Commitment

Corporate mission and policy statements (including an environmental policy) must be consistent with the principles of sustainable development.

Integration

Environmental and social issues must be fully integrated into mainstream business management, alongside financial performance, with clear objectives and targets for improving performance.

Performance

Improvement: there must be continuous improvement in performance against the organisation's stated environmental and social objectives as demonstrated by regular monitoring and reporting.

Accountability

There must be regular and systematic dialogue with stakeholders (e.g. employees, suppliers, customers, non-governmental organisations), with feedback of the results into management decision-making.

Employee involvement

Employees must be closely involved in all aspects of environmental management and there must be capacity-building in other areas of corporate social responsibility.

Replication potential

There must be clear potential for good practice and innovation to be shared with other organisations (e.g. through involvement in business networks, dissemination at conferences).

Aceria Compacta de Bizkaia (ACB), GE Hungary Ltd Light Source Factory Nagykanizsa and Sotral, SpA were selected by the Jury for the Management Award category of the European Business Awards for the Environment 2006.



Balancing the need for competitiveness with respect for the environment



Aceria Compacta de Bizkaia (ACB) SA, Spain

ACB is a steelmaking company, part of the Arcelor Group, using advanced technology and a qualified workforce. ACB's objective is to generate maximum value for shareholders and employees by satisfying the needs and expectations of its customers. In striving for excellence, however, the company has also managed to incorporate a deep commitment to the environment.

The company states:

"At ACB, we believe in the need to build our quality of life on the foundations of sustainability, economic welfare, social justice and a clean and healthy environment. ACB's Sustainable Development strategy is based on the definition provided in the Brundtland report of 1987, i.e. Development which does not threaten the capacity of future generations to ensure their own development."

Contact: inaki.l.biain@arcelor.com
URL: www.arcelor.com

Verdict of the Jury

- Unlike most competitors, ACB has both ISO 14001 certification and EMAS registration;
- ACB demonstrates achievements and further plans within its environmental management statement;
- The company has taken particularly innovative measures, such as the installation of monitoring systems focussing on gathering environmental pollution information.
- ACB has also raised the awareness of its employees via training.



Reaching environmental and safety excellence



GE Hungary Ltd Light Source Factory Nagykanizsa Hungary

GE Hungary is a member of the General Electric Co Consumer & Industrial business, incorporating the Light Source Factory Nagykanizsa. Built in 1965, the factory is today the world's largest producer of light bulbs.

The company states:

“Our factory is the most significant employer in the region. In addition to the health protection of our employees, we put great effort into protecting the local residents in our neighbourhood from unfavourable environmental effects. Our goal is to give our site as an example for other kinds of industrial sites or companies to follow as we learn to preserve our environment together.”

Contact: ildiko.felde@ge.com
URL: www.gelighting.com/na

Verdict of the Jury

- This multi-national company has introduced and implemented, over the course of the past 15 years, exemplary environmental performance in its Hungarian plant;
- With 4200 employees, the site is certified under ISO 14001 and has published an environmental statement;
- With a long list of environmental projects and investments on environmental protection, the company demonstrates its sustainability, setting goals and objectives and achieving big improvements in its performance indicators.
- GE Hungary is commended for the way in which it is heavily investing in environmental, health and safety issues, local employee health plans and noise-reduction programmes for its neighbours.

Exemplary environmental management in the field of catering logistics

WINNER



Sotral SpA, Italy

Sotral SpA is a company specialised in providing logistical and environmental services for catering companies. Sotral uses an approach that combines science, engineering and communication skills with a management model marked by “life cycle thinking”. To support its approach, Sotral has undertaken a voluntary certification process to define a clear and replicable management system that aims to ensure a synergy between quality, respect for the environment and ethics.

The company states:

“Environmental communication and green marketing performed by Sotral give the company a highly qualified image towards its stakeholders.”

Contact: i.lacourt@sotral.it
URL: www.sotral.it

Verdict of the Jury

- Sotral has introduced an environmental approach into the sector of catering logistics services, improving transport and waste-management by the caterers and raising environmental awareness about the products and meals;
- The environmental dedication of the company is certified by ISO 14001 and furthermore it has the social responsibility certification SA 8000;
- Sotral uses innovative environmental performance indicators (e.g. amount per kg meal transported) to optimise its processes (methane fuelled vehicles, waste minimisation, energy savings). As a result the company has achieved excellent financial results and excellent environmental performance, and established itself as a good corporate citizen.

The Product Award

This award is for companies that have developed a new product or related service that makes an outstanding contribution to sustainable development.

Award Criteria

Innovation

Substantial innovation in the product or service must bring improvements in environmental performance over comparable alternatives whilst at least maintaining functional performance.

Environmental benefit

Clear and quantified analysis must demonstrate increased resource efficiency and reduced environmental impacts over the complete life-cycle of the product or service (e.g. through life cycle assessment).

Social benefit

The product or service must meet the needs of consumers and bring wider social benefits (e.g. providing decent working conditions; safeguarding consumer health; improving quality of life).

Economic benefit

Proof must be given that the new product or service is at least economically viable (e.g. through sales performance data or credible sales projections).

Commitment

The senior management must be clearly committed to the development and marketing of the product or service and must give an indication of its importance with regard to the organisation's overall strategy.

Replication potential

There must be clear potential for wider adoption of the innovative aspects of the product or service, and willingness to share this knowledge and expertise with other organisations.

VA Tech Hydro, GmbH & Co, Windsave Ltd and DTS OABE, SL were selected by the Jury for the Product Award category of the European Business Awards for the Environment 2006.



The Hydromatrix® Power Plant

VATECH

VA TECH HYDRO

VA Tech Hydro GmbH & Co, Austria

Hydromatrix® is an innovative and environment-friendly concept for renewable hydropower generation. Existing weirs and dams are used for this concept to generate electricity by using previously unknown and untapped hydropower potentials.

The company states:

“Hydropower is the best developed and by far the most important source of renewable energy for electricity worldwide. It plays a major role in the achievement of the Kyoto targets and the implementation of the EU’s “Renewable Energy” directive. However, legal requirements, high costs and regional environmental issues restrict new dam and weir construction. With the Hydromatrix® technology power plant, operators are enabled to tap the unused hydropower potential of numerous rivers. This new concept combines the benefits of conventional hydropower technologies with the advantage of low investment and quick installation in existing weir structures.”

Contact: Gerald.Witz@vatech-hydro.at
URL: www.vatech-hydro.at

Verdict of the Jury

- To be commended for the fact that this renewable energy installation uses tailor-made hydro turbine/generators that can be installed in existing weirs and dams and does not require any alteration in the environment or landscape;
- The existing infrastructure can also be used and there is a huge replication potential across isolated communities worldwide.



The Windsave Plug'n'Save wind turbine

WINNER



Windsave Ltd, United Kingdom

Windsave Ltd was formed in 2002 by David Gordon (Scottish Business Entrepreneur 2005) around the concept of an environmentally proactive, sustainable, low cost energy supply system. The system is the first worldwide lower cost product which delivers electricity directly into the main supply of homes and offices through the wall socket.

The company states

“The affordability of the Windsave System will benefit low-income / ‘fuel poor’ households who are excluded from previously available renewable energy systems. The competitive prices will encourage uptake by schools, colleges, universities where exposure to students will also assist in the acceptance and usage of micro-generation of renewable energy.”

Contact: graham@windsave.com
URL: www.windsave.com

Verdict of the Jury

- A compact integrated solution which fits well with other technologies;
- The windmills themselves, manufactured from durable recycled materials, are designed for individual houses and offices;
- Any excess of electricity generated can be fed into the electricity grid and there is a high potential for decentralised, small scale applications;
- In contrast to large scale windmills which are meeting public resistance in some areas, these windmills are affordable and have a noise level below ambient levels.

Nupilac Hidro: The only organic solvent-free insecticide lacquer on the market

WINNER



**DTS OABE SL,
Spain**

DTS OABE is a micro enterprise located in Spain's Basque Country. It has been an environmentally committed company since its inception. Nupilac Hidro - an environment friendly insecticide lacquer for use in urban pest control that is free of organic solvents and safe for both users and individuals coming into contact with it after application - is one of the fruits of its R&D policy for sustainable development.

The company states:

“Respect for the environment is part of our day-to-day management, new products and economic development. We understand that the company's future, and the future satisfaction of our clients, require environmentally responsible actions in the present.”

Contact: dts-oabe@dts-oabe.com
URL: www.dts-oabe.com

Verdict of the Jury

- Applied in a lacquer, this innovative product limits any pollution, is not damaging to human health, requires five times less insecticide, with no emissions of VOC's and with long-term efficiency;
- The replication potential of this project is significant, particularly for low toxicity environments, such as schools, hospitals and catering establishments.

The Process Award

This award is for companies that have developed and applied a new production technology that makes an outstanding contribution to sustainable development.

Award Criteria

Innovation

The technology must include specific innovative elements that promote more eco-efficient production (e.g. by increasing resource efficiency or reducing waste and emissions).

Environmental benefit

The environmental benefits of the new technology must be clear and quantified (e.g. through use of eco-efficiency indicators).

Social benefit

Adoption of the new technology should result in social impacts (e.g. employment opportunities; working conditions; effects on local communities) that are either neutral or positive.

Economic benefit

Proof must be given that the new technology is economically viable (e.g. with reference to capital and operating costs).

Commitment

The senior management must be clearly committed to adopting the new process or technique and must give an indication of its importance in the context of the organisation's overall operations.

Replication potential

There must be clear potential for wider adoption of the innovative aspects of the technology, and a willingness to share this knowledge and expertise with other organisations.

Volkswagen, AG, Fortum Power and Heat, Oy and Ten Cate Advanced Textiles, BV and Color Wings, BV were selected by the Jury for the Process Award category of the European Business Awards for the Environment 2006.



A mechanical process for turning waste into a resource

WINNER

VOLKSWAGEN AG

Volkswagen AG

Germany

Disposing of end-of-life vehicles incorporates stages of pre-treatment, dismantling of reusable parts and shredding of the remaining bodywork. In cooperation with SiCon, GmbH, Hilchenbach, Germany, VW has developed, on a commercial scale, a mechanical process for extracting usable secondary raw materials from the shredder residues.

The company states:

“Shredder residues have to be recovered in order to comply with the provisions of the end-of-life vehicle directive of the European Union. The Volkswagen-SiCon processes, a maximum recovery of materials, can be subsequently reintroduced into the economic cycle at a high environmental level and at a favourable cost compared to competing processes. This way, waste becomes a resource.”

Contact: daniel.goldmann@volkswagen.de

URL: www.volkswagen.de

Verdict of the Jury

- By focusing upon the most difficult part of the waste process, comprising 20% of the total waste from end-of-life vehicles, VW has made a significant impact on environmental waste flows;
- The process is solving a well-known problem, prior to the entry into force of EU regulations in this field.



Cleaner air through advanced burner design for large combustion plants



Fortum Power and Heat, Oy
Finland

Nitrogen oxides (NOx) are a significant air pollutant. Fortum is actively developing NOx reduction technologies, applicable to coal fired and lignite fired power plants. By optimizing the design of the burner in the power plant, it has launched a cost efficient technology for NOx reduction in large combustion plants.

The company states:

“The key objective of our innovation is to reduce emissions from power plants using fossil fuels. Our innovation allows us to reach this target without high investment cost, since it is based on the ability to model combustion processes mathematically. This is an important innovation, because fossil fuel-fired power plants will continue to play an important role for many developed and developing countries worldwide.”

Contact: marja.englund@fortum.com
URL: www.fortum.com

Verdict of the Jury

- The process developed by Fortum contributes directly to the alleviation of climate change;
- This (and similar) technologies can be used widely in facilities burning solid fuel (coal) in the EU and in other parts of the world;
- Whilst the abatement of NOx emission through end-of-pipe technology is expensive, this project delivers a cost effective alternative solution at source.

Digital liquid jet for textile printing, coating and finishing



Ten Cate Advanced Textiles BV and Color Wings BV
The Netherlands

Ten Cate Advanced Textiles BV is a Dutch company specialising in textile finishing. Color Wings, BV is a small Dutch company specialised in the development of industrial digital textile printing systems. Together, they have developed a digital industrial multifunctional technology for printing and finishing textiles, using digitally operated jet heads that use exactly dosed drops, making it possible to apply the technology at high speed. Compared to the traditional technologies, they have contributed to an improvement in both environmental and economic performance.

The companies state:

“When looking at the position of the European textile industry and its development in the international arena, it is clear that especially high tech textile applications are the future. High speed production with relatively low environmental impact are both achievable.”

Contact: j.craamer@tencate.com
URL: www.tencate.com
Contact: monique@transform.nl
URL: www.colorwings.nl

Verdict of the Jury

- The process itself offers a substantial reduction in used inputs (water, energy and chemicals) and waste production;
- This is an example of how new technology, implemented in a specific sector, contributes to its competitiveness.

The International Co-operation Award

This award is for companies that have developed an international partnership for sharing knowledge and technology, leading to sustainable growth in developing countries.

Award Criteria

Clear objectives

The partnership must be guided by a clear statement of objectives demonstrating how it expects to contribute to the environmental, economic and social aspects of sustainable development.

Planning and resource allocation

The partnership must be thoroughly planned and must be allocated sufficient human and financial resources to enable it to work effectively towards its objectives.

Sustainable benefit

The partnership must produce measurable and lasting benefits that are consistent with the principles of sustainable development (e.g. reduced resource consumption, improved working conditions, poverty alleviation).

Equity

The benefits must be evenly distributed among those involved, and the partnership must be managed in a way that is fair and transparent to all partners.

Synergy

Benefits must be produced more efficiently and effectively as a result of the partnership (e.g. by avoiding duplication of effort; mobilising greater expertise; building trust).

Replication potential

There must be potential for applying the innovative aspects of the partnership to other situations and partners.

iD-L inspired innovations, YIT Rakennus Oy and BASF AG were selected by the Jury for the International Co-operation Award category of the European Business Awards for the Environment 2006.



RagBag®

WINNER



iD-L inspired innovations The Netherlands

RagBag® is a new brand for fashion products made from recycled plastic bags by deprived people - rag-pickers - in the slums of Delhi. Ragbag products are designed by young European and Indian designers. The project is an international co-operation between Conserve (a Delhi-based NGO) and iD-L inspired innovations (an Amsterdam-based design company).

The company states:

“In India, the project is providing over 50 people and their families with a livelihood that will enable them to have access to further opportunities. From the European perspective, the Ragbag products attract positive attention and raise awareness about issues of recycling and the situation of deprived people in India.”

Contact: siem@id-l.nl

URL: www.id-l.nl

Verdict of the Jury

- A successful business model, not an aid-programme, that has enabled new business development with some help from outside;
- The objective of the project is clear and has resulted in an attractive product manufactured from waste;
- The project has led to job creation in India and Europe and to benefits for all stakeholders;
- It has wide application to other products in other parts of the world;
- The project was launched by a small company based on personal involvement.



South-West Wastewater Treatment in St. Petersburg

WINNER



YIT Rakennus Oy
Finland

St. Petersburg's South-West Wastewater Treatment plant (a project of the consortium YIT, NCC and Skanska) was completed in September 2005. The plant is one of the most significant environmental developments in recent years for improving the state of the Baltic Sea. Work on the project was initially halted in 1991, until a Nordic collaboration was set up to lead the project to a successful result.

The company states:

"The SWTP Plant is seen as the most important first step of the century to get the wastewater load of St. Petersburg under control. The plant will reduce the total phosphorous loading into the Gulf of Finland by about 5% and the amount of biologically active phosphorous by 8%."

Contact: matti.rantala@yit.fi
URL: www.yit.fi

Verdict of the Jury

- Extremely clear objectives have led to reduced pollution in the Baltic sea;
- The project was completed almost on time and below budget;
- The project provided employment and on-the-job training and was the first public-private-partnership (PPP) in Russia;
- This is a project with major impact for the Baltic Sea and is an excellent example of the application of the PPP principle for project development.

Knowledge transfer in the field of eco-efficient production



BASF AG
Germany

BASF has developed a method and a computer tool analysing the eco-efficiency of products and processes. The tool, called Eco-Efficiency Analysis, was first introduced by BASF in Germany in 1996. It has been used to identify opportunities for improving the ecological and economic profile of more than 100 different products and processes. In co-operation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), BASF is now making this tool available for developing and emerging countries.

The company states:

"In Europe, we have had an eco-efficiency analysis project underway since 1996 that has helped to raise awareness about the potential for improving processes and products ecologically. The skills acquired by the recipients of our knowledge transfer training courses are now promoting and accelerating the transition to sustainable development in developing and emerging countries."

Contact: brigitte.dittrich-kraemer@basf.com
URL: www.basf.com

Verdict of the Jury

- The project is commended for the way in which is applying a management tool to the context of developing and emerging countries;
- The project has major replication potential in China, Egypt and Brazil.



Are you the best in your business?

For business organisations, the 'best' in terms of sustainable development requires balanced progress towards three inter-connected objectives:

Environmental excellence: preventing pollution and optimising resource efficiency in their operations and developing products or services with minimal life-cycle environmental impacts;

Social responsibility: meeting the wider concerns of stakeholders (e.g. employees, suppliers, customers, local communities) over issues such as working conditions, human rights and community involvement;

Strong financial performance: profitability and competitiveness bringing benefits to shareholders and securing long-term growth and security of employment for the future.

Business has a key role to play in ensuring a sustainable future for the environment. The European Business Awards for the Environment allows us to celebrate what has already been done, showcasing companies that are pioneers in green innovation.

So get involved and let your company enjoy the rewards!

For more details, contact your national representative listed below:

Austria

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry,
Environment and Water Management
Division VI/5
Mag Armin Pecher
Stubenbastei 5,
A-1010 Vienna
Tel: 00 43 1 51 522 16 46
armin.pecher@
lebensministerium.at
www.lebensministerium.at/umwelt

Belgium

Federation of Enterprises in Belgium
(FEB) (VBO)
Mrs Birgit Fremault
Rue Ravenstein straat 4,
1000 Brussels
Tel: 00 32 2 515 08 51
Fax: 00 32 2 515 08 32
bf@vbo-feb.be
www.milieuprijs.be
www.prixenvironnement.be
www.vbo.be / www.feb.be

Bulgaria

Bulgarian Business Leaders Forum
Ms Svetla Kaisheva
42, Slavyanska Str.
1000 Sofia
Tel: 00 359 2 986 5202
Fax: 00 359 2 986 5625
svetla.kaisheva@bbbf.bg
www.bblf.bg

Czech Republic

Business Leaders Forum
Mr Tomas Nejedlo
Stepanska 61, Palac Lucerna, 116 02 Praha 1
Tel: 00 420 224 216 275
Fax: 00 420 224 213 957
blf@blf.cz
nejedlo@blf.cz
www.blf.cz

Denmark

Ingeniorforeningen i Danmark, IDA
Mr Kristian Smestad
Kalvebod Brygge 31-33, 1780 Kobenhavn V
Tel: 00 45 33 18 48 48
Tel direct: 00 45 33 18 46 40
Fax: 00 45 33 18 48 87
ks@ida.dk
www.ida.dk

Estonia

Ministry of the Environment, Environment
Management and Technology Department
Ms Ingrid Tamm
Narva mnt 7a-424, 10117 Tallinn
Tel: 00 372 62 62 982
ingrid.tamm@envir.ee
www.envir.ee

Finland

Finnish National Fund for Research
and Development Sitra
Mr Jukka Noponen
P.O. Box 160 (Itämerentori 2),
FI-00181 Helsinki
Tel: 00 358 9 6189 9430
GSM: 00 358 40 587 4323
Fax: 00 358 9 6189 9288
jukka.noponen@sitra.fi
www.sitra.fi

France

Ministère de l'écologie et du développement
durable
Délégation au développement durable
Mr Jean-Paul Ventère
20, avenue de Ségur
75302 Paris 07 SP
Tel: 00 33 1 42 19 25 06
jean-paul.ventere@ecologie.gouv.fr
www.ecologie.gouv.fr

Germany

Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie e.v
Abteilung Umweltpolitik
Mr Franz-Josef von Kempis
Breite Strasse 29, 10178 Berlin
Tel: 00 49 30 20 28 15 09
Fax: 00 49 30 20 28 15 09
v.Kempis@bdi-online.de
www.bdi-online.de

Greece

Hellenic Association of Environment
Protection Enterprises, PASEPPE
Mrs Athena Bourka
4 Marni Str.,
104 33 Athens
Tel: 00 30 210 29 18 488
Tel: 00 30 210 22 24 208
Fax: 00 30 210 82 320 45
abourka@epta.gr
www.paseppe.gr

Hungary

Association of Environmental Enterprises
(KSZGYSZ)

Mrs Ágnes Czibók
H-1133 Budapest, Hegedus Gy. U. 68.
Tel: 00 36 1 350 72 71
Fax: 00 36 1 350 72 74
kszgysz@axelero.hu
www.kawe.hu

Ireland

IBEC-Irish Business and Employers
Confederation

Mr David Manning
Confederation House, 84/86,
Lower Baggot street -2 Dublin
Tel: 00 353 1 605 1689
Fax: 00 353 1638 1689
David.Manning@ibec.ie
www.ibec.ie

Italy

Ambiente e Territorio, Agenzia Speciale
della Camera di Commercio di Roma

Mr Giuseppe Tripaldi
Via dell'Umiltà 48, 00 187 Roma
Tel: 00 39 06697 6901
GSM: 00 39 335 6681711
Fax: 00 39 06678 3362
g.tripaldi@aet.roma.it
www.premioimpresambiente.it

Latvia

Latvian Pollution Prevention Center (LPPC)

Ms Liene Bigaca
Bruninieku iela 27-40 Riga, LV-1001
Tel: 00 371 7204118
GSM: 00 371 6454 772
Fax: 00 371 7221865
liene.bigaca@lppc.lv
www.lppc.lv/videsbalva

Lithuania

LPK Economics and Finance Department

Mr Andrius Nikitinas
A. Vienuolio 8, LT-01104 Vilnius
Tel: 00 370 5 212 61 30
GSM: 00 37 611 33520
Fax: 00 370 5 212 52 09
ekonomika@lpk.lt
www.lpk.lt
www.iea.lt

Luxembourg

Fédération des Industriels Luxembourgeois
(FEDIL)

Mr René Winkin
P.O Box 1304, 1013 Luxembourg
Tel: 00 352 43 53 661
Fax: 00 352 43 23 28
rene.winkin@fedil.lu
www.fedil.lu

Malta

Cleaner Technology Centre - University
Campus

Mr Anton Pizzuto
University Campus, MSD06 Msida
Tel: 00 356 21 31 34
Fax: 00 356 21 34 09 79
ctc@mus.com.mt
www.mus.com.mt

Netherlands

Ministry of Housing Spatial Planning and
the Environment-Directorate for Policy
Affairs/ipc 660- Department of Economic
and Fiscal Instruments

Mrs Rianne Dobbelsteen
8, Rijnstraat P.O Box 30945, 2500 GX
The Hague
Tel: 00 31 70 33 94 850
Fax: 00 31 70 33 91 304
rianne.dobbelsteen@minvrom.nl
www.vrom.nl

Poland

Polish Environmental Partnership
Foundation

Mr Rafal Serafin
6/6 Bracka Street, 31-005 Krakow
Tel: 00 48 12 422 5088
Fax: 00 48 12 429 4725
serafin@epce.org.pl
www.epce.org.pl

Portugal

Instituto do Ambiente/Ministerio das
Cidades, Ordenamento do territorio
e Ambiente

Mrs Isabel Lico
Rua da Murgueira, 9/9a - Zambujal Ap.
7585 | 2611-865 Amadora
Tel: 00 351 21 472 82 87
Fax: 00 351 21 471 90 74
isabel.lico@iambiente.pt

Romania

Romanian Environmental Partnership
Foundation

Mr Laszlo Potozky
Fundatia pentru Parteneriat Miercurea, Ciuc,
530151, Str. Harghita nr. 7/A/6
Tel: 00 40 266 31 06 78
Fax: 00 40 266 31 06 86
laszlop@fpc.topnet.ro
www.epce.ro/ebaen.htm

Slovakia

ASPEK Association of Industrial Ecology in
Slovakia

Mr Andrej Soltes
Mlynské Nivy 48 - 821 05 Bratislava
Tel: 00 421 253411420
Fax: 00 421 2 5823 9376
mail@aspek.sk + soltes@aspek.sk
www.aspek.sk

Slovenia

Energotech, d.o.o

Mr Peter Novak
Pod kostanji 8, 1000 Ljubljana
Tel: 00 386 14 29 20 30
Fax: 00 386 14 29 20 35
peter.novak@energotech.si
www.finance.si

Spain

Fundación Entorno - BCSD España

Ms Cristina García-Orcoyen
C/ Monte Esquinza 30, Piso 6o, dcha.
28010 Madrid
Tel: 00 34 91 57 56 394
Fax: 00 34 91 57 57 713
go@fundacionentorno.org
www.fundacionentorno.org

Sweden

NUTEK - Industry Agency

Mr Göran Uebel
Liljeholmsvägen 32, 117 86 Stockholm
Tel: 00 46 8 681 93 75
GSM: 00 46 70 62 63 765
Fax: 00 46 8 681 93 65
goran.uebel@nutek.se
www.nutek.se

Turkey

The Regional Environmental Center
Country Office Turkey

Kerem Okumus
Ilkbahar Mahallesi 15.Cadde
296. Sokak No: 8 06550 Yıldız
Cankaya, Ankara / Turkey
Tel: 00 90 312 491 95 30
Fax: 00 90 312 491 95 40
kerem.okumus@rec.org.tr

UK

DEFRA - Environment, Business and
Consumers Division

Mr Chris Thomas
6/D10 Ashdown House
123 Victoria Street
London SW1D 6DE
Tel: 00 44 20 70 82 86 70
Fax: 00 44 20 79 44 65 59
chris.thomas@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.environmentawards.net

RSA - The Royal Society for the
encouragement of Arts, Manufactures
& Commerce

Mr Simon Fordham
RSA Bristol Centre - Room 25,
St Matthias Campus, UWE, Oldbury Court
Road, Fishponds, Bristol, BS16 2JP.
Tel: 00 44 117 328 4445
Fax: 00 44 117 902 8006
simon.fordham@rsa.org.uk
www.rsaaccreditation.org

About DG Environment of the European Commission

EU environment policy is a relatively young policy area, where a lot has been achieved since the 1970s. There are now more than 250 Directives and Regulations that deal with different aspects of the environment. The driving force behind all this has been the Commission's Directorate-General for the Environment. Its role is to assess the state of the environment, identify problems that can best be addressed at EU level and upon consultations with the broadest possible spectrum of stakeholders, propose and draft either legislation or voluntary instruments to protect the environment and human health.

The current Sixth Environment Action Programme (6th EAP), which runs until 2012, calls for a new, innovative approach to policy-making. It identifies four priority areas for action: climate change; nature and biodiversity; environment, health and quality of life; and management of natural resources and waste.

These priority areas are being translated into action through a series of "Thematic Strategies" which represent the next generation of environment policy-making. They are drawn up after a consultation process of several years, involving as many stakeholders as possible. They take a long term perspective up to 2020, cut across traditional policy areas to take a comprehensive, holistic view and pull all resources and actors together, at all levels of governance, to ensure proper implementation. Some contain a proposal for flexible framework legislation, others are more geared to improving the way existing legislation is implemented.

The constant decline in the diversity of Europe's biological species and their habitats, climate change, growing volumes of waste and over-exploitation of natural resources are some examples of the pressing issues. Environment policy has moved steadily up the Community agenda over the years. DG Environment's work remains all the more relevant and essential as events are proving it right.

Further information on DG ENV policies and actions can be found on the website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment>

