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Agenda and other issues

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As the EU Ecolabel scheme continually strives to limit environmental impact as well as risks to human health by restricting the use of hazardous substances in EU Ecolabel awarded products, ECHA's Inventory is a potentially useful resource.

The publication of the Inventory, by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), contains a compilation of over three million submission records addressing substances used in products throughout the European Union.

As more records are received from manufacturers and importers, the size of this database and the range of substances covered is likely to increase and could be used for identifying and disabling the use of particular potentially harmful substances in EU Ecolabel licensed products.

Please find more information on ECHA's Inventory [here](#).

Honouring Communication Award Winners & New French Licence Holders at Fair on Sustainable Tourism

The Hôtel des Ducs de Bourgogne, winner in the service provider category for the EU Ecolabel Communication Award 2011, was honoured during a ceremony held during the ECORISMO fair on sustainable tourism last month.

This year's fair brought together 3,000 professionals from across Europe for two days in Nantes, France. Held annually, the fair creates an informative forum with featured lectures and round table discussions on best practices and environmentally-responsible travel and networking opportunities for service providers involved in the sustainable tourism industry.

The EU Ecolabel Communication Award is intended to recognise the efforts of licence holders who have planned and successfully carried out exceptional promotional activities to extend public awareness of the EU Ecolabel. The Hôtel des Ducs de Bourgogne launched an impressive multimedia campaign, touching on both print and social media. The hotel was also featured on the French web television station, "le Journal de l'Ecotourisme," and hosted the week of Sustainable Development. Michele Galatola, Coordinator of the EU Ecolabel at the European Commission, presented the award in commendation of the hotel's efforts during this promotional campaign, which embodied the EU Ecolabel's vision and manifested concrete results for environmental sustainability. The hotel demonstrated how a top-quality hotel in the urban metropolis of Paris can reach high



EU Ecolabel Communication Award Ceremony at ECORISMO

environmental standards and communicate widely about the EU Ecolabel across multiple media platforms.

During the fair, the French Competent Body, AFNOR Certification, also recognised the numerous hotels and campsites that were awarded EU Ecolabel licences last year, by distributing certificates to these companies. This included 68 hotels in total during 2011—a large number that signals an ever increasing awareness on behalf of the hotel industry to provide accommodation services with less overall environmental impact. There are now 165 EU Ecolabel licensed tourist accommodation and campsite service providers in France. The increase over the course of last year represents a 68% boost in the service provider category for licence holders in throughout France.

Please find more information including profiles on the Hôtel des Ducs de Bourgogne and winners from other categories of the 2011 EU Ecolabel Communication Awards [here](#).

EU Ecolabel Communication Awards Ceremony in Barcelona

Two Spanish companies were also celebrated as winners of the EU Ecolabel Communication Awards 2011 in Barcelona. The ceremony was held at the Secretariat of Environment and Sustainability of the Government of Catalonia on 8 February 2012 for the two Spanish companies recognised for their impressive campaigns on the EU Ecolabel.

The award was jointly presented by Catalonian government officers and a representative from the European Commission, including the Secretary of Environment and Sustainability of the Government of Catalonia, the Director-General for Environmental Quality of the Government of Catalonia, Assumpta Farran, and Soledad Blanco, the Director for Sustainable Resources Management, Industry and Air at the Directorate-General Environment of the European Commission.

Proeco Químicas, a Catalonian cleaning products manufacturer and winner in the producer category, was honoured at the ceremony.

Proeco Químicas' innovative sticker campaign which focused on raising public awareness



Presentation of trophy for EU Ecolabel Communication Awards ceremony in Barcelona

about how businesses use ecological cleaning products, expanded beyond national borders to include promotion of the EU Ecolabel in countries such as Portugal, Slovenia, Poland, Lithuania, Romania, Norway, France and Belgium.

Although not an award winner, a "Special Mention" was given to the Galician company Alvarella Ecoturismo SL. Alvarella, a rural tourist hostel located in the Eume River region in Galicia, was acknowledged for its continued efforts to broadly promote the EU Ecolabel and environmental sustainability.

Please find factsheets detailing the strong points of the campaigns launched by Proeco Químicas, Alvarella and the others winners of Communication Awards [here](#).

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