

## In brief in this issue:

### Featured Articles

The EU Ecolabel shines at UK Charity Gala

**Company profile:** Danlind, a Danish detergent company multiplies awards for its actions in favour of the environment

### Agenda

24 September 2013: [Eco-conception: what are the tools that you can use to structure and assess your approach](#), Pérols, France

27-29 September 2013: [5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Advanced Design and Manufacture](#), Valencia, Spain

10-11 October 2013: [First edition of the Water and Sea Workshops](#), Barcelona, Spain

22 October 2013: [Forum on the Health effects from indoor air pollutants in modern offices](#), Brussels, Belgium

## The EU Ecolabel Shines at UK Charity Gala

The EU Ecolabel held a prominent place amongst celebrity entertainers at a Charity Gala and VIP event held in Leeds, UK on Sunday 1 September 2013. Headliners included, Merrill Osmond, lead singer of the famous 1970's group "The Osmonds", Jonathan

Merrill Osmond, Patron of the Fund). The Hearing Fund UK works to improve the quality of life of deaf children throughout the UK literally by "bringing music to their ears". It gives these children a chance to learn about music and compose, play and perform their own pieces, in itself a major achievement when many of them are struggling with major or total hearing loss. It helps them to develop the skills and confidence they will need throughout their lives.

The Gala evening provided a unique occasion to showcase the EU Ecolabel scheme whilst also facilitating networking opportunities for present Ecolabel licence holders Disposables Group UK (tissue paper) and Wooltex Ltd. (textiles) and past licence holder Aquados Ltd. (laundry detergents).

On a visit to the UK earlier this year, Merrill Osmond, Patron of the Fund, had the opportunity to visit Disposables Group UK at their production site in Meltham, West Yorkshire and see first-hand how EU Ecolabel products can make a difference.



*The EU Ecolabel scheme prominently featured in the Charity Gala Programme.*

Ansell, one of the UK's most admired tenors, the UK actor Shane Richie, TV presenter Fiona Philips and the Cast of the well-known New Jersey Nights and Boogie Nights shows.

The Gala event was hosted by the Hearing Fund UK, founded by Justin Osmond, who himself lives with a 90% hearing loss (son of

## The EU Ecolabel shines at UK Charity Gala Event



Disposables UK Group is a family-owned business, operating for 26 years, based in Meltham, near Huddersfield, West Yorkshire.

The company manufactures and distributes paper disposables and cleaning and hygiene products.

Disposables UK Group has worked

closely with the EU Ecolabel scheme since becoming the first UK paper converter in the away from home market to gain the prestigious EU Ecolabel certification on its Bay West® range of paper products. The Bay West® products were also chosen for supply in certain areas of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympics Games.

Emma Wood, Marketing Manager for Disposables UK Group says:

*"Since 2009, Disposables UK has held the EU Ecolabel on most of its Bay West® washroom consumable products. Having initially perceived the EU Ecolabel as a "nice to have" accreditation, it quickly became apparent that it was a fundamental part of our company growth resulting in 13-15% growth year-on-year on our certified products. Sustainability is the new buzz word and customers are demanding of products that align with their green attitude – we are able to supply products that fit with this ethos by holding the EU Ecolabel".*

Keen to hear about the EU Ecolabel and the work of the company, Merrill Osmond, Patron of the Hearing Fund UK, met members of the Board including Chairman, Diane Storer, Managing Director, David Burkill and Marketing Manager, Emma Wood. They gave a short presentation and showcased the Bay West® range, highlighting the stringent procedures they had to comply with to receive EU Ecolabel accreditation.

Commenting on the visit, Diane Storer said:

*"We work in close partnership with EU Ecolabel, so it is a privilege to welcome Merrill Osmond to Yorkshire on their behalf. Anyone who was around in the 70s will remember The Osmonds' as being an iconic group and his work in support of the two charities is inspirational".*



Merrill Osmond also took time out to visit Aquados Ltd, based in Normanton, near Wakefield in the UK. The company manufactures and distributes laundry detergents for both the UK and "away from home" market and are one of the region's most important manufacturers.

Although, no longer a current licence holder, the company was prominent in the European Union's Ecolabel scheme, promoting environmental excellence. Aquados Ltd. held the EU Ecolabel certification for its "Simply Sensitive" and "Simply Pure" range of products and is currently working to renew its licence under the new set of product group criteria.



Merrill and Justin Osmond met Gerry Hinton, CEO of Aquados Ltd, who gave a short presentation and highlighted the "Simply Sensitive" and "Simply Pure" product ranges, outlining the challenges of meeting the strict criteria set by the EU Ecolabel scheme.

Gerry Hinton of Aquados Ltd. with Justin Osmond



Merrill Osmond at Disposables Group UK



Commenting on the visit and his successful collaboration with the EU Ecolabel scheme, Gerry Hinton said:

*"It's wonderful to be associated with the EU Ecolabel and the work Merrill and Justin are doing in support of The UK Hearing Fund. I always admire people who are making a real difference to others' lives.*

*As a Company we have held our licence since 2007 and we were the first Company in the UK in the detergent sector to gain this accreditation. We strive to maintain the highest levels of environmental practices and are making huge changes in the market place by encouraging retailers in FMCG to adopt our unique range of products. I believe that eventually all consumers will move towards greener products and the EU Ecolabel are trying to promote this move. As a Company we are finding some large Corporates are now asking for the EU Ecolabel and will continue to develop new products in this ever demanding marketplace".*

Commenting on the EU Ecolabel scheme, Merrill Osmond says:

*"It was a pleasure to visit with local companies and to have the EU Ecolabel present at our Gala event. The EU Ecolabel does a great job in its work to help protect our environment. It is all too easy to forget about how important that is when we live in a predominantly disposable age. It is good to see a scheme like the EU Ecolabel making such a difference".*



From left to right: Justin Osmond, Tom Osmond, Merrill Osmond & Shane Osmond proudly highlight the EU Ecolabel logo.

## Company Profile: Danlind, a Danish detergent company multiplies awards for its actions in favour of the environment

**Danlind**, one of the largest Danish detergent and cleaning agents company, has bared the EU Ecolabel for more than 10 years. With three manufacturing sites in Denmark, they are able to distribute their EU Ecolabelled detergents worldwide. Danlind products can be found in various European countries, USA, Canada, Japan, India, Sri Lanka, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Ukraine and the Baltic countries.

Long-standing EU Ecolabelled licence-holding companies such as Danlind undergo licence renewals to verify and protect the integrity of their EU Ecolabelled products. Some requirements that detergent companies must adhere to are: demonstrating the detergent's reduced impact on the aquatic environment, such as its limited effect on algae growth in water, and reduced packaging. This renewal process ensures customers that there is conformity among all licence holders regardless of when the company's product was initially granted the EU Ecolabel.

Danlind stays connected with the public through their participation in worldwide exhibitions and trade shows, along with customer visits and distributing offers and news via mailing lists. According to the company, the EU Ecolabel provides the means for customers to identify regulated "green" products.

The company's commitment to the environment constantly evolves. 2006 was marked by their introduction into the "Sustainable Cleaning" charter, run by the European representative for detergent and cleaning agent manufacturers (A.I.S.E). The purpose of the Charter is to promote sustainable practices in the industry. As part of the scheme, Danlind is regularly audited on the compliance of its environmental and quality systems with the Charter.

In 2008, Danlind won the European Award for Environment in the category of Green Products, promoting their cold-water detergent, which can reduce energy consumption by 60%. Danlind additionally complies to the Bra Miljöval Swedish Ecolabel, the Nordic Swan Ecolabel, and its website is a certified CO2 neutral website.

Danlind is an exemplary model of EU Ecolabelled detergent companies that prioritizes their environmental initiatives without compromising the performance and quality of their products.



### Agenda of Events

#### 24 September 2013, Pérols, France

[Eco-conception: what are the tools that you can use to structure and assess your approach](#)

Workshop conducted by AFNOR Group, structured to encourage participants to discover the design phase for products and services.

#### 27-29 September 2013, Valencia, Spain

[5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Advanced Design and Manufacture](#)

Cover topics in the design and manufacturing engineering area with the opportunity for any abstracts/proposals presented at conference to be referred to international journals.

#### 10-11 October 2012, Barcelona, Spain

[First edition of the Water and Sea Workshops](#)

How to overcome challenges on managing resources and universal access to water and how to reinforce global governance in this sector.

#### 22 October 2013, Brussels, Belgium

[Forum on the Health effects from indoor air pollutants in modern offices](#)

Topic: "How to facilitate the reduction of health effects from combined exposure to indoor air pollutants in modern offices".

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