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Improving your environmental and business performance

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In this section, Competent and Accreditation Bodies, the Commission, the EMAS Helpdesk and other organisations have the opportunity to advertise seminars, conferences, reports, studies and any other EMAS related issues. Please note that the EMAS Helpdesk cannot check every information in this section. Additional information should be asked from the contact persons directly.

Latest News (last updated 19 June 2006)

Stadiums in Munich and in Nuremberg registered under EMAS for FIFA World Cup

Following the Franken-Stadion in Nuremberg, the Allianz Arena in Munich has now been EMAS registered for their modern approach to environmental management. Management teams in both stadiums intend to set an example in terms of environmental protection since 600,000 foreign visitors are expected. From energy and water savings to waste reduction, systems for rainwater seepage and refusal of wood from tropical forest in the stadium interior, extensive measures were taken to reduce costs and at the same time increase sustainability. For example, in the stadium of Munich, energy savings reach up to 50% due to the installation of energy-saving lamps, motion detectors in stairways and the players' area and regulated air conditioning. For 2006 and 2007 further savings of 5% in energy and 3% in water consumption are planned.

For more information on the stadium in Munich please visit http://greengoal.fifaworldcup.yahoo.net/en/news/details.php?id=105 and for Nuremberg http://greengoal.fifaworldcup.yahoo.net/en/news/details.php?id=71

500th EMAS registration recorded in Italy

Since 2006 Italy has noted a significant growth in EMAS registrations by more than 30 % annually, including the highest number of new local authorities registered under EMAS and a series of innovative EMAS LIFE projects. In May the EMAS and Ecolabel Committee of Italy added Pasquale Vena & Figli Amaro Lucano SpA., located at Pisticci (MT), as the 500th EMAS registered organisation to the Italian register. Over the last three years the number of registrations has exceeded former registration rates by more than 250% year on year. Businesses constantly show high interest and consider EMAS the top management system to guarantee improved performance. Italian EMAS officials including Pino Lucchesi, president of the EMAS and Ecolabel Committee, are satisfied by how Italy proves that growth of EMAS registrations is manageable given sufficient state support and strong networking, both on a national and regional level. For further information please visit the Italian EMAS and Ecolabel web-site

Green Week 2006: EMAS registered organisations Aceria Compacta de Bizkaia SA, Volkswagen and City of Copenhagen win European Business Award for the Environment

The European Business Award for the Environment is awarded biannually for outstanding contributions to sustainable development achieved by companies and local authorities. The award is presented in four categories: products, processes, management and international collaboration. EMAS registered organisation Volkswagen AG (Germany) was awarded for its environmentally friendly processes and technologies and received the first prize for the development of an industrial process to recycle secondary raw material from scrapped old cars. The second prize of the management award for businesses which continually and significantly improve their environmental performance is shared between General Electric Hungary Ltd Light Source Factory (Hungary) and the EMAS registered company Aceria Compacta de Bizkaia SA from Spain for its measures in environmental management and a system to monitor pollution. Another EMAS registered organisation -the City of Copenhagen-received the European Mobility Award for their interpretation of this year's motto "clever commuting": Copenhagen tested new concepts and traffic plans which improved car sharing during the Mobility Week and cleared the City centre for pedestrians and bikers for three days. Please find further information here

Conference on EMAS at German Universities and Colleges

On 31 May 2006 the German Environmental Verification Committee (UGA) and the University of Bremen held a conference in Bremen, Germany to discuss experiences and challenges of EMAS at research and educational institutions. The first college in Germany was registered under EMAS in 1999. Today there are ten universities and more than 100 other educational facilities using the scheme. Universities and Colleges play an important role as multipliers for the implementation of environmental management systems among enterprises and other organisations. Topics such as "how Universities could strengthen their role in developing and testing environmental management and sustainability

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instruments" and "how it could transfer own management experiences into outside practice" were part of the agenda. In Bremen the University, College and three R&D institutes use the Eco-Audit Scheme to check the environmental aspects of all estates, services and activities. "Bremen has the highest density of EMAS-registered R&D organisations. This demonstrates a very high innovation potential in environmentally sound research and teaching. We hope that the positive examples will encourage more organisations to introduce the scheme", said Dr. Michael Schemmer, chairman of UGA. The results are now published at: http://www.uga.de/?warp=archiv&b=7 Information on EMAS at the University of Bremen in German is available on http://www.ums.uni-bremen.de

EMAS promotional material now available in Polish

The consortium LEMTECH Konsulting Sp z.o.o, Royal Haskoning and SEI implemented two Phare projects "Implementation of EMAS in Poland" and "Promotion of EMAS in Poland" together with the Polish Ministry of Environment between December 2004 and December 2005. Considering access to up to date information tailor-made for the relevant local sectors as key to inspire the uptake of EMAS in businesses and local authorities, these two projects aimed at promoting a high uptake of EMAS in Poland and published four manuals on EMAS in Polish language: EMAS -Przewodnik, EMAS -Poradnik dla administracji (in public administration), EMAS -Poradnik dla organizacji (in organisations), EMAS – Manual for verifiers. A film "Time for EMAS" was produced and a number of EMAS promotion posters and leaflets were published and distributed to interested organizations.

All manuals can be downloaded from this web-site. For more information please also visit http://www.emas-polska.pl/index en.html

LIFE Project for EMAS in Local Authorities in the new Member States (NEST) publishes first Newsletter

EMAS is a fresh challenge in the new Member States, in particular for local authorities. Recent projects such as EMAS Cities induced interest and encouraged many local authorities to take the first steps towards a certified management system. The EU Life funded NEST Project will introduce EMAS to a network of 10 local authority partners in Poland, Hungary and Greece. The project provides hands-on measures and procedures to implement EMAS effectively, e.g. a guide book on the implementation of EMAS for small and under resourced authorities, best practice case studies to set international benchmarks and verification of the participating local authorities. Broad information dissemination to all local authorities in the EU is part of the strategy and the project's first newsletter is available http://www.emasnetwork.org/

New in Europe: Club of EMAS organisations in Catalonia (Spain)

The EMAS Club, created on 6 June 2006, consists of 37 organisations, all registered with the Catalonian Competent Body. The creation of such a Club is unique in Europe and renews opportunities for the environment, the economy and the companies to work together closely. The EMAS registered organisations in Catalonia realised that the Club was a necessary tool to represent them and could help them to have a voice when dealing with the administration and other social and economic stakeholders. With this in mind and with the support of the Ministry of Environment and Habitat, the new association will look for solutions to common issues encountered by all organisations, such as issues linked to public procurement or the integration of EMAS in sectoral standards. Please find more information https://www.revisioemas.net

Seminar on EMAS in Romania

In cooperation with the Romanian Ministry of Environment and Water Management, the Technical Assistance Information Exchange instrument of the European Commission organised a seminar on EMAS in Bucharest, Romania. The aim of the two-day meeting was to share experience on the implementation and application of EMAS and to assist its setting up by delivering short-term technical assistance to the relevant Romanian authorities and parties involved. The agenda included: initiating a consultative process between the target groups, improving the authorities' activities related to EMAS and assisting in issues related to the provisions of the EMAS Regulation.

Source: http://taiex.cec.eu.int/

EMAS in the European Parliament

During the Green Week an information and awareness campaign on EMAS activities in the European Parliament was launched in the EP buildings in Brussels. An EMAS information stand provided brochures and leaflets about EMAS in the Parliament. Representatives of the EMAS Coordination team were present to answer questions on EMAS and presented short films on EMAS and environmental issues in general. In addition visitors had the opportunity to browse the EMAS website. As part of further information activities EMAS Seminars will be open to the public in Luxembourg and Brussels on 20-21 June 2006.



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