



## CERC ENVIS



Vol. 01, No. 01

July - September 2006



### Contents

- Foreward
- 1 Participation of Chairman Emeritus, CERC in International Seminar Held in Manila
- 2 The power of eco-friendly food labels.
- 4 Tubelights : Testing Brief
- 6 International Experience : Study tour under project for promotion of consumer advisory for environmental friendly products by CERC personnel
- 7 Blue Angel (Germany)
- 8 Permanent European Eco-label Museum  
Environmental Labels Worldwide

Sponsored by:  
**Ministry of Environment and Forests. Government of India**  
ENVIS Center on:  
**Eco Labeling and Eco friendly products**

## Foreward

*E*co labels play an important role in policy frameworks to implement sustainable consumption. They exist to reward and promote environmentally superior goods and services and offer information on quality and performance with respect to issues such as health and energy consumption. In India, Ministry of Environment & Forest launched the "Ecomark" ecolabel in 1991 making India the first developing country to in-tegrate an eco-labelling programme into its environmental policy. India is also one of few countries that also award their labels to food products. But the sad part of the initiative taken by Ministry is that Ecomark scheme remained as a non starter. Even after almost fifteen years since its inception, there have been no efforts of streamling the promotion of the eco-label and co-ordition of promotion of the label.



Consumer organizations can play an important role in initiating and advocacing change in consumption patterns, and have the means to provide consumers with information that allows them to make informed choice. CERC has an independent laboratory. It tests consumer products (Food, Pharmaceuticals, Cosmetics and Domestic Electrical appliances) that focus on health, safety and performance aspects taking into account environmental and social concerns.

After the up gradation of the Node into a Centre, we bring out this first issue of the newsletter which gives the information about first hand ex-perience of CERC's by undertaking international study tour for the promotion of consumer advisory for environmental friendly products and participation of Chairman Emeritus, CERC in international seminar on "Regional Cross-learning on sustainable consumption" held at Manila in 2005.

This quarterly brings to its readers information on world's first eco-labeling programme "Blue Angle" and news on eco-labeling programmes.

**Manubhai Shah**  
Chairman Emeritus. CERC.



### Editorial Team

Pritee Shah  
(Project Coordinator)

C. G. Pandya  
(Project Consultant)

Design & Graphics  
Siddhartha Mukherjee

### Published by:

#### Consumer Education and Research Center

"Suraksha Sankool" Thaltej,  
Sarkhej-Gandhinagar Highway  
Ahmedabad 380 054,  
Gujarat, India.  
Phone : 079-27489945/46,  
27450528, 30121001-02-03,  
30123009  
Fax : 079-27489947  
Email : cerc@cercindia.org  
Website. www.cercindia.org

## *Participation of Chairman Emeritus, CERC in International Seminar Held in Manila*

The future rapid growth in consumption levels across Asia and the potential devastating impacts on the regional environment was the focus of an international seminar on "Regional Cross - Learning on Sustainable Consumption" held at Manila during 15-17 March 2005. It was the occasion for an exchange of experiences on best practices on Sustainable Consumption and an exercise in developing National Action Plans on SC.

Over 80 participants from 12 Asian countries India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, China, Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Lao PDR and 4 European countries took part in this, as part of the "SC. Asia Project" focus on Capacity building for Implementation of the UN Guidelines on Sustainable Consumption.

Representatives from Governments, business and civil society had discussed how plans and activities to promote sustainable consumption can be put into practice.

At the opening session of the seminar, Mr. Michael T. Defensor, Minister of Environment, Philippines, delivered a keynote address highlighting the importance of sustainable consumption. He mentioned that sustainable consumption is an important area to address as it is linked to other national priorities such as deforestation, which is of high concern in the Philippines. Mr. Frank Hess, European Commission, (First Secretary, EC Delegation to Philippines) stressed the need to identify the most appropriate policy tools to promote sustainable consumption, including advertising and marketing with a positive and cool message. Mrs. Wei Zhao (UNEP ROAP) gave the welcome remarks and Ms. Adriana Zacarias (UNEP DTIE) made a presentation on the UN Guidelines and the SC. Asia project.

During the meeting, the project partners, Center for Environment and Development (CED), Consumers International (CI) and the Danish Consumer Council, presented the results of the Asian and European

reviews on the implementation of the UN Guidelines on Sustainable Consumption. Participants presented some national case studies and best practices on SC: Thailand presented a successful project on education on energy efficiency that was implemented in more than 50 schools in the country. The Philippines presented their experience with eco-labeling, and India presented a project on Impartial Product Testing. Representatives of India presented case studies on Comparative Testing Products in India. Participant from India were Gopal Kumar Jain of CEE from Ahmedabad, Dr. Roopa Vajpeyi of VOICE, New Delhi, Mr. K. P. Nyati from CII, Ms. Priya Ajit Singh from Govt. of India and Prof. Manubhai Shah from CERC, Ahmedabad. Prof. Manubhai Shah, Consumer Education & Research Centre, Ahmedabad, Gujarat was invited to present his views on "Comparative Testing of Consumer Products in India". Testing is a crucial to the protection of the consumer rights. It serves as a powerful link between consumers, government and manufacturers ensuring that the information given is reliable and follows certain safety, health and environmental standards according to the national and / or international regulations. Comparative testing can be beneficial to consumers since it provides information that allow them to have more value for money. It gives consumers information on only selected aspect of a product.

For this reason, there is a need to broaden testing efforts that focus on the health, safety and performance aspect taking into account environmental and social concern. In particular, testing for sustainability criteria would involve testing of issues along whole life cycle of a product and / or service. Comparative testing supplies consumers with more holistic and meaningful information.

Consumer Education and Research Centre has setup in 1994 a testing laboratory for comparative testing, ranking and rating of consumer products, initially for food pharmaceutical and household electrical appliances. It has also setup an energy efficiency testing laboratory in the year 2002. CERC is testing consumer products from health and safety point of view and provides consumers with unbiased information on the characteristics of these products thus enabling to make informed choices.

Uchita De Zoysa Exe. Director of Centre for Environment and Development presented Asian review on sustainable consumption. The twelve Asian countries were under review to evaluate status of Sustainable Consumption Achievements in Asia. He has presented the example of CERC under "Impartial Product Testing" for setting up of in house testing laboratory to carry out independent product testing.

The second day focused on training on specific SC tools, such as awareness and education campaigns, and public green procurement. The third day was built around an exercise on the National Action Plans (NAP) on Sustainable Consumption. UNEP presented the model that was developed to assist countries to design and implement National Action Plans on sustainable consumption. Based on this model, each country prepared a mock-up national NAP, which focused on specific sectors or products. The aim of the exercise was to get the country teams started on thinking how to draft real NAPs. During the meeting, UNEP invited countries to consider how UNEP and partners can assist the countries in adopting real action plans. The participants also provided important feedback to the exercise, as well to the whole seminar. Based on the outcome from the seminar, SC. Asia will develop a guidance manual on NAP on Sustainable Consumption

Delegates had reviewed ways and means to minimize the negative environmental and social effects of rapidly increasing consumption levels in Asia while at the same time ensuring that the poor regions get access to products and services to achieve an improved life quality.

The three day meeting was part of the SC. Asia project, an initiative coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and funded by the European Unions Asia Pro Eco Programme.

The project partners were UNEP, Consumers International, The Danish Consumers Council and the Centre for Environment and Development (Sri Lanka). They will review a range of approaches in Europe (Denmark, France, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdoms) and Asia (Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka,

Thailand, and Vietnam) and together with government officials from Europe and Asia synthesize the findings into a guidance manual.

## *The Power of eco-friendly food labels*



Recent research work carried out at the Trollhättan/Uddevalla University College in Sweden suggests that, although consumers feel a commitment towards the environment, this is not enough to make them choose eco-labelled food products.

According to research by researcher Gunne Grankvist at Trollhättan/Uddevalla University College, products that are eco-marked are chosen primarily by those who are already converted.' On the other hand, negative eco-labeling, which does not exist today, could persuade consumers across the board to avoid those products that are most harmful to the environment.

His research targets attitudes and values from a psychological perspective, with a special focus on people's feelings about eco-labeling. The study also closely considered the connection between people's opinions and their behavior.

The results of his study indicate that positive labeling (that is, that the product is better than other similar products with regard to environmental impact) functions best for those who are already convinced of the importance of environmental issues. Those who choose environmentally labeled alternatives of foods like milk, bread, meat, and potatoes place greater emphasis on the purchase criterion 'good for the environment' and 'good for your own health.' The more often a consumer chooses environmentally friendly products, the greater the commitment he or she feels. These consumers also have more favorable opinions about other features of eco-labeled products, such as their taste.

Gunne Grankvist's research also shows that negative labeling, which signals that a product is worse than average with regard to environmental impact,' would

prompt a larger group of consumers to take action. In general people react more towards negative information than positive, said Gunne Grankvist. There is great potential in this labeling that is not made use of today, to get more consumers to choose products that are the least harmful to the environment. However, the question is whether negative eco-

labeling is possible. That is a political issue.

Gunne Grankvist's dissertation, entitled Determinants of Choice of Eco-Labeled Products, is part of a multidisciplinary research project on sustainable production of foodstuffs.

[Http://www.foodnavigator.com/news/ng.asp?id=45494-the-power-of](http://www.foodnavigator.com/news/ng.asp?id=45494-the-power-of)

## **Comparative Testing of Energy Consumption of Various Domestic Electric Appliances and Lighting Products**

Consumer Education and Research Centre has in-house consumer product testing laboratory-the first of its kind in India. It is testing consumer products in the areas of food, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and household electrical appliances. CERC has extended tests which include environmental parameters also.

Looking to the need of highly energy efficient appliances available in the market, Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) has been established by Ministry of Power and CERC has been co-opted as a member in the BEE committee and we are giving valuable suggestion and data to BEE.

It is the only consumer organization in Asia except Japan which is equipped with an in-house and independent comparative product testing laboratory for evaluation, rating and ranking of consumer goods.

We as a Consumer Product Comparative Testing Laboratory work towards the interest of consumers. We are purchasing samples after making correspondence with various Consumer Groups and Regional Offices of BIS all over the India. We are purchasing the test samples directly from the market

from authorized dealers / reputed shops like a common consumer.

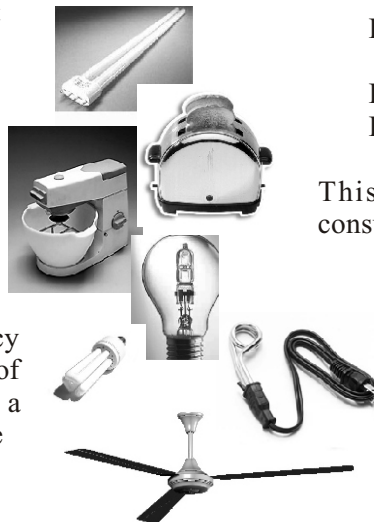
CERC has added a new dimension of Energy Efficiency Testing Laboratory (EETL) for industrial, commercial and domestic electrical appliances. The above category of products shall be tested for their.

- I. minimum level of energy consumption
- II. maximum efficiency
- III. stand-by losses

This will further help Indian consumers to purchase preferably energy efficient appliances and industries in adopting clean technology and certified environment management systems and will ultimately encourage them to produce / manufacture energy-efficient products.

We have published comparative test results as per relevant standards including energy parameters for following electrical products in our "INSIGHT The Consumer Magazine".

- I. Electric immersion water heaters
- II. Food mixers
- III. Compact fluorescent lamps
- IV. Ceiling fans and Electronic fan regulators
- V. Electric Pop-up Toasters
- VI. 36W & 40W Tubelights  
60W GLS Bulbs



## 36W TUBELIGHTS Get More Light, Save Money

The cost of power consumption has always been a major concern to consumers. The industry too is responding to the concern - and the growing awareness. Now, if we think that just switching from a bulb to a tubelight is a good decision, there is one more option - 36W "slim" tubelights. These are even more of a power saver than the conventionally used 40W tubelights. And they give the same amount or even more light too.

Both 36W and 40W tubelights can be used in the same fixtures or patti fittings with the same chokes and starters.

Brands Tested:

Bajaj, Osram, Surya - HBT Slimlite, Crompton Super Saver XLR-36, Anchor Slimline, Wipro Slimlite and Philips Slimlite.

### **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS):**

Tubelights are covered neither under the Quality Control Order (QCO) nor under the mandatory certification of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). However, since all the manufacturers went for voluntary certification and the BIS mark, we carried out the test as per the BIS Standards: BIS 2418-1977 (Part-1) with 4 amendments; BIS 2418-1977 (Part-2) with 2 amendments; BIS 2418-1977 (Part-3) with 1 amendment; and BIS 2418-1977 (Part-4).

### **Better Than 40W**

A 36W tubelight is better than a 40W tubelight because it consumes less power, gives you more light and thus saves more money. The lighting industry, responding to the consumer's concern over heavy power consumption, has now come up with this new, highly efficient 36W 'slim' tubelight.

As per the Indian Standard's physical specifications for the 36W 'slim' tubelight, its maximum diameter should be 28mm against 40.5mm of the 40W tubelight. Thus, the reduced diameter, the

construction differences and the gas used make 36W tubelights more efficient and better than the 40W tubelights.

What's more, we can replace a 40W tubelight with a 36W 'slim' tubelight retaining the same fixture, starter, choke and all.

### **Slim Tubelights : How Much Do We Save?**

There are three ways to look comparatively at how much tubelights and bulbs cost: (1) life of lamps vs tubelights; (2) amount of light output from lamps and tubelights; and (3) how much you save on electricity consumption.

Switching from a 100W bulb to the new range of 36W tubelights, which give twice as much light output, renders a saving of about 60 per cent a huge saving in terms

of energy consumed and the cost. Again, replacing a 40W tubelight with a 36W one will directly save 4W, i.e. Rs. 40.88 a year.

The average life of 100W incandescent bulbs is about 1000 hours while that of 40/36W tubelights is about 2000 hours as per their relevant Indian Standards.

Any household will have a minimum of four tubelights. The energy cost a year on four 40W tubelights kept on for an average 7 hours a day is Rs. 1635.2. The energy cost a year on the same number of 36W tubelights for the same period is Rs. 1471.68. Therefore, the saving in energy cost a year by the replacement of 40W tubelights by 36W is Rs. 163.52. That means, one tubelight saves us Rs. 40.88 per year.

Efficiency

The tubelight that consumes the least amount of power but gives the maximum light is the most efficient one. Higher efficacy means lower energy consumption and thus lower energy bills. The ideal efficacy of a 36W tubelight is 67.36. Only one brand, Bajaj, could meet the ideal efficacy level, and go beyond. Bajaj (2425 lumens) recorded the highest at 67.57, followed by Osram (2425 lumens) at 66.86. However, the BIS does not specify this test.



### Life Test

To see how long the 36W tubelights last, the samples were kept on, even when all the 7 brands complied with the specified test requirements of 2000 hours. Some brands are working even after 3000 hours. The 5000-hour test is on hand as per the 'scope' of BIS 2418 (part 1): 1977 (Amendment 3). CERC has decided to conduct an extended life on the conforming brands up to 5,000 hours and is under progress and will be shortly published.

### Initial Lumen

Lumen is the measurement of light output. The BIS specifies that for a 36W tubelight, whose rated lumen is 2425, the initial light output should not be less than 2231 lumens; and for rated lumens of 2450, it will not be less than 2254.

This test required 15 samples of each brand. Though all the 7 brands of 36W conformed to the specification, 4 samples of Anchor Slimline (rated lumens=2425) recorded an initial lumen between 2173 and 2209, less than the specified initial light output.

However, as per the BIS, a batch shall be called non-conforming if more than 4 samples do not comply with the requirements. Bajaj (rated lumens=2425) recorded the highest range of initial lumen from 2444 to 2537 lumens.

### Lumen Maintenance (Lumen after 2000 hours)

The tubelights have to not only last long but also give good quality of light so long as they last. According to the Standards, lumen ratio after 2000 hours to the initial lumen shall not be less than 85 per cent. The test required 10 samples of each brand. All brands conformed. The highest average lumen maintenance found in the 36W tubelights was 91.05 per cent in Anchor Slimline and 90.74 per cent in Bajaj.

### Chokes

Switching to electronic chokes with 36W tubelights from the conventional electromagnetic chokes saves us considerable energy. Also variations in power consumed by tubelights can be minimised, irrespective of large voltage fluctuations.

\* As 230 V is the normal voltage available in residential areas, the cost of energy consumption /year is given at test voltage of 230 V and is calculated by considering a tariff rate of Rs. 4/KWh for two 36W tubelights used for 4 hours per day.

\* The cost of energy consumption per year of the electromagnetic choke [copper and polyester (aluminum)] is compared with that of the electronic choke. **The cost of energy consumption per year of a tubelight with the electronic choke is found to be the lowest (i.e. 327.60, while the purchase cost is Rs. 220 per piece).**

The table below clearly shows that though the cost of

Calculate your savings					
Type of Choke	*Cost of energy consumption per year (In Rs.)	Cost of purchase per Choke (In Rs.)	Difference in cost of purchase with electronic choke (In Rs.)	*Saving in energy bills/year with electronic choke (In Rs.)	Pay-back period from using electronic choke (In months) (approx.)
Copper	08.14	130.00	90.00	180.54	12 Months
Polyester (Aluminum)	522.75	110.00	110.00	195.15	13 months and 16 days



the electronic choke is a little higher than that of the electromagnetic choke, this needs to be paid **only once**, but the energy costs have to be paid every month throughout the life of the product.

Hence, if the initial cost is higher, that difference can be recovered within a short time as shown in the pay-back period from the savings in energy bills.

The cost of power consumption has always been a major concern to consumers. Switching from a bulb to a tubelight is a good decision, there is one more option the use of electronic chokes with 36W tubelights.

CERC tested the tubelights' ratings for the consumption of energy with electronic chokes. This test is not specified in IS 2418-1977. There is a higher saving of energy with the use of electronic chokes than with electromagnetic chokes. The purchase cost of electronic chokes is a little higher but can be recovered within about 12 months because the utilisation cost of electronic chokes is much less. (Low power consumption = less electricity bill)

#### **Best Buys**

Since there was not much difference found in the prices of the brands, CERC has based its Best Buys on

the overall performance scores.

Bajaj scored the highest followed by Osram and Surya HBT respectively.

Details of rating and ranking and the 'Best Buys' have been published in the July-August 2005 issue of INSIGHT - The Consumer Magazine published by Consumer Education & Research Centre, Ahmedabad.

**insight**  
THE CONSUMER MAGAZINE

**36 W TUBELIGHTS TESTED**

**SAVE MONEY**

**BEST BUY Bajaj**  
Bajaj scored the highest with 98

**BEST BUY Osram** is the second highest scorer with 91

**BEST BUY Surya HBT** is the third highest scorer with 74

### ***International Experience by undertaking study tour under project for Promotion of consumer advisory for environmental friendly products by CERC personnel***

**P**roduction & Consumption have a serious impact on Environment: products are made, often use energy, and are finally disposed of. By judging the environmental impacts of products, it is possible to reduce the environmental damage they cause. But consumers are rarely in a position to judge, from their own experience, the environmental impact of the products they use.

Consumer organizations can play an important role in initiating and advocating change in consumption patterns, and have means to provide consumer with information that allows them to make informed choice.

To strengthen CERC's infrastructure on environment friendly product testing in India under Indo-German Bilateral Agreement 1994, GTZ, a German organisation has provided financial assistance. For promotion of Consumer advisory for environmental friendly products, a study tour had been undertaken by two technical persons of CERC in the month of May - June' 05. It was organised by IP Institute for Project Planning, Germany. The main

objective of study tour was to enhance the capabilities of CERC in the field of setting up Environmental friendly product testing laboratory and to see the facilities, study methods of analysis and have a personal first hand view of the latest and modern equipments in use in various laboratory in Germany, which are used specially for environmental friendly testing of various products specifically foods and electrical appliances.

The nature & field of study tour was to know more about the testing of food & electrical goods to get a wider exposure about the testing methods, standards, impact of environmental friendly measures on the pollution level, the eco-friendly energy consumption labels. Interaction with various scientists and technologists involved in eco-testing of products and functioning of different laboratories for electrical appliances. They have separate laboratories for testing different appliances and have facilities for testing the measurement of noise and vibration generated during their use.

They have visited federal environmental agency which awards the world's first eco-logo "Blue Angle" to consumer products which are environment friendly. It was established in 1977 to promote environmentally sound products.

"Blue Angle" mark has currently borne by 3700 products in 80 product categories. These include paper products, furniture, electrical devices & appliances, paint varnish sanitary and hygiene products and as well as products used in the horticulture and landscape gardening, building and interior design, transportation & services. They are also going to consider IT products. Increased energy efficiency is key to sustainable development. Priorities should be given to home energy use, cooking, heating, and lighting, being made more energy efficient, and lowering the energy input in materials making eco-system more efficient. Consumer organizations can play a role in encouraging Government and industry to adopt policies & methods that will promote sustainable consumption.

## Blue Angel (Germany)

The world's first eco-labeling program, Blue Angel, was created in 1977 to promote environmentally-sound products, relative to others in the same group categories.

The label is composed of a blue figure with outstretched arms surrounded by a blue ring with a laurel wreath. A standard inscription, "Umweltzeichen" (environmental label) is at the top of the logo, and a second inscription for the individual product group is found at the bottom.



This eco-label relies on information and voluntary cooperation, as well as on the motivation and the willingness of each individual to make a contribution towards environmental protection. The Blue Angel is addressed at all market players, enabling retailers and consumers to make deliberate choices in favour of environmentally-sound alternatives. Once approved, eco-labeled products are reviewed every two or three years to reflect state-of-the-art developments in ecological technology and product design.

Eighty product groups have been identified, with over 3700 products approved by the Umweltbundesamt (German Environmental Protection Agency), the official assessment agency.

The success story of the Blue Angel has now continued for almost 29 years. About 3.700 products and services from approximately 580 label users in Germany and abroad are entitled to bear the Blue Angel.

The Eco-Label Jury, composed of industry, environmental associations, trade unions, churches and public authorities, scrutinizes product groups twice yearly. The criteria for awarding the Blue Angel includes: the efficient use of fossil fuels, alternative products with less of an impact on the climate, reduction of greenhouse gas emission, and conservation of resources.

### Benefits for industry, trade and crafts companies

The Blue Angel offers industry, trade and crafts companies the opportunity to document their environmental competence in a simple and inexpensive way for all to see.

By using the Environmental Label, they can significantly increase the competitive market potential for their products and services. The Blue Angel makes a difference. Industry can use the Blue Angel as a modern marketing instrument in their communication and thus give their product a competitive advantage.

### *Benefits for consumers*

The benefits of the Blue Angel for consumers are clear: they are given practical guidance to help them considerably in their selection and their decisions on what to buy. The Blue Angel provides much of what consumers want. For example, the Blue Angel helps consumers to save money because they decide to buy products with an excellent quality and a long service life or by simply saving energy.

<http://www.ns.ec.gc.ca/g7/eco-ger.html>

### *The Flower*

In the Winter Olympic Games Turin 2006 Press Conference with Commissionaire Dimas At a press conference that took place on 12 January 2006, Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas congratulated the representatives of the Turin 2006 Winter Olympics Organising Committee (TOROC) for applying the EU environmental voluntary tools (EU Eco-label, EMAS and Green Public Procurement) at all stages of the Winter Olympic Games, from the planning to the execution of work at the Olympic sites.

During the last year, TOROC has promoted the European Eco-label scheme, in the area of the Winter Olympic Games. Twelve hotels in the region have been granted the Flower label so far. EU Eco-labeled accommodation is being made available through the official accommodation website of the Turin Winter Olympic Games 2006.

In addition, the main Media Village, which will serve

as a student residence after the Games, is in the process of being awarded with the European Eco-label as an example of how to address the sustainable use of facilities once the event is over.

The Media Village has been designed and is being managed to meet the European Eco-label criteria for reduced energy and water consumption, reduced waste production, bio-architectural characteristics, the use of renewable resources and of substances which are less hazardous to the environment.

TOROC also made use of the Eco-label criteria for the implementation of its Green Procurement policy. For instance, all the environmental publications of the Committee are printed on an eco-labeled paper, as well as the tissue paper used in the venues. TOROC will continue raising awareness of the Flower during the Winter Olympic Games, which start on 10 of February 2006.

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/ecolabel/news/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/ecolabel/news/index_en.htm)

### *Permanent European Eco-label Museum*

Created with the contribution of Life Cycle Engineering, SPACE (Sustainable Production and Consumption Centre - Environment Park in Torino) and the European Union, the European Eco-label museum is a quite original initiative. With its informative panels, its exhibition of eco-labeled products and the possibility to visit internet sites about energy efficiency (ecological advices useful to save energy and to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases) this museum really aims to help consumers, producers, interested parties and opinion leaders

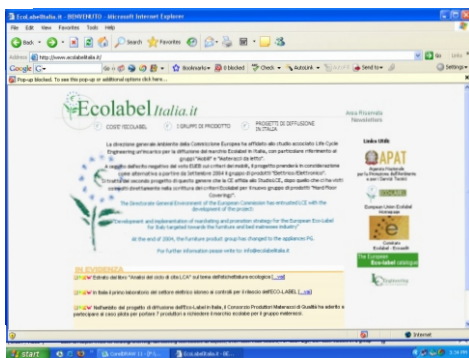
The EU Eco-label museum has been inaugurated the 3rd of June 2004 at the Environment Park (Via Livorno, 60) in Turin.

The Environment Park is devoted to environmental technologies. Its primary purpose is to promote the development of applied environmental research and facilitate the integration of environmental variables and factors into the processes of production, bringing the worlds of research and business together.

The visitors of the EU Eco-label museum have the

opportunity to receive information on the EU Eco-label rationale, on the existing eco-labeled products, and on responsible consumption habits.

This is the Eco-label tree: whose fruits are constituted by eco-labeled products available both in Italy and in Europe. It shows the real application of the products and encourages the consumers to look for existing eco-labeled products on the market.



More pictures and a "virtual journey" of the museum are available online ([www.ecolabelitalia.it](http://www.ecolabelitalia.it)).

The museum can be visited by everyone, it is adapted to students of every school degree: from primary school pupils, up to university students and of course for the whole family!

*A good way to have fun and learn for a better future!*

## Consumer Education and Research Center ( CERC )

Established in 1978, Consumer Education and Research Center (CERC) is a non-political, non-profit making a voluntary consumer organizations registered under the Bombay Public Trust Act. It is mainly devoted to the promotion and protection of consumer interest through complain handling, publication, legal research, media advocacy and effective uses of legal processes. The activities also encompass environment and investor protection. It is recognized as a research institute by Govt. of India and also recognised as consumer organization by the state of Gujarat.

For consultation and support to professional research, CERC has an exclusive consumer library with a rich collection of over 15000 documents. Around 140 consumer journals from all over the world are received in the reading room. The unique characteristic of the library is that its use is free and open to any citizens interested in using its facilities.

CERC in co-operation with its allied organizations i.e. Consumer Education and Research Society (CERS) and Testing Organization for Research and Chemical Health Hazards (TORCH) deals with local, regional and national issues related to

consumer protection, investor protection and environment protection. CERC has an in-house and independent consumer product testing laboratory for evaluation rating and ranking of consumer products like household electrical and agricultural appliances, food & drug and pharmaceuticals.

For wider dissemination of consumer information and to enable consumers to make an informed choice, CERS publishes a bi-monthly, "INSIGHT", a unique consumer magazine of the country. Besides our test results, it also contains various other valuable information on health safety, misleading advertisements, tips to investors, professional ethics, environmental issues and the like.

CERC is represented at various govt. and non - govt. National level committees of BIS, CC Food Standards, SEBI, BEE, Central Consumer Protection Council , Planning Commission (Working Group) and the like.

[www.cercindia.org](http://www.cercindia.org)



## About ENVIS

Working towards the conservation of environment, an environment information system (ENVIS) was established by the government in Dec 1982, with a view to provide information regarding environment to decision makers, policy planners, scientists and engineers, research workers etc all over the country. Environment being a broad ranged and multidisciplinary subject, requires an involvement of concerned institutes/organisations that are actively engaged in the different subject areas of environment, therefore a large number of nodes have been established to cover the broad subject areas of environment.

ENVIS is a decentralised system, which ensures collection, collation, storage, retrieval and dissemination of environmental information to all concerned.

These centers have been set up in the areas of pollution control, toxic chemicals, central and offshore ecology, environmentally sound and appropriate technology, biodegradation of wastes and environmental management etc.

[www.envis.nic.in](http://www.envis.nic.in)



## Environmental Labels World - Wide

ASIA	EUROPE
 <p><b>India</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:cpcb@alpha.nic.in">cpcb@alpha.nic.in</a> or <a href="mailto:cpcb@sansad.nic.in">cpcb@sansad.nic.in</a> Homepage: <a href="http://envfor.nic.in/cpcb/ecomark/ecomark.html">envfor.nic.in/cpcb/ecomark/ecomark.html</a></p>	 <p><b>France</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:patricia.proia@afnor.fr">patricia.proia@afnor.fr</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.afnor.fr/portail.asp?Lang=English">www.afnor.fr/portail.asp?Lang=English</a></p>
 <p><b>People's Republic of China</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:info2@zhb.gov.cn">info2@zhb.gov.cn</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.zhb.gov.cn/english">www.zhb.gov.cn/english</a></p>	 <p><b>Croatia</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:web@mzopu.hr">web@mzopu.hr</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.mzopu.hr/default.aspx?id=5145">www.mzopu.hr/default.aspx?id=5145</a></p>
 <p><b>Hong Kong (People's Republic of China)</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@greencouncil.org">info@greencouncil.org</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.greencouncil.org/">www.greencouncil.org/</a></p>	 <p><b>The Netherlands</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:milieukeur@milieukeur.nl">milieukeur@milieukeur.nl</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.milieukeur.nl">www.milieukeur.nl</a></p>
 <p><b>Hong Kong (HKFEP)</b> E-Mail: <a href="mailto:hkfep@hkfep.com">hkfep@hkfep.com</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.hkfep.com">www.hkfep.com</a></p>	 <p><b>Austria</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:josef.raneburger@bmlfuw.gv.at">josef.raneburger@bmlfuw.gv.at</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.umweltzeichen.at">www.umweltzeichen.at</a></p>
 <p><b>Israel</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:gitaie@sii.org.il">gitaie@sii.org.il</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.sii.org.il/siisite.nsf/Pages/GreenMark">www.sii.org.il/siisite.nsf/Pages/GreenMark</a></p>	 <p><b>Scandinavia</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:svanen@sismab.se">svanen@sismab.se</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.svanen.nu/Eng/default.asp">www.svanen.nu/Eng/default.asp</a></p>
 <p><b>Japan</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:ecomark@japan.email.ne.jp">ecomark@japan.email.ne.jp</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.ecomark.jp/english/">www.ecomark.jp/english/</a></p>	 <p><b>Sweden</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:gbg@snf.se">gbg@snf.se</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.snf.se/bmv/english-more.cfm">www.snf.se/bmv/english-more.cfm</a></p>
 <p><b>Philippines</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:greenchoice@i-manila.com.ph">greenchoice@i-manila.com.ph</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.epic.org.ph/product.htm">www.epic.org.ph/product.htm</a></p>	 <p><b>TCO (Sweden)</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:development@tco.se">development@tco.se</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.tcodevelopment.com">www.tcodevelopment.com</a></p>
 <p><b>Singapore</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@sec.org.sg">info@sec.org.sg</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.sec.org.sg/greenlabel_htm/greenlable_frameset.htm">www.sec.org.sg/greenlabel_htm/greenlable_frameset.htm</a></p>	 <p><b>Slovakia</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:kobzova.darina@lifeenv.gov.sk">kobzova.darina@lifeenv.gov.sk</a></p>
 <p><b>South Korea</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:ecomark@chollian.net">ecomark@chollian.net</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.kela.or.kr/english/">www.kela.or.kr/english/</a></p>	 <p><b>Spain</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@aenor.es">info@aenor.es</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.aenor.es/desarrollo/certificacion/productos/tipo.asp?tipop=2#1">www.aenor.es/desarrollo/certificacion/productos/tipo.asp?tipop=2#1</a></p>
 <p><b>Taiwan (People's Republic of China)</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:ningyu@edf.org.tw">ningyu@edf.org.tw</a> Homepage: <a href="http://greenmark.epa.gov.tw/english/index.asp">greenmark.epa.gov.tw/english/index.asp</a></p>	 <p><b>Czech Republic</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:Petr.Saifrid@ceu.cz">Petr.Saifrid@ceu.cz</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.ekoznacka.cz/ENG/">www.ekoznacka.cz/ENG/</a></p>
 <p><b>Thailand</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@tei.or.th">info@tei.or.th</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.tei.or.th/bep/GL_home.htm">www.tei.or.th/bep/GL_home.htm</a></p>	 <p><b>Hungary</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:kornyezetbarat.termek@axclero.hu">kornyezetbarat.termek@axclero.hu</a> Homepage: <a href="http://okocimke.kvvm.hu/public_eng/?ppid=2200000">okocimke.kvvm.hu/public_eng/?ppid=2200000</a></p>
 <p><b>Australia</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:office@aela.org.au">office@aela.org.au</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.aela.org.au/homefront.htm">www.aela.org.au/homefront.htm</a></p>	 <p><b>Canada</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:ecoinfo@terrachoice.ca">ecoinfo@terrachoice.ca</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.environmentalchoice.ca/">www.environmentalchoice.ca/</a></p>
 <p><b>New Zealand</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@enviro-choice.org.nz">info@enviro-choice.org.nz</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.enviro-choice.org.nz">www.enviro-choice.org.nz</a></p>	 <p><b>USA</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:green seal@greenseal.org">green seal@greenseal.org</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.greenseal.org">www.greenseal.org</a></p>
	 <p><b>Brazil</b> E-mail: <a href="mailto:fcabral@abnt.org.br">fcabral@abnt.org.br</a> Homepage: <a href="http://www.abnt.org.br">www.abnt.org.br</a></p>