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Ecolabel Product Group: Rinse Off Cosmetics



“We are really proud to have been the first company in Hong Kong to get our products approved for the EU Ecolabel by the UK Ecolabelling Competent Body in the hotel hospitality and service industry in China. We understand that all rinse off personal care products have an inevitable impact on the environment in a number of ways and we wanted to minimize such impacts whenever and wherever possible in order to deliver our corporate mission to support ecology and the environment for sustainable development.” said Elaine Chan, R&D Director.

Why did your company apply for the EU Ecolabel?

The Ming Fai Group, Hong Kong, carries a comprehensive portfolio of internationally renowned brands, supplying quality products to widely recognised hotel brands worldwide, the airline hospitality industry and the personal care industry.

“One of our Group’s visions is to support ecology and the environment for sustainable development, and over the past years, we have always had environmental protection as one of our company’s basic foundations. This has lead to increased quality of our products, protection of the environment, as well as production and process efficiencies,” said Ms Chan.

Ming Fai recognised that the environmental impacts associated with the chemicals used in rinse off cosmetic products are mainly related to eco-toxicity and resource consumption. Ms Chan said that this lead Ming Fai to discover that the EU Ecolabel scheme was the most relevant in reducing these impacts and achieving the objective of the company’s mission. “Therefore, applying for the EU Ecolabel was and is the most appropriate ecolabel to establish our sustainability credentials for these types of products,” Ms Chan concluded.





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The Application Process

The Ming Fai Group was first awarded the EU Ecolabel for their rinse-off cosmetic hospitality products: Shampoo, Body Wash, Conditioner and Soap in 2010.

In 2016, Ming Fai reapplied for the EU Ecolabel for these products against the new Rinse off Cosmetic criteria, under Commission Decision of 9 December 2014 (2014/893/EU), first for a range of hospitality products for the Mercure and Novotel hotel groups, and later in that year for Gothia Towers. “Although applying a second time was an easier and simpler experience, the application criteria were still tough and hard to meet, but the helpful team at UK Ecolabel Delivery provided step-by-step guidance to minimize the time that it took,” said Ms Chan.

EU Ecolabel Products

The Ming Fai Group holds three EU Ecolabel licences:



UK/030/013 for Mercure and Novotel products: Novotel products - Shampoo, Shower Gel, Conditioner, Soap RSPO/MB, and Mercure products - Conditioning Shampoo, Shower Gel, Conditioner, Soap RSPO/MB); UK/030/014 for Gothia Towers’ products: Shampoo, Bath Gel, Conditioner, Soap RSPO/MB; and UK/030/015 for Reeco products: Shampoo, Bath Gel, Conditioner, Soap RSPO/MB.



Results and Benefits

“The EU Ecolabel is important to our business. With the successful award of our EU Ecolabel licences, the Ming Fai Group believes that our mission ‘to support ecology and the environment for sustainable development’ is being achieved,” said Ms Chan.

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