

**In Gorenje head office, Minister of Environment,
Physical Planning and Energy Mr. Janez Kopač
ceremonially presented to the President and CEO of
Gorenje, d.d., Mr. Franjo Bobinac the Certificate of
Entry into the EMAS**

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■ European scheme EMAS

Gorenje, d.d. first in Slovenia to meet EMAS environmental requirements

Gorenje, d.d. from Velenje is the first registered company in Slovenia to meet the requirements by the European directive regarding treatment of environment Eco-Management and Audit Scheme. By its contents and requirements the EMAS scheme is actually upgraded ISO 14001 standard. On Wednesday, Sept. 29, 2004 in Gorenje head office, Minister of Environment, Physical Planning and Energy Mr. Janez Kopač ceremonially presented to the President & CEO of Gorenje Mr. Franjo Bobinac the Certificate of Entry into the EMAS Register.

ECO-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) is a directive by the European Parliament and the Council of Europe, elaborated as a tool for systematic treatment of environment. It should serve for evaluation and improvement of environmental treatment in industrial, service, and public corporations and institutions, and informing the public in regard to its effects. Whilst participation in the Scheme is on voluntary basis, the participating organization entered in the Register has the obligation to prepare the certified annual environmental statement. The EMAS directive is based on the ISO 14001 standard, upgraded with additional requirements regarding the areas of following relevant legislation, communication with the public, engagement of employees, and internal assessment. Until July 2004, the EMAS system had registered over 3000 organizations within the EU, of which, however, only five companies in the area of household appliance manufacture. By entering the European Union and passing the new act in regard to the protection of environment, Slovenia has had the opportunity to participate in the EMAS Scheme.

Gorenje decided to voluntarily enter the EMAS Scheme even before the Slovenian entrance to the European Union, therefore it had adequately upgraded its existing system of environmental treatment by the ISO 14001 standard. In the period of aggressive investment into the modernization of technological procedures it had created circumstances for compliance with the legal requirements and rules regarding all environmental aspects. The latest environmental report published in Gorenje this May, has already included the certified environmental statement. Gorenje has also fulfilled the requirements regarding communication and engagement of employees in the environmental treatment system. Performance of the EMAS Scheme system in Gorenje was during this April and September checked by the Slovenian Institute for Quality and Measurements (SIQ) and found that the system conforms with the requirements of the EMAS European Directive.

■ European Environmental Award 2004

Gorenje received European Environmental Award

As a winner of Slovenian competition in the category of Environmentally Friendly Company, Gorenje, d.d. competed also for the European Awards for the Environment 2004, awarded by the European Commission for Environment. For Gorenje the environmental award means great acknowledgement and motivation for constant investments in protection of nature, which is one of the most important segments in the strategic policy of the Company.

As a winner of Slovenian contest organized by the magazine "*Gospodarski vestnik*", by the National Ecological Development Fund, and the National Environmental Agency in the category of "*Environmentally Friendly Company*" in the year 2003, Gorenje qualified to

compete for the European Awards for the Environment 2004 awarded by the European Commission for Environment.

Gorenje was one of the candidates for the European Award for the Environment among 100 companies from 17 countries. Companies competed in four categories: environmental management based on permanent development, environmental product, environmentally friendly procedure, and international environmental partnership. Presentation of European Awards for the Environment took place within the Green Week events in Brussels from June 1 to June 4, 2004. Gorenje qualified for 12 finalists, selected in all four categories, and in the category of environmental management received the European Award for the Environment.

Nomination for the European Award for the Environment and actual receipt of the Award only confirms correct policy of Gorenje in its endeavours for permanent attitude towards the environment in balancing between environmental, social and economic requirements. Gorenje is one rare Slovenian companies for whom care for nature means not merely unnecessary expenses but competitive edge. For example, since 1980 the company has manufactured washing machines consuming only 39 litres of water per wash, while at the beginning they consumed up to 150 litres! In those times one wash consumed 3 kW/h, today only 0,9 kW/h of power. In the last ten years the production has been fully modernized, all sorts of energy and raw materials consumption were reduced, and so on. Past comprehensive investments in savings on all segments of production today yields considerable results, providing new development and increased competitive edge compared to competition. Such behaviour maintains natural balance both for our and for future generations, which is also the essence of the concept of permanent development in Gorenje, and a basic condition for cohabitation of the Company with its immediate and wider environment and its corporate culture.

■ The Endeavour for the Environmental protection in the future

European Directives WEEE and RoHS

WEEE: Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

In line with its care for nature Gorenje has been preparing to meet the requirements of the new WEEE European Directive (2002/96/EC). This Directive regulates handling of waste electrical and electronic equipment, which puts the liability for such equipment after its useful life to the manufacturers of electrical and electronic equipment. Gorenje has been preparing to elaborate the recycling project for the entire Slovenia for all categories of waste electrical and electronic equipment stipulated in the Directive, within the time windows and requirements of the WEEE, and offer them to all committed entities. In other countries where Gorenje sells its products, the commitments from the WEEE Directive will be realized by entering the particular national systems of handling waste electrical and electronic equipment.

RoHS: Restriction of the use of the certain Hazardous Substances in electrical and electronic equipment

Along with the efforts for adequate handling of waste electrical and electronic equipment, Gorenje started the activities in regard to the RoHS Directive (2002/95/EC) which limits the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment. Both RoHS and WEEE Directive were adopted on January 27, 2003 in the European Parliament, and treat the

same categories of electrical and electronic equipment (with the exception of medical equipment and measuring devices, where RoHS is void).

■ Environmental protection and energy saving

Environmentally friendly household appliances

Gorenje household appliances are environmentally friendly and carefully manufactured with regard to the protection of nature and healthy way of life. They are made of components harmless to health and to nature, and almost completely recyclable. They consume less electric energy, water and detergents. They are ranked as the most economical household appliances on the market. They meet and exceed the highest energy classes required by the European standards. Noise emitted by the operating appliances is insignificant. In Gorenje we are aware of all requirements regarding the preservation of environment. All technological modernization and new development are adapted to the requirements of protecting the nature and with thoughts of wider social surroundings. The policy of environmental protection includes the entire cycle of making a product, from the planning and manufacture stage to the usage and treatment after its useful life.

Cooking appliances

In development of cooking appliances Gorenje pursued the objective of reducing the consumption of electric energy as much as possible. In the last decade energy consumption has been reduced for over 30 percent. In the year 2000 Gorenje introduced the production of electronically programmed ovens, capable of setting optimum temperature and heating mode for particular type of food and thereby saving electric energy. Appliances are internally protected with the EcoClean enamel, providing easy cleaning without the application of aggressive cleansers. Components built in the appliances are environmentally friendly and recyclable.

Washers and dryers

Gorenje washing machines are designed for minimum consumption of electric energy, water and detergents. The most prudent saving program consumes as little as 39 litres of water per wash. Application of special insulating components and other adequate silencing materials has reduced the noise of high spin RPM machines to the minimum. Detergent dispenser and the ECO-pipe for detergent input into the drum are made in such way to prevent mechanical loss of powder, thereby reducing the harmful effect of waste water. Setting shorter programs, selection of lower temperature for less soiled laundry or smaller quantity, as well as delayed start to use cheaper power, greatly contribute to energy saving. Washing machines and tumble dryers are mostly made of harmless and recyclable materials.

Cooling appliances

Gorenje was among the first companies in Europe to first reduce and then completely abandon the use of ecologically harmful cooling and pressurizing gasses in the production of refrigerators and freezers. The manufacture of cooling appliances has not been destroying the ozone layer for a long time now, and they no more warm up the atmosphere. By the introduction of new procedures, thicker insulation, application of energy saving components and development of new appliances, the factory has considerably reduced consumption of electric energy. Upright freezers and their combinations now discharge considerably less noise in the operation of their cooling system. Appliances are manufactured from mostly recyclable materials.

■ Energy label

How much energy is consumed by household appliances

Slovenian households consume approximately 3 billion kWh of electric energy annually, or almost one third of all produced electric energy in Slovenia. For various electrical appliances and for illumination we consume approximately 1.8 billion kWh. This does not include water heaters and electric heating devices. Of this amount three quarters is consumed by household appliances and illumination. The largest consumers of energy are refrigerators and freezers which consume over 700 million kWh a year. In Slovenia the average age of fridges and freezers is over ten years. The most sophisticated refrigerators compared to the 10-year old appliances consume up to 40 percent less energy. This is also true for other household appliances so it is very important that the consumer is informed with energy consumption data, regulated by the energy label rules.

Energy label was developed in the countries of the European Union where it has been used for over ten years. In Slovenia the application of energy label is legally obligatory since June 1, 2002. The label comprises information in regard to energy consumption and operating efficiency of the appliance, which are different depending on particular appliance groups. It is a fact that economical appliances are not always necessarily efficient, so these two data are marked separately. Energy label contains also the logotype of the manufacturer and the appliance model. Data are distributed so that particular appliances of different manufacturers may be easily compared. Comparison and compatibility of information is assured by relevant standards which determine measuring procedures and assessment of results, printed on labels.

Results of measuring energy saving are classified in seven classes, from A - the highest efficiency, to G - the lowest efficiency. They also differ by colour code indicating energy efficiency. On **oven** energy labels, aside from energy saving data there are also information in regard to heating mode and oven capacity, on **washing machines** the label contains information regarding the effect of washing and required washing time and spin efficiency, drum load, water consumption and noise level. The label on **tumble dryers** contains numbers regarding drying time and noise level, **dishwashing appliances** indicate washing and drying effects, number of crockery sets and water consumption, and **refrigerator-freezer appliance** label carry information regarding capacity and number of freezer stars.

Picture material



Nominees for the European business awards for the environment.

The pictures are available on the following web-site:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/greenweek/library_envir_en.htm



Certificate for the European business award for the environment 2004 awarded to Gorenje, d.d.



The Children from the second grade of the Livada Primary School in Velenje are painting the scene of the undamaged Nature (Mentor Cecilija Valenčak). The scene was exhibited during the ceremony at the Gorenje, d.d., headquarters.

The Management Board of Gorenje, d.d.