

EUROSAC GRAND PRIX 2009
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The jury, composed of Bengt Nordin, Senior Advisor to Eurosac, Sören Slotte from UPM-Kymmene in Finland (kraft paper manufacturer) and Antonio Bellè from Valvosacco in Italy (paper sack manufacturer), had to make its choice among the 7 entries received.

The winner was the "SuperSeven Sack", developed by the Italian company Sacchettificio Nazionale G. Corazza. This sack is a high-tech aluminium-coated paper sack with seven essential features: barrier to light / barrier to moisture / barrier to oxygen / barrier to carbon dioxide / high strength and sturdiness / excellent heat sealability / high-tech feeling. The sack which won the Grand Prix is of silver colour, printed on a white glossy paper with UV lack.

The jury also gave a special award to the sack "Sucre Poudre" by the French company Smurfit Kappa Lembacel. The jury appreciated that this sack is particularly user friendly with its handles, closure system, easy opening, lamination and ultra-sonic or thermal sealing.

The 58th EUROSAC Annual Congress

The EUROSAC GRAND PRIX 2009 was awarded at the occasion of the 58th EUROSAC Annual Congress which took place on the Lido di Venezia from May 21 to 23, 2009, in cooperation with FEDES. The EUROSAC Chairman, Loïc Bernard from the company Smurfit Kappa Paper Sack had the great pleasure to give the award to Alessandro Selmin, Sales & Marketing Manager of Sacchettificio Nazionale G. Corazza, in the presence of more than 100 congress participants.

The Annual Congress provides an essential platform for the European paper sack industry to present and discuss the most important topics. This year, the main presentations covered topics like the "Brussels Footprint", where Marco Mensink, the Energy and Environment Director of CEPI (the Confederation of European Paper Industries) summarised the developments in the water and carbon footprint, as well as the ongoing EU Policy. Another presentation showed the results of a benchmarking study on the paper sack industry in Italy. The current economic crisis was analysed by the Dutch Rabobank and Piero Capodieci, the President of Assografici (the Italian Printing and Paper Converting Industries Association) gave his views on the important role of industrial associations in times of global crisis.

Promotion and Development of the Paper Sack Industry

Around 80 % of the European paper sack manufacturers in 72 plants and operating in 30 countries are members of Eurosac today, producing 5,1 billion sacks and converting 680 thousand tons of paper per year. Sack Manufacturers from all continents contribute to the federation as corresponding members and about 20 suppliers (paper, film, machine, ink or glue manufacturers) as sympathizing members.

Eurosac ensures contacts and collaboration with professional associations for related activities. The most important fields of activities in the past years have been the "Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive" and "REACH", but especially "Carbon Footprint" where EUROSAC actively contributed to the work done within CEPI (the Confederation of European Paper Industries) and CITPA (the International Confederation of Paper and Board Converters in Europe). The newly arising topic after Carbon is now the "Water Footprint".

In addition to the Annual Congress, EUROSAC organises seminars on specific current issues for its members. In September 2009 a seminar on the latest LCI study and the calculation of a Carbon Footprint for the paper sack will be organised in Nice. Previous LCI reports are available via the EUROSAC website. The scientific work on LCIs is done by the Swedish research institute Innventia (formerly STFI-Packforsk) in a common research programme with CEPI Eurokraft, the European Kraft Paper Producers for the Flexible Packaging Industry. EUROSAC thus perfectly meets today's demands – coming from authorities and from the public – of providing accurate environmental data on the paper sack.

The next EUROSAC Grand Prix will be awarded during next year's Congress, taking place in June 2010 in Sweden.

More info:
www.eurosac.org