



Press release

13 March 2008

Delhaize Belgium is first European customer for Electrabel's AlpEnergie

Delhaize Belgium switched to renewable energy for its shops, warehouses and central services in Belgium in early 2007. Now at the beginning of 2008, the shops in Germany and France (Tom & Co) have also switched to renewable energy. This makes Delhaize the first "European" customer for Electrabel's AlpEnergie.

Certified 100% renewable energy

AlpEnergie is certified renewable energy that Electrabel supplies to its business customers. The electricity is generated by the 19 hydroelectric power stations operated by Compagnie Nationale du Rhône in the French Alps. A certificate from TÜV, an independent auditing body, gives Delhaize the guarantee that the energy really does come from renewable sources.

Long tradition of environment-friendly investments by both partners

In recent years Electrabel has invested heavily in limiting the environmental impact of its activities as far as possible. Experts acknowledge that Electrabel is one of the better pupils among energy producers when it comes to CO₂ emissions in relation to its generating output.

Also, the company is today the largest producer of renewable electricity in Belgium, it also generates enough "green electricity" in Europe to supply 5 million homes.

Finally, on the demand side the company helps its customers to use energy in a more efficient and rational way.

Delhaize Belgium for its part follows a policy of sustainable development, and in the past few years it has put significant efforts into reducing the environmental impact of its activities to a minimum. By using renewable energy the company last year avoided emissions of 100,320 tonnes of CO₂. In addition, Delhaize Belgium is taking measures to reduce its energy consumption. Thanks to awareness-raising campaigns aimed at employees and innovative, energy-saving applications in its retail outlets (such as using the heat given off by refrigerated displays for heating the shop, installing solar panels to heat water, making use of natural light, etc.) Delhaize succeeded in reducing its energy consumption by 2% in 2007.

Electrabel, a European supplier of global, tailor-made energy solutions

Electrabel is one of the top power companies in Europe and the market leader in the Benelux. In developing its range of energy products and services the company takes maximum advantage of the synergies between electricity and natural gas. It has a high-quality, personalised range of products for each customer, made available through marketing subsidiaries in partnership with local operators.

Electrabel manages diversified generating facilities amounting to more than 30,000 MW, and is active on all the energy trading markets. In Belgium it operates the electricity and gas distribution networks on behalf of the distribution network operators.

Electrabel forms part of SUEZ, an international industrial and services group operating in the fields of energy and the environment.

About Delhaize Belgium

At the end of 2007 the Delhaize Belgium network consisted of 738 retail outlets, with 699 in Belgium, 34 in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, four in North-Rhine Westphalia (Germany) and one in France. With its different shop formats (Delhaize supermarkets, AD Delhaize, City Delhaize, Proxy Delhaize, Shop'n Go and Tom&Co), Delhaize Belgium made a turnover of 4.4 billion euros in 2007. In 2007 Delhaize Belgium had a market share of 25.7%* in Belgium. The company employs 18,000 people. Delhaize Belgium forms part of Delhaize Group, which is present in eight countries on three continents. At the end of 2007 the Delhaize Group network had more than 2,550 retail outlets and employed 138,000 people.

* Source: AC Nielsen

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Ce communiqué est également disponible en français.

Deze persmededeling is ook in het nederlands verkrijgbaar.