



Marcy L'Etoile, April 30th, 2009

bioMérieux is committed to conducting business in a socially responsible manner. The company upholds and promotes the principles of the Global Compact.

Contributing to improving public health worldwide through *in vitro* diagnostics is bioMérieux's mission. We know today that if we do not respect the environment, it will have an impact on human health. The company must therefore take action in favor of the environment and sustainable development.

Today we renew our commitment to the Global Compact and do so through several initiatives supporting the 8th Principle: "Promoting greater environmental responsibility".

Alain Mérieux
President

Principle n°8

Initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility

bioMérieux has launched initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility and to take into account sustainable development at every level of our business activity.

▼ Creation of a Sustainable Development Committee

A Sustainable Development Committee was created to give form to bioMérieux's commitment. This committee, which is in charge of setting the company's environmental objectives, devised an environmental action plan that includes goals established annually over the next four years. The first phase (2008-2010) will focus on building awareness among all employees and suppliers about priority actions to be carried out in five key areas: energy, water, paper, waste, and emissions of pollutants (CO², coolants, etc.).

▼ 2009 Action Plan

Responsibility for the "BIOMERIEUX GOES GREEN" action plan was entrusted to a member of the Management Committee (Corporate Vice President, Quality Management Systems, Health, Safety and Environment) as a sign to all employees that sustainability is a priority for the company today. Along with the Chief Executive Officer, he presented the 2009 action plan by webcast to all employees, and a video of this presentation was posted on the company intranet. The plan was also distributed to all bioMérieux employees in booklet form or sent by email.

▼ "Green Champions"

In addition, "Green Champions" were designated at each of our sites and subsidiaries worldwide. These Champions are in charge of ensuring the action plan developed by the Sustainable Development Committee is implemented locally. Each correspondent provides feedback about initiatives that have been identified as effective at his or her site, as well as best practices that are then shared throughout the company.

Since implementation, the “BIOMERIEUX GOES GREEN” action plan has enabled us to make progress in each of our five key areas:

▼ **Energy consumption**

- **France:** bioMérieux was one of the first French companies to obtain an “Energy Saving Certificate”. These certificates were awarded to us by the Regional Office for Industry, Research and the Environment (known as DRIRE in France) in June 2007. They recognized the energy savings resulting from two achievements:
 - The installation of a heat-recovery system at the Craponne (France) site, which will make it possible to generate savings of approximately 2 million kWh over the lifetime of the equipment.
 - An eco-efficient building at the Marcy l’Etoile (France) site, which was built using sophisticated technologies that make it possible to limit energy consumption to 60 kWh per square meter per year. Over its lifetime, this building will enable savings of approximately 1 million kWh.
- **Global:** an ambitious in-house campaign was launched in the fall of 2008, setting energy reduction targets for all our sites and subsidiaries worldwide. These include measures such as switching off lights and computers, turning down heat and air conditioning, using low-consumption light bulbs, etc.

▼ **Water utilization**

We organized two important initiatives:

- At the Durham, North Carolina (United States) site: recycling water used in manufacturing, limiting the use of air conditioning in administrative areas, stopping watering of lawns and gardens, and planting draught-resistant species. This policy led to a decrease of over 40% in our consumption.
- At the Craponne (France) site: water used for cooling production tanks is routinely recycled thanks to a closed-loop circuit.

▼ **Paper recycling**

- Our Jacarepagua (Brazil) and Geneva (Switzerland) subsidiaries made a complete switch to recycled paper in early 2008.
- Our other entities will do the same in 2009.

▼ Waste management optimization

Hazardous waste is entrusted to authorized firms and non-hazardous waste is sorted and recycled.

Two new good practices have been implemented:

- In France, a paper recycling system was set up at all our sites. At our Marcy L'Etoile headquarters, 26 tons were recycled in 2008.
- In Brazil, the use of disposable Styrofoam containers to ship products is gradually being replaced by shipping in refrigerated trucks.

▼ Limiting emissions of pollutants

- In France, we decided to include environmental criteria in our purchasing policy for company vehicles. For our sales force, we promote the use of vehicles emitting less than 140 grams of CO₂/km.

This criterion should be imposed in all European countries in 2009.

Key words describing example:

bioMérieux, sustainable development, resources, water, paper, waste, recycling, emissions, energy, Energy Economy Certificates (white certificates), eco-efficient

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